

Welcome to Theatre Arts III/IV!

Contact Info:

Instructor: Ms. Laura Levine

Email: levine@wcpss.net

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

Remind (text): Text the code **@342021** to 81010

Primary Website: Google Classroom (**Code klbnkna**). You will log into Google Classroom daily to access the Google Meet as well as assignments and announcements.

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!

Objectives THEATRE III:

COMMUNICATION:

- Use movement, voice, and writing to communicate characterization, vocal expression and character development, create original performance pieces, and interpret monologues.
- Use improvisation and acting skills to create extended scenes.

ANALYSIS:

- Analyze full-length plays and distinguish the evolution of written texts to theatrical performances.

AESTHETICS:

- Analyze design concepts for aesthetic impact and apply working knowledge to problem-solve and develop technical designs, and implement them for formal and informal performances.

CULTURE:

- Understand the role of theatre arts in US history, and analyze the interrelationships of theatre roles.

Objectives THEATRE IV:

COMMUNICATION:

- Use movement, voice, and writing to communicate characterization and differentiate between multiple characters, and use voice to create character dialects.
- Use constructive criticism to improve original works, and interpret scripts through presentation.
- Use improvisation and acting skills to perform for a formal audience using audience-provided prompts.

ANALYSIS:

- Differentiate and analyze plays from a variety of genres, and critique performances of written texts.

AESTHETICS:

- Use technical knowledge and design skills to formulate designs and perform technical roles in an effective manner.

CULTURE:

- Interpret theatre arts from a variety of contexts, forms, and historical periods.
- Design strategies to encourage appropriate audience etiquette.

Necessary Supplies/Requirements:

If there is any difficulty in obtaining these supplies, please see me outside of class time or send me an email.

- One three ring binder (1”) with loose leaf notebook paper **OR** one spiral notebook or journal
- Pencil
- **You are required to watch one play or musical & complete a play review over the course of the semester** – I will keep a running list of available productions on Google Classroom. If you find a recording of a live production, or a virtual production that is being broadcast live, and it is not on the list, please send me the information to make sure it will work for this project.
- **You are required to read one full-length play & complete an Argumentative Script Analysis over the course of the semester.** I will keep a running list of available scripts (that you can read online) on Google Classroom, or you can check out a book from the local library. If you plan ahead, I can send a script home with you at materials pick up day! (See later section on Resources). If you find a play script you would like to read for this project and it is not on the list, please send me the information to make sure it will work for this project.

Important Dates:

- School Shakespeare Competition – **Thursday, February 11th during 4th period (virtual)**
- Regional Shakespeare Competition – *Extra Credit to attend!* – **Thursday, February 18th at 7:30 pm (virtual)**

Classroom Expectations and Policies: *Spread Kindness, Celebrate Diversity, Embrace the Unknown*

Virtual Meetings: Because 25% of our curriculum is focused on communication, it is my expectation that you will keep your camera on for the duration of each class meeting. Please set up a space in your home that will allow you to feel comfortable with being on camera. You may use the virtual background or background blur feature on Google Meet at any time.

Attendance and Tardies: This class is performance-based, and you will be working closely with other members of your ensemble. You are expected to attend the Google Meet 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 😊

Dress: Students must always wear clothes appropriate for movement – during daily warmups, you will be standing and moving, so please remember that your full body may be visible on camera – dress appropriately and comfortably. If you come back to school on Plan B rotations, you must wear closed toe shoes at all times.

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: Please refrain from eating during class. Cell phones should be silenced and put away during class time. If you come back to school on Plan B rotations, no food or drink (except bottled water) is permitted in the studio 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 of daily participation points. 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: 100-200 possible points each

Minor Assignments: 15-75 possible points each

Performance Practices (Rehearsal Etiquette): 100 points per quarter

Final Exam: 20% of semester grade

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:

Drama Club is **open to all students**, and there are no membership dues. All meetings will be on **Google Meet** until further notice - use code **apexpeakplayers** to join. To get reminders and announcements, join our **Remind** group by texting **@peakplayer** to 81010.

Productions

Ms. Copley and I are working through details of how to produce a spring musical. Please be patient! We will let you know when we have a plan 😊 We will be producing a virtual play in this class (4th quarter)!!

Resources (Blind Date with a Play!):

In the studio (theatre arts classroom), we have an extremely large library of play scripts that are available to check out. If you would like to go on a blind date with a play, please email me with some information about your interests (specific genres, historical periods, subjects, authors, etc) and I will select a play or two to send home with you that you can use for your Argumentative Script Analysis project. The deadline to email your “play dating profile” for a hard copy of a play is Wednesday, January 27th. If you don’t mind reading a PDF, email your “play dating profile” at any time, and I will share a script with you.

Please fill out the Google Form (link on [Google Classroom](#)) by class time on Friday, January 22nd to acknowledge that you have read and agree to these policies. I am looking forward to a great semester!