

FINE ARTS (THEATRE)- Syllabus

Listening is not just hearing what someone tells you word for word. You have to listen with a heart. I don't want that to sound touchy-feely; it is not. It is very hard work. - Anna Deveare Smith

COURSE DESCRIPTION:

The Theatre portion of the Fine Arts course is designed to teach the student the fundamentals of storytelling, the basic craft of acting, and the structure and skillsets of the theatrical designer. Throughout the course of this portion of the class, the students will create the collaborative theatrical performance element of their portfolio.

LEARNING OUTCOMES:

Upon successful completion of this course, the student should be able to:

- ❖ Understand what makes theatre different from other art and entertainment forms.
 - ❖ Collaborate to create a piece of theatre
 - ❖ Employ basic theories of acting and directing
 - ❖ Employ technical and design practices
 - ❖ Recognize the structural elements of a play and employ them in writing a short play.
 - ❖ Develop criteria for intelligent and constructive criticism of a play.
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REQUIRED TEXTS AND COURSE MATERIALS:

- ❖ Downloadable Plays on the iPad
 - ❖ Pencils/ Pens
 - ❖ A sketchbook that can be bought through instructor
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WORK ENVIRONMENT:

For each class a student needs to...

1. Be punctual and attend every class, except in sickness and emergencies.
 2. Have the appropriate supplies (paper, writing tools, and other supplies).
 3. Have read the assigned material and be prepared to discuss the readings.
 4. Listen attentively and participate through class discussions and group lessons.
 5. Respect everyone's point of views and ideas.
 6. Choose to learn as much as possible and show a positive attitude about the material while in class.
 7. Develop positive learning habits throughout the class.
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MAJOR ASSIGNMENTS:

Participation- In this class, **silence is NOT golden!** This class is based solely upon RESPONSIBLE student participation. In the spirit of this, participation will weigh heavily on the student's grade; this grade will change based on the student's work ethic in class.

Journal Work – YOU MUST KEEP A JOURNAL DURING THIS CLASS. We will work in it just about every day. This is a place to honestly write about your observations, answer questions, do homework, and to share your impressions of your/other student's progress. This cannot be on the iPad, so the student MUST have a one subject sketchbook that is purchased for this and the other sections of Fine Arts.

ComedySportz – All students will join an improv team, and through activities, compete.

Playwriting – We will work out multiple performances in the class, and the students will explore the writing and rehearsal processes together in groups. These will be performed in the classroom, in the library, and in the theatre.

Acting, Directing, and Design Assignments & Quizzes – Each content area will have assignments that you will be required to create, interpret, or research. Along with these assignments, there will be quizzes given periodically throughout the class.

Final Project- The students will choose one area of theatre that they will create a final project based around. These can be centered around any of the areas that have been explored in class.

CONNECTING TO THE CLASSROOM PAGE:

Make sure that by DAY TWO of class, you have saved the Classroom PAGE onto your iPad. Here are the steps

- Open Safari
- Go to www.stpatricktheatre.org
- Click on Theatre Classes link to left
- Click on FINE ARTS class button
- Click on the action button
- Add this site to your homescreen

EXTRA CREDIT POSSIBILITIES:

There will be one extra credit opportunity each unit. Extra credit is meant to enhance a student's experience; it is not intended to make a failing grade an excellent grade, so no extra credit assignment will ever be worth more than a weekly participation grade.

WEEKLY SCHEDULE:

WEEK	ACTIVITIES	ASSIGNMENT
1	SUBJECT: Acting and Improvisation Ensemble Building/ Team work Acting Skills	Compete in Comedy Sportz
2	SUBJECT: Storytelling Elements Elements Nonverbal Communication	Create a nonverbal scene
3	SUBJECT: Writing a Story Plot Structure and Theatrical Choices Using the Hero's Journey	Develop a Hero's Journey
4	SUBJECT: Creating the World of the Story Connecting Art forms Developing a Design from a script	Create a Set Design/ Costume Design
5	SUBJECT: Performing and Directing a Story Creating stage pictures Directing Performers	Direct a Story
6	SUBJECT: FINAL EXAM Write/ Design/ Perform	Final Project