



Stockbridge High School Syllabus

Theatre Fundamentals I

Dept: Fine Arts, Course Number: 52.02100- Theatre Fundamentals, Section: 01

Class Meeting Time(s): M-F Location: Room 302

Fall & Spring Semesters

Teacher Information:

Ms. Dharma Jackson

Office: Drama Room 302

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Head of Department:

Mr. Christopher Burns

Office: Music Room 304

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Course Description

This course serves as an introduction to the theater arts. Students investigate theater as a whole by exploring the techniques and origins of a wide variety of theater arts in various cultures and periods. Students will demonstrate basic knowledge and skills in acting and theater arts.

Course Learning Outcomes/ Goals:

Upon completion of this course, students will be able to:

- Students will name and define each role and relationship of technical production personnel.
- Students will be able to recognize and interpret artistic choices in many different roles in production during a performance.
- Students will be able to analyze a script from the view of the actor, producer, and crew departments.
- Students will be able to identify playwrights and plays, and the relevance of historical theatre.
- Students will be able to demonstrate proper vocal and physical warm-ups before a performance.

Required Texts, Materials, or Equipment

Computer Requirement:

- Bring your charged Chromebook to class every day.
- Pencils/Pens.
- Composition Notebook or Reusable Notebook
- Folders to keep handouts, Plays, and scripts.
- Theatre Textbooks (Are located in the classroom) and Digitally TeachingBooks.Net.
- Positive, respectful attitude with an open creative mind!

For further information on Henry County Schools Official Notebook Computer Policy, please go to:

<https://schoolwires.henry.k12.ga.us/cms/lib/GA01000549/Centricity/Domain/41/Empower%20HCS%20handbook%20APPROVED%2007212017.pdf>

Software Requirement:

To properly access the course content you will need to download the following free software:

- Adobe Reader (needed to access files in PDF format):
<http://get.adobe.com/reader/>



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- Free text reader
- <https://chrome.google.com/webstore/detail/ttsreaderx-in-page-textt/pakknklefcjdhejnffafpeelofiekebg/related?hl=en>

Computer Skill Prerequisites:

- Able to use the Windows™ operating system
- Able to use Microsoft Word™ word processing
- Able to attach and retrieve attached files via Google Classroom.
- Able to use a Web browser.
- Able to use Google Doc, Google Slides, Etc.
- Able to print documents either on your home computer's printer or Library.

In-class Use of Student Notebook Computers:

Student Chromebook will be used during this class only with teacher's permission. Outside of class, computers will be used to complete assignments, access internet and class materials, and to communicate with the instructor.

Google Classroom:

Students can access course materials on Google Classroom. In addition, students will be required to complete quizzes and submit homework assignments through the Dropbox feature of Google Classroom.

Illuminate Education:

You can gain access to Illuminate Education with an access code provided by the teacher which will be posted or login into the Illuminate portal with a student login. Weekly quizzes in Illuminate.

TeachingBooks.Net:

Plays and Novels selected by the teacher is at the following link:

<https://www.teachingbooks.net/qlz6p79> or Students may select more books for free time reading at

Go to TeachingBooks.net/SignIn

- Username: henry
- Password: henry
- Click "Sign In"

Daily Work/Homework

Students will be required to complete weekly homework assignments. Every Monday in Theatre Arts is "*Spill the Tea Mondays*." Every Monday, for the first 15 minutes of class, we will discuss what has happened in the Entertainment World over the past week. After the discussion, you will have time to write a 2-paragraph journal entry. The two paragraphs are to be completed, edited, and uploaded by the end of class every Monday week.

Major Assignments: Descriptions

Every month is a different Heritage Celebration. At the end of every month, a video presentation is due. Record yourself presenting a presentation of an entertainment Theatre Arts professional of the same heritage as the current month. Students can create a presentation using Google Slides, PowerPoint, Canva, etc. Please save the file as an Mp4 and upload it to Google Classroom for your Quiz grade.

Each presentation should have the following pages:



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- 1) Title Page- Person's name and student
- 2) Early Beginnings- Selected Person's DOB, Hometown, Education
- 3) First Breakout Role- What is (was) this person's first big job?
- 4) Major Contribution (s)- What has this person contributed to the industry or humanity?
- 5) Awards- If any
- 6) Currently doing- or DOD
- 7) Why did you select this person?
- 8) List of sources you researched for this information in MLA format
- 9) Video recording or audio recording of you giving the presentation.

For Extra credit, you can do two more additional presentations for June and July.

February-African American/Black History Month, American History Month

March- Irish American Heritage Month, Greek American Heritage Month

April- National Arab American Heritage Month, Tartan (Scottish American) Heritage Month

May- Asian/Pacific Heritage Month, Jewish American Heritage Month, South Asian Heritage Month, Haitian

June- Heritage Month, Indian Heritage Month,

July- Caribbean American Heritage Month

French American Heritage Month

National Hispanic Heritage Month (September 15 - October 15); German American Heritage Month (September 15 - October 15)

Italian American Heritage Month, Filipino American Month, Polish American Month

November- Native American & Alaska Native Heritage Month, National Native American Heritage Month

Class Participation

Every Wednesday is *Workout Wednesday* in Theatre Arts. Students are on their feet in-class participation and team activities to build improv and ensemble-building skills weekly. All details are posted in Google Classroom along with this syllabus.

Theatre Games are used as activities to help train skills in improv, storytelling, and ensemble building. Below are a list of some of the games in this course.

Games such as but not limited to:

- Dungeons and Dragons- (Character Creation, Improvisational skills, Storytelling skills, etc.)
- Rory's Story Cube- (Improve Improvisational skills)
- The Mind- (Team, Cast, Ensemble Building)
- Werewolf- (Acting, Ensemble Building)
- Tableaux- (Storytelling, Ensemble Building)
- Mirror- (Acting, Self-awareness)
- Contact- (Improv)
- Parts of a Whole: (Improv and Ensemble Building)
- Gibberish Interpreter: (Active Listening and Improv)
- Spacewalk: (Improv, Active Awareness, Ensemble Building)

Course Grading

Statement of Grading Approach or Philosophy

Grading is intended to reflect the level of mastery of content and student progress.

Explanation of the Grading System



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Performances and presentations will be graded based on a rubric the Georgia Department of Education created. Quizzes are based on 100 points.

Grade Calculations	Percentage
Class work, homework, formative assessments, diagnostic assessments, written reflections. It may be graded for accuracy or completion.	40%
Such as constructed response assessments, selected response assessments, reflective assessments, summative unit assessments, culminating performance tasks, projects	40%
End-of-Course, Test /Final Exam	20%
Formative/Summative (80%)+ EOC(20%)=100%	Students Course Final Average(100%)

**SHS instructors will input at least TWO grades per course a week.*

Other Important Grading Information

- SHS instructors will input at least TWO grades per course a week.
- Always review your student's current class average in Infinite Campus.
- Please be patient if an assignment is not immediately updated on Infinite Campus, especially if turned in and accepted late.

Grading Scale

90-100=A

80-89=B

74-79=C

70-73=D

Below 70=F

Non-Academic Grades

Students will be evaluated on non-academic factors as follows through the conduct grade:

S-Satisfactory N-Needs Improvement U-Unsatisfactory

Weighted GPA-Extra Quality Points

Honors, Dual Enrollment (DE), and Advanced Placement (AP) classes taken while enrolled with the Henry County School System will receive extra quality points. The weighted GPA will be included on the student's official transcript. Extra quality points will be assigned as follows:

Honor Courses	Advanced Placement & Dual Enrollment Courses
A=4.5 Quality Points B=3.5 Quality Points	A=5 Quality Points B=4 Quality Points



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C=2.5 Quality Points D=1.5 Quality Points F=0 Quality Points	C=3 Quality Points D=2 Quality Points F=0 Quality Points
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Course-Specific Support or Supplementary Instruction

All quizzes are timed in Illuminate. Time and a half is allowed on all quizzes. All quizzes are open hand-written notes only.

Course Policies and Information for Students

INCLUSIVE LEARNING ENVIRONMENT STATEMENT

The best learning environment—whether in the classroom, studio, laboratory, or fieldwork site—is one in which all members feel respected while being productively challenged. At Stockbridge High School, we are dedicated to fostering an inclusive atmosphere, in which all participants can contribute, explore, and challenge their own ideas as well as those of others. Every participant has an active responsibility to foster a climate of intellectual stimulation, openness, and respect for diverse perspectives, questions, personal backgrounds, abilities, and experiences, although instructors bear primary responsibility for its maintenance.

A range of resources is available to those who perceive a learning environment as lacking inclusivity, as defined in the preceding paragraph. If possible, we encourage students to speak directly with their instructor about any suggestions or concerns they have regarding a particular instructional space or situation. Alternatively, students may bring concerns to another trusted advisor or administrator (such as an academic advisor, mentor, department chair, or administrator). All classroom participants—including faculty, staff, and students—who observe a bias incident affecting a student may also file a report (whether personally or anonymously).

1. ATTENDANCE POLICY

Attendance will be taken during a 1st period homeroom every day. Students should be in class when the tardy bell rings or risk being marked tardy to class.

Students who have more than five (5) days of unexcused absences during the school year will be considered truant. The legal penalties for truancy include referral of students to Juvenile Court and referral of parents to State Court. Any Georgia resident who has control or charge of a child who is convicted of violating mandatory school attendance requirements will be subject to a fine of not less than \$25.00 and not more than \$100.00, imprisonment not to exceed 30 days, community service, or any combination of such penalties per absence.

2. PENALTIES FOR LATE WORK & POLICIES ON MISSED EXAMS, MAKE-UP EXAMS OR QUIZZES

It is the student's and parent's responsibility, not the teachers', to arrange for make-up work. Students should ask their teacher for any missed assignments on the first day they return to school. The number of days allowed to complete make-up work will be determined by the principal or his/her designee. The days allowed to make up work will not exceed the number of days absent except under extenuating circumstances approved by the principal or his/her designee. Students assigned Out-of-School Suspension (OSS) will be allowed to make up work upon return to school. The number of days to complete make-up work is commensurate to the number of days of OSS (i.e., 3 days of Out-of-School Suspension = 3 days to make up work missed)



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3. REGRADING POLICY

Regrading is NOT available in any of the Theatre Arts classes. Once work is submitted, the work given will be graded.

4. REQUESTS FOR INSTRUCTOR FEEDBACK ON DRAFTS AND REQUESTS TO REVISE

Feedback on grades will be given in Google Classroom.

5. TECHNOLOGY POLICIES:

Misuse of Electronic Communication Devices: Unauthorized possession, displaying or using a cell phone, pager, or other electronic communication device during the school day without the consent of the principal or his/her designee.

6. ETHICS/VIOLATIONS OF ACADEMIC INTEGRITY: Coursework submitted by a student must be the student's own, original work. Students shall not cheat on any assignment by giving or receiving unauthorized assistance or commit the act of plagiarism. Students who commit such acts are subject to not receiving credit on the assignment in question and will be subject to disciplinary action as well.

- Always cite your sources when presenting ideas and/or language you have not developed, including material from class lectures and discussions.
- Violation of this policy includes collaborating on assignments where collaboration is not allowed and/or utilizing notes, texts, etc., on any assignment where such materials are not allowed.

Resources for Students

All additional resources for Students will be under the Welcome Unit or Resource Unit in Google Classroom.

Disclaimer

The instructor reserves the right to make modifications to this information throughout the semester.

Parent-Teacher Contact

- The teacher should always be the first point of contact for a parent. The quickest way to contact your child's teacher is through email. Teachers are required to respond to parent emails within 24 hours.
- In order to be informed of your child's progress on assignments always check Infinite Campus.

Another way to check your child's progress is through Google Classroom. Be sure to have your child's teacher to enroll you in Google Classroom notifications that are sent to your email.



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Preliminary Schedule of Topics, Readings, and Assignments

Date	Topics/Assigned Readings/Homework	Major Assignments and Deadlines
Week 1	Syllabus and Course Review, Theatre Games Review	Quiz on Illuminate Friday
Week 2	<u>Unit 1: Introduction to Theatre</u> Theatre Essentials and Origins	On Stage Directions
Week 3	<u>Unit 1: Introduction to Theatre</u> Aristotle's Elements Critiques and the Audience	Quiz on Illuminate Friday
Week 4	<u>Unit 1: Introduction to Theatre</u> Fairy Tales vs. Legends and their origins Sundiata: The Lion King of Mali	Quiz on Illuminate Friday
Week 5	<u>Unit 2: Improvisation</u> Improvisation Rules, Skills, Performance, and Professional Opportunities associated with Improvisational Theatre	Quiz on Illuminate Friday
Week 6	<u>Unit 2: Improvisation</u> Pantomime	Quiz on Illuminate Friday Pantomime Performance
Week 7	<u>Unit 3: Performance Basics</u> Text into Action Movement, and Voice Warm-ups	Quiz on Illuminate Friday
Week 8	<u>Unit 3: Performance Basics</u> Preparing an Audition <u>Field Trip to the Alliance Theatre</u>	Performance Guide Review Monologue Self-Tape Upload
Week 9	<u>Unit 4: Playwrights and Playwriting</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - <i>Playwrights and Plot Structure</i> - <i>Capturing Unique Character Voice</i> - <i>Dynamic Dialogue</i> - <i>Creating a Script</i> 	Quiz on Illuminate Friday
Week 10	<u>Unit 4: Playwrights and Playwriting</u> <i>William Shakespeare</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - <i>Othello</i> - <i>King Lear</i> - <i>Tempest</i> 	Quiz on Illuminate Friday
Week 11	<u>Unit 4: Playwrights and Playwriting</u> August Wilson <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - <i>Fences</i> - <i>The Piano Lesson</i> - <i>Ma Rainy Black Bottom</i> 	Quiz on Illuminate Friday
Week 12	<u>Unit 4: Playwrights and Playwriting</u> Broadway today and yesterday's differences Rodgers and Hammerstein	Quiz on Illuminate Friday



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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Oklahoma! Jonathan Larson - RENT - TIC TIC BOOM 	
Week 13	<u>Unit 5: Technical Theatre</u> Lighting Department	Quiz on Illuminate Friday
Week 14	<u>Unit 5: Technical Theatre</u> Wardrobe	Quiz on Illuminate Friday
Week 15	<u>Unit 5: Technical Theatre</u> Safety Week	Quiz on Illuminate Friday Safety Performance
Week 16	<u>Unit 6: Role of Theatre in a Societal, Cultural and Historical Context</u> - Augusto Boal	Social, Cultural, and/or Historical Performance
Week 17	Course Review and Foldable	Kahoots Review!!!
Week 18	<u>FINALS</u>	Quiz on Illuminate Friday

Amnesty Policy

Amnesty Week is **NOT** available in any of the Theatre Arts classes. Every week time is given to students to complete assignments during class time. Students are encouraged to use time management wisely. Once an assignment is entered in Infinite Campus, any missing assignments turned in after will be minus ten points in the 1st week. After two weeks, 30 points will be taken away from the assignment.