

THEATRE-BEGINNING

MYERS PARK HIGH SCHOOL
2012-2013 SYLLABUS



Both student and guardian should sign the confirmation sheet (last sheet in this packet) stating they are aware of the expectations. Signed sheet should be turned in before 2.15pm on Wednesday, September 5, 2012 and will count as a homework grade.

INSTRUCTOR INFO:

Name: Ms. Caitlin Cornwell

Email: caitlin.cornwell@cms.k12.nc.us

Classroom: A-2 (off Auditorium lobby)

Course website: <http://cornwell.cmswiki.wikispaces.net/Theatre+>
<http://myersparktheatre.webs.com>

CLASS DESCRIPTION:

In this class, we will explore various aspects of theatre including acting, designing, script analysis, theatre history, and comparison to other types of media. Students will learn through research, preparation, performance and reflection. Learning is hands-on, experiential, and active. Students are expected to work independently and collaboratively.

NC ESSENTIAL STANDARDS: (aka. in this class, the student is going to...)

Communication	Use movement, voice, and writing to communicate ideas and feelings. Use performance to communicate ideas and feelings.
Analysis	Analyze literary texts and performances.
Aesthetics	Understand how to design technical theatre components, such as costumes, sets, props, makeup, lighting, and sound.
Culture	Analyze theatre in terms of the social, historical, and cultural contexts in which it was created. Understand the traditions, roles, and conventions of theatre as an art form.

GRADES:

It is your responsibility to make sure all assignments are turned in to me. There will be assorted quizzes and graded activities (counting same as quizzes) throughout each quarter, both announced and unannounced.

Grades are broken down as follows:

50% Participation

25% Projects

15% Tests/Quizzes

10% Homework

A = 93-100

B = 85-92

C = 77-84

D = 70-76

F = 0-69

TARDINESS/ABSENCES:

You are expected to be in your seat before the final bell.

If you are late to class without an official note, you will be sent to lockout.

In accordance with MPHS policy, if you have more than 10 unexcused absences, you will be required to do

Recovery Time. If you do not make up your absences, you will receive an F.

DUE DATES:

Meet your deadlines. If you have special circumstances affecting your work, see or email me **prior** to the due date so that we can consider alternatives. Coming to me at the start of class on the day an assignment is due is not acceptable.

Typed assignments should be double-spaced, 12-point font, in an easy-to-read font.

Give yourself enough time to print out your work. Coming to class asking to print out your assignment is not acceptable. If you have printer troubles, email your work to me before class.

Your work will be counted as late if you do not have it in hand or in my email inbox **before** the start of class.

MAKE UP WORK:

If you miss a class when a written assignment is due, make-up work is permitted and will be graded for full credit provided that it is turned in within two (2) classes after you return to school. Solo presentations/performances that are missed must be made up the day you return to class. It is your responsibility to request work missed and to turn in or present upon return to class.

Get contact information for 2 responsible classmates so that you can ask them about work that will need to be made up if you miss class.

Come to class prepared, assignments/presentations should be ready at the start of class. Points will be taken off for tardiness.

Missed tests must be made up either **before** or **after** school. Email me to set up a time to make up a missed test.

RESTROOM USAGE:

Use the restroom and get water only when it is a real need.

If people abuse this, I'll turn to a limited alternative.

ELECTRONIC DEVICES:

All electronic devices should be out of sight and out of use during the entire class period.

If you have an emergency that needs to be dealt with during class time, you may ask for a pass to use the phone in the front office.

If you need the device for a class-related project, I will give you specific approval.

FOOD & GUM:

NO food, candy nor drinks (besides water) in the classroom. These prevent you from being able to clearly articulate which is a major part of this class. Bottled water is encouraged. *(If you have a medical condition that requires you have access to food, speak with me.)*

NOTEBOOK:

Maintain a theatre notebook.

Keep all papers including this syllabus.

This is a comprehensive class (we will be revisiting topics & building on earlier subjects.)

MATERIALS:

You should bring the following materials with you to class everyday:

- Blue or black pen
- Sharpened pencil with eraser
- Your Theatre Notebook
- Scripts (when we are working with them)

DRESS:

Follow dress code.

If you wear skirts often, bring a pair of pants or shorts with you so that you are always prepared for acting exercises. An actor's ability to move freely is important for the rehearsal process. You will, therefore, be expected to

EXTRA CREDIT:

Extra credit may be earned for being a respectful audience member at a band, choir, dance or orchestra concert. To earn extra credit, you must bring a program **signed and dated** by me or another MPHS staff member AND write a one (1) page response to the performance. Your response should address at least two (2) of the following questions:

- How can these art forms enhance theatre productions?
- How could the use of this art form be helpful in the rehearsal process?
- How does this performance relate to what we've been studying in class?
- Did the audience exhibit proper audience etiquette?

SCRIPT CONTENT POLICY

Scripts for this class are selected from a wide variety of scene and monologue books as well as full-length plays. All script choices must be approved by the teacher.

Words, actions, and subject matter that are deemed inappropriate will be edited or rejected by the teacher. Students are responsible for making sure that they're comfortable with the script choice.

Hello guardians,

I am very excited about this class and the opportunity to work with your student. It is important to me that we work together to make sure your student gets the most out of this class.

I will stay in communication with you if I have questions or concerns and hope that you will be in touch with me should you have questions or concerns. I would greatly appreciate it if you would go over these expectations with your student. As a class, we went over this syllabus on the first day of class, but I'd like you to have the chance to know the expectations for this class.

Please provide your contact information below so that I may know the best way to get in touch with you. Thank you for your time.

Sincerely,

Caitlin Cornwell

FOR STUDENT

I have read the expectations for my theatre class. I understand what is required of me and realize that if I choose not to follow these guidelines, my grade will reflect this decision.

Student name: _____

Student signature: _____

Student's email address: _____

Date: _____

FOR GUARDIAN

I have read the expectations for my child's theatre class. I understand what is required of my student and realize that if the student chooses not to follow these guidelines, their grade will reflect this decision.

Guardian name: _____

Relationship to student: _____

Guardian signature: _____

Date: _____

Please provide information of how I may contact you & check boxes that may apply.

 Home phone number: _____

- I prefer to communicate via this number
- Only use this number in case of an emergency

 Work phone number: _____

- I prefer to communicate via this number
- Only use this number in case of an emergency

 Cell phone number: _____

- I prefer to communicate via this number
- Only use this number in case of an emergency

Guardian email address: _____

- I prefer to communicate via email

Student is registered for Theatre I during 1st block A days 3rd block A days 3rd block B days