

**Course Title:** Drama I

**Department:** Visual and Performing Arts

**Course Number:** 6500

**Grade Level:** 9-12

**Length of Course:** One Year

**Prerequisite:** None

**UC/CSU (A-G) Req:** F

**Brief Course Description:** Drama I meets the A-G/UC/CSU requirement for Visual and Performing Arts. Drama I is designed to provide an introduction to the theater and to performing. Opportunities are given, through observation and performance, for the student to exercise each basic skill. In-class activities include improvisation, character interpretation, and character development. Assessment techniques include in-class performances, quizzes, group projects, written assignments and final exam.

## **I GOALS:**

The student will:

- A. Practice and demonstrate stage movements and facets of theater movement (VPA 1.1; 2.1).
- B. Participate in improvisational techniques and dramatic interpretations. (VPA 2.2; 2).
- C. Become knowledgeable of the major acting periods of the Western Theater. (VPA 3.1; 3.3).
- D. Demonstrate the use of vocal techniques in theatre and other professional fields (VPA 5.1; 5.3).
- E. Students will practice and perform in solo and group activities; exploring different genres, styles and methodologies (VPA 2.1; 2.2; 2.3; 4.1).
- F. Students will participate, interpret and evaluate different styles of performances (VPA 1.2; 4.1; 4.2).
- G. Expand knowledge of and the appreciation for historical theater (VPA 3).
- H. Expand knowledge of the role technology plays in the theater (VPA 5.3).
- I. Experiment with techniques of group improvisation and pantomime (VPA 1.2; 2.2; 2.3).

- J. Exposure to acting and working in the industry of theatrical arts, motion pictures and television (VPA 3.1; 5.3).
- K. Students will collaborate, design, apply all aspects of theatre in a performance (VPA 1.1; 2.1; 2.2; 2.3; 5.2).

## **II OUTLINE OF CONTENT FOR MAJOR AREAS OF STUDY**

### Semester I

- A. Acting Skills
  - 1. Introduction: In this unit students will development an understanding of Plays, Actors and Audience.
  - 2. They will then explore the development of character and how the stage works for the actor.
  - 3. They will then apply these new abilities and understanding to perform.
- B. Use of Body and Voice
  - 1. In this unit students will examine and explore costumes, make-up and body language.
  - 2. Students will investigate and practice attributes of the voice.
  - 3. Students will expand their acting abilities through the use of improvisation.

### Semester II

- A. Creating a Performance
  - 1. Students will develop and refine artistic techniques in audition, blocking and rehearsal process.
  - 2. Students will explore different production responsibilities / jobs.
  - 3. Students will convey meaning through the presentation of performance and / or technical design.
- B. Theatre Pathways
  - 1. Students will synthesize and relate knowledge and personal experiences to various theatre art pathways.
  - 2. Students will be exposed to historical periods of theatre, film/video, and other art forms.

## **II ACCOUNTABILITY DETERMINANTS**

- A. Key Assignments
  - 1. Students will participate in the development and performance of student acted scenes. Students shall develop a character and participate as an audience member.
  - 2. Students will demonstrate skills using body language and voice in a vague/neutral scene. Skills used will incorporate subtext and vocal inflection, pace and timing.

3. Students participate in a mock audition. Students will analyze and apply character choices, objectives and obstacles and apply physicality in their performance.
  4. Students will create a resume documenting their experiences and skills. The resume format can be utilized in many different content areas and careers.
- B. Assessment Methods.
1. Teacher observation of day to day classroom participation, effort behavior and achievement.
  2. Individual tests, projects and performance.
  3. Final assessment/performance
  4. Individual and group projects
  5. Homework and classroom assignments

### **III INSTRUCTIONAL MATERIALS METHODOLOGIES**

- A. Required Text: NONE
- B. Supplemental Texts and materials
1. Caltagirone, Dennis Theatre Arts: Dynamics of Acting, Lincolnwood, Illinois, National Textbook Company, 1997.
  2. Taylor, Robert, Strickland, Bob Theatre Art in Action, Lincolnwood, Illinois, National Textbook Company, 1999.
  3. Varied scripts, plays, collection of monologue and scene work books.
  4. Drama Projects, Tanner
  5. The Actor's Checklist 3rd Edition, Rosary Hartel O'Neill
  6. Drama Teacher Academy-online resource
- C. Instructional Methodologies
1. Lecture / Direct Instruction
  2. Demonstrations
  3. Role Play
  4. Presentations