



Reynolds High School

Scene Study: Acting & Directing

Building Relationships for Academic Success

Instructor Name: CJ Parsons

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Required Textbooks/Materials -

All course material, including scripts, textbooks, and other writing/art materials will be provided in class. If any readings are assigned outside of class, they will be made available via email or Schoology.

Course Description -

Students will learn the basics of Acting in multiple styles/genres of theatre, and how to study, devise, perform, critique and revise pieces of theatre works. The styles of theatre that will be covered in class include:

1. Ensemble Building
2. Pantomime
3. Improvisational Theatre
4. Monologues
5. Duo/group scenes
6. One Acts
7. Scene Study and performance
8. Stage Combat

Every year we will study a different founder of Modern Theatre. These will also be on a 4-year rotation. Artists included in the founder category of Modern Theatre include:

1. Uta Hagen
2. Stella Adler
3. Viola Spolin
4. Konstantin Stanislavski

Course Requirements -

For a more detailed outline of the activities and subjects covered in class, look at the Course Schedule below.

In a typical class period, students will:

- Go over High & Lows and connect with one another.
- Play 1-2 Warm Up games (10 min.),
- Learning subject matter or working on performances (20-25 min).
- Spending the majority of class working on assigned pieces or exercises (30-40 min.)
- Close out class with an Exit Ticket and goal for the next day (10-15 min.).

There will be a performance assessment for the end of each unit. If time is allotted, there will also be the opportunity for class-wide critique and a revised performance of the same piece.

Students are required to attend the RHS Main Stage/Black Box Theatre Department productions. Attendance for all Acting and StageCraft students is free.

Students interested in the Directing Section of this course can be expected to learn all the same material but will apply it from a directing point of view.

- When it comes to performances, each director will be assigned specific actors/scene groups.
- The Director's job is to work with the actors, offering feedback and helping groups to improve.
- Directors are required to give feedback on performance days.
- Directors will provide reflections on the growth of the group and actors during the rehearsal and performance process, and how they helped those actors to grow.

Grading Policy Description -

No homework will be assigned outside of class. All assigned tasks will be able to be worked on during class time. This is a performance-based class - students must be present in class in order to receive points toward a letter grade.

20% = Classwork - rehearsal time, participation, reflections/critique, Exit Tickets, attendance of mainstage productions etc.

Final Performances = 40% of grade overall - performances, Screen Analysis Reflection, Year-End Reflection, etc.

There will be classwork in class, and Mastery of the given work will be within the parameters of their performances in class.

Performances will be graded based on the ITS judge rubric, and according to CTE standards. Rubrics and criteria for performances will be made known and passed out prior to performance dates in class. You will know exactly what is expected from you based on each rubric.

Assignments for Mastery will be:

- (1) Pantomime Performance (Oct. 5 & 6)
- (2) Improv Game Performance (Oct. 26 & 27)
- (3) Monologue/Duo Scene Draft Performance (Nov. 13-17)
- (4) Monologue/Duo Scene Final Performance (Dec. 14 & 15)
- (5) One Act Performances (Jan. 24-26)
- (6) Scene Analysis Performances (Apr. 15-19)
- (7) Stage Combat Performances (May 28-31)
- (8) Year-End Reflection Presentations (Jun. 3-7)

Letter Grade Description & Percentage Breakdown

(The following is our current language in the course catalog)

Grade Percentage	Letter Grade	Description
81%-100%	A	The student fully understands the content and the course objectives have been mastered.
61% - 80%	B	The student understands the content and course objectives at an above average level.

41% - 60%	C	The student understands the course content and course objectives at an average level.
21% - 40%	D	The student understands the course content at a below average level and a minimum of course objectives are met.
0% - 20%	F	The student has not met a sufficient number of course objectives to pass a minimum level and receives no credit.

Late Work/Retake Policy -

Students not satisfied with their grade on performances and critiques will have the opportunity for a redo. This opportunity is for students that earn a “D” or higher in at least 4 (or half) of the rubric scoring areas. There is no limit to the number of redo’s you may attempt to get the grade that is most acceptable to you.

Course Schedule/Outline of Units -

Dates	Topic
September	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Sept. 5-8: Ensemble Building - Sept. 11-15: Ensemble Building - Sept. 18-22: Stage Directions & Pantomime - Sept. 25-29: Pantomime
October	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Oct. 2-6: Pantomime Performances - Oct. 9-12: Improv - Character/Object Work No School - Oct. 13 - Oct. 16-20: Improv - Relationships/Env. - Oct. 26 & 27: Improv Performances - Oct. 26-28: Play That Goes Wrong
November	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Oct. 30-Nov. 3: Monologues/Scenes - Nov. 2-4: Play That Goes Wrong - Nov. 6-8: Monologues/Scenes No School - Nov. 9 & 10 - Nov. 13-17: Mono/Scene Draft Performances No School - 20-24 - Thanksgiving Week - Nov. 27-Dec. 1: Mono/Duo Work
December	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Dec. 4-8: Mono/Duo Work - Dec. 14 & 15: Mono/Duo Final Performances No School - Dec. 18-Jan. 2 - Winter Break
January	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Jan. 3-5: Mono/Duo Work - Saturday Jan. 6: Districts - MHC League Acting Competition - 8:00am-4:00pm - Jan. 8-12: One Act Workshops No School - Jan. 15 - Jan. 16-19: One Act Workshops - Jan. 22 & 23: One Act Final Rehearsals - Jan. 24-26: Finals - One Act Performances No School - Jan. 29 - Jan. 30-Feb. 2 - Stella Adler

<p style="text-align: center;">February</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Saturday Feb. 3: Regional Acting Competition - Feb. 5-9: Stella Adler - Friday Feb. 9: One Act Festival @CCC 8:00am-4:30pm - Feb. 12-16: Stella Adler - Feb. 16 & 17: Little Shop of Horrors No School - Feb. 19 - Feb. 19-23: Stella Adler - Feb. 23 & 24: Little Shop of Horrors - Feb. 26-Mar. 1: Stella Adler
<p style="text-align: center;">March</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Mar. 1 & 2 - Little Shop of Horrors - Mar. 4-8: Scene Study - Mar. 11-15: Scene Study - Mar. 18-20: Scene Study No School - Mar. 21 & 22 - Conferences No School - Mar. 25-29 - Spring Break
<p style="text-align: center;">April</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Apr. 1-5: Scene Study - Apr. 3-6: State Acting Competition in Salem - Apr. 8-11: Scene Study No School - Apr. 12 - Apr. 15-19: Scene Study Performances - Apr. 22-26: Stage Combat - Apr. 29-May 3: Stage Combat
<p style="text-align: center;">May</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - May 6-10: Stage Combat - May 9-11: Murder Mystery Dinner/One Acts - May 13-17: Stage Combat - May 16-18: Murder Mystery Dinner/One Acts - May 20-24: Stage Combat No School - May 27 - May 28-31: Stage Combat Performances
<p style="text-align: center;">June</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Saturday, Jun. 1 - Theatre Banquet - Jun. 3-7: Final Reflections - Jun. 6 - Seniors Last Day - Jun. 10-12: Student Directed Classes - Jun. 13 & 14: Finals

Class Expectations -

Students will be asked to be vulnerable with one another in their performances and critiques of one another. It is expected that class be a safe space for all students, where they feel seen, heard and respected in the highest regard.

Other -

Food and drink are not allowed backstage, in the Black Box or in the auditorium. Any food or drink must be consumed before class.

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By signing below, I indicate that I have read and reviewed the assigned syllabus for this course with a parent, and thereby agree to the conditions and requirements of the course.

PLEASE SIGN AND DATE BY: Monday, Sept. 11th, 2023

Student Signature_____ Date_____

Parent Signature_____ Date_____