

## Welcome to Third Period Technical Theatre (Virtual Academy)!

### Contact Info:

Instructor: Ms. Laura Levine

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

Remind (text): Text the code @apextech to 81010

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

Secondary Website: [www.apexdrama.com](http://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 collaborative skills necessary to formulate and implement design ideas with a production team.

#### ANALYSIS:

- Analyze plot structure and dramatic themes within scenes and plays.
- Evaluate technical elements of performances for strengths, weaknesses, and areas for improvement.

#### AESTHETICS:

- Use technical knowledge and design skills to formulate designs.

#### 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.

### About the Class (In the Virtual World)

“So You Want To Be A Designer?”

In a typical semester, we move quickly through the design process in order to prepare all the elements for each production. This semester, we will be lucky to have a lot of time to work through each step in more detail, and really develop our skills as designers! You will learn about lighting, sound, props, set, costumes, scenery, and stage management, and we will be using a variety of available tools and resources to build our skill sets. This will help you to develop your leadership skills, and give you the tools necessary to become a student designer in future semesters!

### Necessary Supplies/Requirements:

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

- One three ring binder (1”) with loose leaf notebook paper **OR** one spiral notebook or journal
- Pencil
- Highlighter
- **You will need to pick up a packet of materials from the school on Thursday, August 27<sup>th</sup>.**
- Information about the Fall Production is currently TBA, but **if we are able to produce a Fall show** (likely mid-November) **you will be required to see a performance** – this will be completely 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 also choose to download the Google Chrome extension “Background Blur for Google Meet” (<https://chrome.google.com/webstore/detail/background-blur-for-googl/jjbbcihejfopbmbbjmhkjofkgkoog?hl=en>).

**Attendance and Tardies:** In this class, 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:** Remember that at times, your full body may become visible on camera - dress appropriately and comfortably.

**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.

## 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 theatre 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 (Theatre 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. The following are the meeting dates for first quarter:

- Thursday, August 20th from 2:30-3:15 - Join us for the annual **Theatre Kickoff Meeting!** Meet your student leadership board, play games, meet new friends, and learn about all the extracurricular activities we have planned for this semester. See you there!
- Thursday September 3rd from 2:30-3:15 pm
- Thursday, September 17th from 2:30-3:15 pm
- Thursday, October 1st from 2:30-3:15 pm
- Thursday, October 15th from 2:30-3:15 pm
- Thursday, October 29th from 2:30-3:15 pm - **Special Spooky Season Spectacular!!!**

## Productions

In a typical year, we produce a Fall Play, Spring Musical, and Advanced Theatre Production. As you can imagine, this year will look a bit different! I am hopeful that we will have a Fall production of some kind and am in the process of working through details – I will be announcing the information as soon as it is finalized. Any information about the Spring Musical and Advanced Theatre Production is on hold until further notice.

**Please fill out the Google Form (link on [Google Classroom](#)) by class time on Wednesday, August 19th to acknowledge that you have read and agree to these policies.** I am looking forward to a great semester!