

Welcome to Beginning Theatre Arts!

Instructor: Ms. Levine (llevine@wcpss.net)

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Parents and Guardians, please visit the new page on our website titled "Parent Info" for audition/crew interview guidelines (to discuss with your student) and volunteer opportunities (to be updated throughout the year)!

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 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 see one play & complete a play review over the course of the semester – you may choose to see the **preview** performance of the fall play, "That's the Spirit" on Wednesday, October 30th at **7:00 pm**. 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 may check out a play from the classroom, or you may find one at the school or local library.
- The final exam performance will take place on the evening of **Thursday, January 16th at 6:00 pm**. *You are required to attend.* Put this event on your calendar now!

Classroom Expectations and Policies: *Be Kind, Be Positive, Be Respectful*

Attendance and Tardies: Attendance is mandatory, unless documented as an excused absence through the school office. Skipping class will not be tolerated, and students will receive a discipline referral. A tardy is defined as entering the classroom any time after the bell. First tardy will receive a warning, second will receive a parent contact, and third will receive a lunch detention with your assigned administrator. **Support your ensemble** – show up to class 😊

Dress: Students must always wear clothes appropriate for movement – this means you need a pair of shorts under a dress or skirt, pants that you can move in, etc. Students may be assigned a locker through their homeroom teacher to store a change of clothes at school. **Students 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: Open food and drinks (aside from bottled water) are **not permitted in the studio or in the auditorium**. Cell phones must be put away in your bag (not in your pocket) during class. Never bring your phone on stage – it belongs to you, not to your character 😊

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: 100-150 possible points each

Minor Assignments: 15-50 possible points each

Daily Participation: 100 points per quarter

Final Exam: 20% of OVERALL grade – Performance Thursday, January 16th 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

Please fill out the Google Form (link on www.apexdrama.com) by Friday, August 30th to acknowledge that you have read and agree to these policies. I am looking forward to a great semester!