



EXPLORING THEATRE

Syllabus



Discovery Middle School
1304 Hughes Road
Madison, AL 35758

Teacher:

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Course Description:

Students are introduced to various aspects of performing. Topics will include: improvisation, pantomime, voice and diction, acting principles, make-up, short production skits, monologues and variety of drama.

Students conclude the semester course with a one-act play production.

Anchor Standard TH-PR 4: Select, analyze, and interpret artistic work for presentation.

Anchor Standard TH-PR 5: Develop and refine artistic techniques for performance.

Anchor Standard TH-CO 10: Synthesize knowledge and personal experiences to make art.

Anchor Standard TH-RE 8: Analyze dramatic works for intent and meaning.

Anchor Standard TH-RE 9: Apply criteria to evaluate artistic work.

Course Objectives:

- Establish a working knowledge and critical understanding of theatre and plays.
- Develop performing skills and acting techniques through practice and experimentation.
- Build self-confidence by creating and performing dramatic works.
- Improve communication and collaboration with peers.
- Foster a love of the performing arts.

Classroom Expectations:

Classroom Rules and Procedures:

1. Students will show respect and support for their peers at all times during this course, especially during presentations and performances.
 - a. This includes being attentive and not interrupting others as well as offering feedback in a positive and constructive way.
2. Students will follow directions and do as they are asked the first time they are asked.
3. Students will arrive to class on time and ready to participate in classwork and activities. Students should go to the restroom or their lockers BEFORE class begins.
4. Absolutely no horseplay or rough-housing during class. Aside from the students not being on task, this is a safety concern with our multi-level classroom.
5. Electronic devices (and other distracting items) used without permission will be confiscated.
6. No food, gum, or beverages are allowed in the classroom EXCEPT a bottle of water.

Accommodations:

Requests for accommodations for this course or any school event are welcomed from students and parents. See me personally, call or e-mail me, or let a counselor know.

Concerning Device Utilization:

1. Student devices should not be hard wired to the network or have print capabilities.
2. Use of discs, flash drives, jump drives, or other USB devices will not be allowed on Madison City computers.
3. Neither the teacher, nor the school is responsible for broken, stolen, or lost devices.
4. All devices will be used at the individual discretion of the teacher.

Grading Policy: Test and project grades will account for 60% of the 9-weeks grade, with the remaining 40% being determined by quiz/daily grades. The grading scale is as follows: A (90-100), B (80-89), C (70-79), D (65-69), and F (below 65). Grades will be a reflection of mastery of the standards. Make sure all absences are excused as class work can be made up and graded for excused absences only.

Tests will be given on Tuesdays or Thursdays for this course. This is also when major projects and presentations will be due.

Make-up Test & Late Work Policies: Missed tests, quizzes, or presentations should be made up on the day a student returns to school provided the test was announced prior to the student's absence. Absence the day before a test will not be an excuse to delay at test that was previously announced.

Late work will be accepted for a 10% point deduction per school day after the assignment was due, unless otherwise arranged with the teacher. If a student is absent on the due date for an assignment, it should be turned in the day of the student's return or it will be graded as late.

Materials and Supplies Needed:

Class Fee: \$20

- Pencils with erasers (no pens, please!)
- Composition or spiral-bound notebook
- Highlighters (multiple colors recommended)
- Optional/Helpful – small Post-It notes or Post-It tabs
- Optional/Helpful – clipboard

Course Outline: Students will learn the core aspects of theatre and drama, including how to read, interpret, and perform plays. They will also explore and build performance skills such as stage presence, volume, collaboration, and memorization.

Major topics to be covered include Theatre History and Vocabulary, the "Acting Mask" (Inner Resources, Physicalization, Vocalization, Improvisation), and Script Analysis.