

THE I

Theatre I- Introduction to Theatre

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Course Description

“The objective of Theatre I is to give interested students a well-rounded introduction to important aspects of theatre and theatrical production. The following areas will be addressed: Theatre appreciation, character development, improvisation, mime, scenes, and students will participate in a one-act class production.” –*Program of Studies for Courses & Career Paths 2015-2016*

Collaborative Learning

Students of Theatre are expected to create and learn as a team in an environment of mutual respect. Because none of us is as creative as all of us, students must learn to work with an open mind, and to accept, and build upon the ideas of others—not just their own.

The Workshop Model

Theatre students of North Kansas City Schools will be expected to stay engaged in long periods of independent and group work time. This takes discipline and maturity to maintain on-task behavior for all class activities. In theatre, this can often take the form of creative group projects or rehearsals. Students must use class time to master learning targets and be prepared to demonstrate learning through a diverse spectrum of assessments ranging from written quizzes and reflections to a memorized and polished performance.

Technology Usage

Students in this class are expected to bring district issued technology everyday. Being prepared with class materials, including computers, is part of their participation grade.

E-Campus

This course has an E-Campus site. Here students can find a copy of the class syllabus, homework & class work assignments, due dates, and power points. E-Campus can be found on the district website: nkcschools.org

<https://ecampus.nkcschools.org/webapps/login/?action=relogin>

Absences/Make-Up Work

Show up, we need you! This is a participation intensive course. Your absence affects your grade and the whole ensemble. Students are accountable for making up all work and readings missed on their own time. Unexcused absences may NOT make up daily participation points. Make up work for excused absences may be submitted without penalty within the **same** number of days as the absence.

Please note: Late work unrelated to absences is not accepted. Missed performances will need to be made up on the student's own time. Arrangements will need to be made to perform before or after school. MAKE-UP WORK is the responsibility of the student.

Non-District-Issued Electronic Devices

The use of cell phones is **NOT** allowed during class unless directed by the instructor for educational purposes. When directed to use cell phones for educational purposes, the student may only use this technology in a school appropriate, positive, and respectful way. Students will be held accountable for any and all online activity (what they say and do). Any inappropriate usage or abuse will result in immediate consequences.

Topics Covered

Topics & activities in this class will include:

- Ensemble Building
- Story & The Dramatic Structure
- Collaborative Scene Work
- Play Studies
- Theatre Attendance & Observation
- Evaluation of Drama
- Improvisation
- Stage Movement
- Stage Combat (Hand to hand)
- Playwriting
- In Class One Act Production

Respect is KEY

This class is designed with the creative, mature thinkers in mind. Students will be asked to expand their knowledge base and take creative risks. Students and their efforts need to be respected.

Classroom Expectations

- Students will arrive on time, with all materials
 - Students will do their best when participating in all activities, projects, and assignments
 - Students will complete all assignments on time
 - Students will leave all stereotypes and attitudes at the door
 - Students will work as team members and be sensitive to the needs of the others
 - Students will treat the classroom and theater spaces and supplies with respect
 - Students will take care of all hygiene and grooming habits before entering the classroom
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Oak Park Theatre: ophstheatre.org

OPHS Theatre holds auditions for all productions open to any student of Oak Park High School. Membership in International Thespian Society or enrollment in a Theatre class is not required for the fall musical. However, students who are Thespian Society members and/or in Theatre classes will have first priority on any production staff position available through the year.

Classroom Notes

It is the responsibility of the student to bring a writing utensil and paper for notes. It is recommended that students take notes on all material. We will review material before each test.

Homework

Homework varies on the current topic we are discussing. Homework is given in this class, and can come in many forms. This may include reading or memorizing scripts, working on creative projects, writing papers, etc.

Tardies

The objectives of this class require all of the allotted class time to be spent working productively. Students need to be in their assigned seat when the passing lights go out. Refer to the Oak Park High School policy regarding tardies.

Academic Honesty

Academic honesty is expected of all students. Academic dishonesty will affect your grade and will be reported to the home and administration. Academic dishonesty includes plagiarism, which is the act of stealing someone else's words or images, without permission or attribution.

Educational Ownership

Theatre classes are not like traditional classes and this can sometimes cause tension or hesitation for the student. However, students will receive whatever they invest. Not really trying damages the ensemble and robs the student of an opportunity for personal growth. In all activities, I encourage students to take risks and jump in with both feet! Participation is NOT a choice, but your attitude is.

Performance Attendance

Theatre students are **REQUIRED** to attend a performance once a semester. Fall semester students may choose to see *Singin' in the Rain*, or *James & the Giant Peach*. In the Spring semester students may choose between *The Musical Comedy Murders of 1940*, and the *One Act Festival*.

Evaluation forms and reflection prompts will be available on the theatre website and will be given to each student prior to the performance week.

Attendance is mandatory but purchasing a ticket, although appreciated, is not required for the assignment. If students cannot make a performance night, they may attend a dress rehearsal, but must prearrange with Mr. Gehrlein since he has a closed rehearsal policy.

Transportation to and from the performance is the responsibility of the student.

Students will write a reflection paper about their experience at the performance. Students must keep their **SHOW PROGRAM** to staple to their reflection paper. **Papers are due up to one week after the show has closed, however after the posted due date, the grade of the paper will drop 10% per day late. After one week, they will not be accepted.**

Show Dates & Times

Fall Musical: *Singin' in the Rain* November 12, 13, 14 @ 7:30PM

Theatre for a Cause: *James & the Giant Peach* December 3, 4, 5 @ 7:30PM

Winter Play: *The Musical Comedy Murders of 1940* February 25, 26, 27 @ 7:30PM

One Act Festival: April 14, 15 @ 7PM, April 16 @ 2PM & 7PM

Dress Rehearsals will be Monday-Wednesday before opening night.

The Grading Scale

The grade is based on a percentage of total points earned out of total points possible. Each grading period is cumulative. If a student drops below 70% in the class, the parent will be notified. Grades will be updated every 2 weeks in power school.

100-94	A	76-74	C
93-90	A-	73-70	C-
89-87	B+	69-67	D+
86-84	B	66-64	D
83-80	B-	63-60	D-
79-77	C+	59-0	F

The grade is determined by the following factors:

- Participation (**10 pts per day**)—**only Excused Absences may make up points!**
- Papers/quizzes – homework & classwork
- Projects/tasks – performances & reflections

**I have read the course description,
grading scale, classroom
expectations/ procedures and
syllabus.**

**Please turn in this final page for
points!**

By signing this, I _____
the parent/guardian and I
_____the student verify that I
have read this document in its entirety. I
understand all the course requirements,
policies/procedures, and expectations. Please
sign below.

Student:

Name: _____ (print)

_____ (sign)

Parent/Guardian:

Name: _____ (print)

_____ (sign)

Media Release Agreement

Students in the class may participate in online learning, and may be recorded or photographed for public view in educational online venues. This is optional.

Please initial your preference.

_____I hereby GRANT permission for the instructor of this course to post pictures, or videos of my student participating in in-class activities for online educational purposes viewable to the public.

_____I hereby DENY permission for the instructor of this course to post pictures, or videos of my student participating in in-class activities for online educational purposes viewable to the public.

Parent/Guardian:

Name: _____ (print)

_____ (sign)