

Drama 7/8 Course Outline
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The goals and objectives of the Drama course are:

I – to acquire knowledge of self and others through participation in and reflection on dramatic experience.

II – to develop competency in communication skills through participation in and exploration of various dramatic disciplines.

III – to develop an appreciation of drama and theatre as a process and art form.

The following is a general breakdown of the course. Content in units may overlap and assignments are subject to change:

UNIT	DESCRIPTION	ASSESSMENTS
Orientation 5% Jan 31 - Feb 6	- Learning Community - Group/ensemble building through games - Introduction of basic movement, focus, physical control, and expression skills	Formative only: - Community Circle - Self-evaluation - Teacher observation - Journal #1 (5%)
Tableau 15% Feb 6 - Feb 13	Introduction of the communication of basic stories, ideas, and themes through using various levels, facial expressions, and body forms with concentration on individual and group focus	- Tableau Skills - Tableau Trilogy (10%) - Self Evaluation & Journal #2 (5%)
Mime 15% Feb 25 - Mar 5	- Introduction to the wordless communication of basic stories, ideas, and themes through gesture, movement, and facial expression focusing on detail	- Mime Skills - Partnered Silent Scene (10%) - Self Evaluation & Journal #3 5%
Improvisation 15% Mar 6 - Mar 15	-Acting out unscripted responses to ideas and situations, including planned and spontaneous improvisation activities, character work, and scene work	- Improv Skills - Planned Paired Improv (10%) - Self Evaluation & Journal #4 (5%)
Theatre Studies and Technical Theatre 35%	- Demonstrate understanding of the need for analysis of the work of self and others - Identify specific criteria to assess a performance	- Preparatory Work (10%) - Performance (15%) - Self/Peer Evaluation

Mar 19 - Apr 18	- Memorize and perform a short scripted scene - Demonstrate understanding of the process of acting in, and staging, a polished theatre production	and Journal #5 (10%)
Course Participation 15%	- Students will demonstrate a positive attitude through use of cooperation, sincerity, participation, and responsibility - Students will reflect on their learning	Ongoing observations, conversations and reflections (15%)

In addition to being graded on final projects for each unit, students will also be assessed, both formally and informally, on their process and skill development within each unit of study, on a daily and/or weekly basis. It should be noted that a wide range of assessment information is used in the development of a student's final grade. Individualized assessments provide specific information regarding student progress and overall performance in class. Student assessment may vary from student to student to adapt for differences in student needs, learning styles, preferences, and paces. It should also be noted that not all assignments are used to determine the final grade.

The following may appear for a student on an assignment in a course in PowerSchool:

- 1. A grade indicator: MAS, ADV, PRG, EMG, BEG, LIM**
- 2. Collected** - this indicates that work has been handed in. Some tasks in the course may remain "collected" and will not be given a numeric value.
- 3. Late** – this indicates that the assignment is has not been turned in on time. No change to the course grade will result.
- 4. Exempt** – this is used for all items that are not to be included in that student's grade calculation. No change to the course grade will result.
- 5. Missing** – The student has missed an assessment BUT has the opportunity to complete the required work. The work will be evaluated when submitted according to a timeline set up in consultation between the student and the teacher. This code will calculate as a zero until the code has been replaced with a grade. Please see the assignment policy below for more information.

ASSIGNMENT POLICY

1. Assignments are due on dates assigned by the teacher.
2. Should a student require extra time to complete an assignment, they must **request** an extension up to the due date. Extension time will be up to 48 hours from the original due date.
3. Assignments not submitted within the 48 hour extension will require a phone call or email from a parent explaining the circumstances before the assignment will be accepted and marked.
4. If an assignment is missing on the due date, teachers will assign a 'placeholder' grade of zero to reflect that the assignment has not been handed in.
5. Should work be returned to classes before a student has submitted their work, they may be required to complete a different version of the assignment.

6. An assignment handed in that is not of sufficient quality may need to be redone in order to be assessed.
7. Students and parents are expected to check progress in classes regularly using PowerSchool and/or Google Classroom.

Expectations and Responsibilities:

RESPECT

In the drama classroom we promote an environment of trust and care, and the following reminders (of which you are surely aware), will help us to create and maintain a fun, yet productive class. When performing, an actor can be very vulnerable. It is very important for all class members to respect and support the work that their peers are doing. Treat your fellow class members as you yourself wish to be treated. Respect your teacher's feelings, ideas, concerns, opinions, work, space, and individuality. Respect your own feelings, ideas, concerns, opinions, work, space, and individuality. Pay full attention when others are speaking or performing. Use appropriate language.

BE ON TIME and BE PREPARED

Be on time and come prepared. Drama is a practical course that involves mostly in-class, participatory work, therefore it is essential that you be here on time. Much of the work done in class is group work, therefore lates and absences affect not only the individual but the collective group as a whole. If a student misses a class, it is the student's responsibility to complete any work that has been missed. Any assignments or performances missed as a result of an **excused** absence will be due upon the student's return to school. Students must always come prepared with their drama journal, a folder or duotang for papers and scripts, and writing utensils.

SAFETY

Wear clothing that will allow full freedom of movement. Drama is an active course that requires much movement. Be aware of others' work space and tread carefully within it. Be aware of others' space and respect it. No food, drink or gum is allowed. It is necessary for you to be able to participate fully, to the best of your ability at all times, and gum, food, or drink will get in the way. The **ONLY** drink permitted is a water bottle that can be **SEALED**. Drama class sometimes occurs right after lunch, and it is the student's responsibility to eat **BEFORE** they come to class. **DO NOT** bring cell phones into the classroom. Leave these items in your locker.

PARTICIPATE TO YOUR FULLEST POTENTIAL

Complete work is memorized, polished, and rehearsed. Text, movement, blocking, lyrics, cues etc are to be memorized prior to performance. Incomplete work will not be given stage time in the class and will not be graded prior to being complete. Your drama journal is a necessary tool

in this class. Time will be given at the end of each unit for journal pages, in addition to some on-going reflection and recording. Be prepared to put time and effort into this aspect of your drama class.

****Please note:** Students are encouraged to experiment and use their creativity when developing characters and stories, but there are some topics that are not appropriate and will not be acceptable in this class. The following are not appropriate or acceptable for student creation or performance: **profanity, violence, sexual innuendo, racism/sexism/discrimination of any sort, and representation of substance abuse.** If a student is uncertain about the appropriateness of an idea, please discuss it with the teacher.

The fun in drama class comes from expending effort to create quality work. The way that you treat each other and the process will largely dictate the kind of work we will be able to do. Be good to each other.