

Welcome to First Period Beginning Theatre Arts!

Contact Info:

Instructor: Ms. Laura Levine

Email: llevine@wcpss.net

Phone (voice): 919-387-2208 ext. 27251

Remind (text): Text the code **@apexdrama1** to 81010

Primary Website: Google Classroom (**Code k7dl5a2**). Assignments and announcements will be posted here.

Secondary Website: www.apexdrama.com – for more broad information about the theatre program at AHS including additional course offerings, drama club, extracurricular productions, volunteer opportunities, etc.

Social Media: @apexpeakplayers on Twitter, Instagram, and Facebook!

Course Objectives:

COMMUNICATION:

- Develop physical, vocal, and performance skills that foster an ability to clearly communicate ideas, thoughts and feelings.

ANALYSIS:

- Interpret plot structure and dramatic themes within scenes and plays.
- Reflect on and evaluate performances.

AESTHETICS:

- Understand interrelationship of technical elements of theatre and how they are used to enhance a production.

CULTURE:

- Analyze theatre in terms of the social, historical, and cultural contexts in which it was created.
- Understand the traditions, roles, and conventions of theatre as an art form.

Necessary Supplies/Requirements:

If there is any difficulty in obtaining these supplies, please contact me.

- One spiral notebook or journal
- Pencil
- Highlighter
- Clothes you can move in and closed toe shoes (daily requirement)
- **You are required to watch one full-length play or musical & complete a play review over the course of the semester** – you may choose to see the preview performance of the fall play on **Wednesday, October 13th at 7:00 pm** (one free ticket per student). Otherwise, you will need to see a high school, community, or professional theatre show outside of school.
- **You are required to read one full-length play & complete an Argumentative Script Analysis over the course of the semester.** You can check out a script from our classroom library, school library, or the local library.
- The final exam performance will take place on the evening of **Tuesday, January 11th at 6:00 pm**. *You are required to attend.* Put this event on your calendar now!

Classroom Expectations and Policies: *Be PEAK! (Prepared, Engaged, Ambitious, and Kind)*

Attendance and Tardies: This class is performance-based, and you will be working closely with other members of your ensemble. You are expected to show up on time and attend class each day. If you are unable to attend for any reason, please contact me as soon as possible. Plan to be early – remember the Stage Manager’s mantra: to be early is to be on time, to be on time is to be late! **Support your ensemble** – show up to class 😊

The school-wide tardy policy will be implemented the second week of the semester. Three tardies will result in parent contact, and five in a discipline referral.

Performing Arts Late Work Policy: This policy is consistent among all performing arts classes at Apex HS. Concerts and performances are mandatory and must be attended on the assigned date. For extenuating circumstances, prior approval for an alternate assignment will be given.

Written Work/Class Assignments that are turned in late can be made up within a one-week window for a reduction of 10% in grade. After one week has passed, the work will not be accepted.

Dress: Students must always wear clothes appropriate for movement - dress appropriately and comfortably. Closed toe shoes are required at all times. You may keep a change of clothes or shoes in the 2dio (once our cubbies arrive!)

Academic Integrity Code: Students are expected to abide by all school rules regarding appropriate behavior in the classroom. Cheating, discrimination, or breaking of other school rules will not be tolerated and will result in a discipline referral.

Engagement and Participation: Participation is key! Each student is a vital and critical member of the ensemble, and must treat their work in this way. This classroom is a safe environment to try new things and take risks – take advantage of this opportunity!

Respect: I hold you responsible for respecting the rights, dignity, worth, spirit, and freedom of each member of our ensemble. Discriminatory speech or conduct will not be tolerated.

Food/Drink/Cell Phones: Cell phones should be silenced and put away during class time. No food or drink (except bottled water) is permitted in the 2dio or auditorium.

Grading:

You will be graded according to the total point system. Your grade will be a combination of major and minor assignments and daily performance practices (demonstrating appropriate rehearsal etiquette) According to this system, a major assignment worth 150 points holds more weight and affects your grade more than a minor assignment worth only 15 points. We will review this system in class.

Major Assignments: 100-150 possible points each

Minor Assignments: 15-50 possible points each

Performance Practices (Rehearsal Etiquette): 100 points per quarter

Final Exam: 20% of semester grade. Performance Tuesday, January 11th at 6:00 pm.

All students will be using the 10-point grading scale. A: 90-100; B: 80-89; C: 70-79; D: 60-69; F: 59 and below

Extracurricular Opportunities:

Join the Apex Peak Players Google Classroom (**Code: dm5dta7**) & Remind (**@peakplayer**) to stay up to date!

Drama Club is open to all students, and there are no membership dues. To get reminders and announcements, join our **Remind** group by texting **@peakplayer** to 81010. The meeting schedule for the Fall semester is as follows:

- Thursday, August 26th – Theatre Arts Kickoff Meeting, 2:30-3:30 pm in the Auditorium
- Thursday, September 16th – Drama Club Virtual Event, time & details TBA
- Thursday, September 30th – Performing Arts Eat Out Night & Dear Evan Hansen viewing party! Details TBA
- Tuesday, October 12th – Drama Club Fall Play Preview, 3:00-5:30 pm in the Auditorium
- Thursday, November 4th – Drama Club In-Person Meeting, 2:30-3:15 in the 2dio
- Thursday, December 9th – Drama Club Winter Party! 2:30-3:30 in the 2dio

Fall Play: The Liar, adapted by David Ives – a HILARIOUS French farce!

- Auditions: Tuesday, August 31st at 2:30 pm – meet in the auditorium. Prepare a one-minute comedic monologue.
- Crew Interviews: Wednesday, September 1st at 2:30 pm - meet in the 2dio.
- Callbacks: Thursday, September 2nd at 2:30 pm – meet in the auditorium.

Spring Musical: Title TBA!

- Workshops: Tenors & Basses November 19th, Sopranos & Altos November 22nd
- Auditions: November 30th and December 1st
- Crew Interviews: December 2nd

Please fill out the Contact Form (link on [Google Classroom](#)) by class time on Wednesday, August 25th to acknowledge that you have read and agree to these policies. I am looking forward to a great semester!