

Dear Parents,

I am very excited to be your child's Beginning Drama teacher! Without a doubt, this class will be full of both fun activities and hard work. The following 2 pages are my classroom syllabus, rules, policies, and grading procedure. Make sure to read through this information thoroughly! The course content may be added to or taken away from as I deem necessary throughout the semester.

The academic misconduct and attendance policy of the school will be followed in my classroom. Any student who receives a failing grade during this course is urged to discuss this with me at any time. All requests for accommodations for this course or any school event are welcomed from students and parents. Being a positive, responsible, and appropriate digital citizen is important in this virtual classroom setting.

I am always available for questions or comments. You may contact me through my email at mdavis@madisoncity.k12.al.us.

If you are concerned about assignments or grades, you can look at your child's status on iNow as well. Although grades are automatically uploaded into the Schoology program, iNow is where official grades are located. I am sure that this will be a great semester!

Sincerely,

Mrs. Mary Davis

BEGINNING DRAMA SYLLABUS: Mrs. Mary B. Davis

COURSE CONTENT

1. ONGOING

1. History of Theatre and Theatre Terms
2. Theatre games / Improvisational exercises
3. Pantomiming / Acting techniques
4. Character development
5. Analysis of characters in plays and skits
6. Genres of Theatre

2. CLASSROOM PERFORMANCES

1. Pantomime to music
2. Various scenes
3. Individual and small group acting exercises
4. Monologue and Dialogues
5. Reader's Theatre

3. WRITING ASSIGNMENTS

1. Student monologues, dialogues, and scenes
2. Theatre critique
3. Reflections on performances and group work

4. REQUIRED MATERIALS

1. Notebook / Pen / Highlighter / Pencil
2. Clothing easy to move in (we often work on the floor)
3. Appropriate clothes/shoes for performance on test days

5. CLASS RULES (Basically, be KIND and RESPECTFUL)(when in the building)

- a. Speak at appropriate times using an appropriate voice.
- b. The teacher dismisses the class, not the bell.
- c. Be in your seat and ready to work when the tardy bell rings.
- d. Bring all needed class materials every day.
- e. Leave all food and drinks, other than water in sealable bottles in your bag (gum too!)

GRADING POLICY

70% Test grades: Projects, performances, rehearsals, tests.

30% Daily grades: In-class activities/participation, group work

GENERAL POLICIES

1. Have fun and strive to do your personal best.
2. Laugh at yourself, but not at others.
3. Students will be expected to perform in front of the class almost every day. If there is a scheduled test performance, students must present it on the scheduled day, unless we make other arrangements beforehand. Do NOT come to me the day you are expected to perform and beg for an extension. I won't give it to you!
4. If the student is not prepared, he / she will receive a zero for that assignment.
5. Treat every day as a day to learn something new, and as a day to master the skills already learned.
6. Many daily class activities can't be made up when a student is absent because of the "hands-on" nature of the class. However, for the daily grades that can be made up, and for all individual test grades, the student must have an excused absence turned in within three days in order to receive a grade. If the absence is unexcused, a zero will result per school policy. All make-up performances must be given – through an appointment made with the teacher by the student – within 10 days. For group test grades that are missed, a research paper will be assigned and due by the end of the following week.

OUT OF CLASS PERFORMANCES

****Beginning Drama Showcase:**

I'm not sure what this will look like yet as it will depend wholly on whether or not we are meeting face to face, or still meeting remotely. Either way, the students WILL have a performance of some kind! I have several ideas, but I have to wait to see how the world-saga unfolds before I know which idea will best suit the class. I will announce the performance date the week we are back from fall break.

****The showcase will count as $\frac{3}{4}$ of their final exam grade.**

** "One absent individual can have an enormous negative impact on a team effort." This concept is no different than that of a sports team. EVERYONE is needed to attain success. ONLY a **doctor's note**, specifically stating that a child is unable to attend the performance will be accepted. If a child is experiencing something that does not warrant a visit to the doctor, I expect that child to be on stage/screen. "The show must go on!!"