

Theatre-Proficient + Advanced

MYERS PARK HIGH SCHOOL
2012-2013 Syllabus



4B

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 Thursday, September 6, 2012 and will count as a quiz grade.

INSTRUCTOR INFO:

Name: Ms. Caitlin Cornwell

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

Classroom: A-2 (off Auditorium lobby)

Course website: <http://cornwell.cmswiki.wikispaces.net/Theatre+III>

<http://myersparktheatre.webs.com>

CLASS DESCRIPTION:

In this class, we will explore various aspects of theatre including acting, designing, script writing and analysis, theatre history, integration of other art forms, and directing. Students will learn through research, reflection, performance, and by working with others. In this class students will be expected to be able to effectively and efficiently work independently and in groups. We will revisit and build upon material that may have been covered in Theatre I and II.

Students in Theatre IV are expected to be leaders and to model responsible behavior in the classroom. The Theatre IV curriculum specifies that students are expected to work independently. As a result, students in Theatre IV will take on a major directing project under teacher's guidance.

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:	A = 93-100
30% Projects/Homework	B = 85-92
30% Participation	C = 77-84
25% Tests/Quizzes	D = 70-76
15% Theatre Workbook	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.

MATERIALS:

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

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

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, we'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 & DRINK:

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.)*

PORTFOLIO:

You are expected to maintain a Theatre Workbook containing all notes, assignments, returned work, quizzes, tests, and handouts. If there is something you can throw away, I will tell you to trash it. This is a comprehensive class and we will be revisiting topics and building on subjects we've previously covered. Please bring your theatre portfolio with you to class everyday.

The other part of your theatre portfolio will be journal entries. Part of this class will center on your development as a theatre artist and audience member. Reflection is an important part of this class and you will, therefore, be expected to maintain entries in your journal.

I will do unannounced checks for these entries. These entries will help you prepare for and digest this class. Do NOT wait to write all of your entries at one time. Making multiple entries in one sitting is not the point of the journal. The journal should help you track your progress in this class.

In addition to various topics assigned in class, entry themes may include:

- Observations in preparation for performance
- Rehearsal notes and character development
- Reflection on an in-class exercise
- Response to a production

Journal entries should NOT be laundry lists of what was done in class. You should use your journal entries as an opportunity to process (not regurgitate) experiences. I encourage you to make notes about the things that stand out to you in class, during rehearsals, while watching productions, etc, but you should accompany those notes with critical responses and connections.

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 have clothes with you in which you can move and sit on the floor.

QUARTERLY ASSIGNMENTS:

You are solely responsible for independently completing 2 assignments each quarter. The descriptions of and guidelines for these exercises are on the website. Assignments must be submitted electronically.

1st Quarter:

Behind the Scenes Study 9/21/2012
Play Evaluation 10/19/2012

2nd Quarter:

Behind the Scenes Study 11/19/2012
Play Evaluation 1/7/2013

3rd Quarter:

Behind the Scenes Study 2/4/2013
Play Evaluation 3/25/2013

4th Quarter:

Behind the Scenes Study 4/22/2013
Play Evaluation 5/20/2013

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