

Drama 1 AB Syllabus

2018-2019

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Buchanan Drama Website: <http://bearstage.weebly.com/>

COURSE DESCRIPTION

Drama 1AB is an **introductory course** designed to develop basic acting skills while providing the student with a background in theatre arts. Students in this class will **perform memorized scenes** from published plays and **develop their own improvised scenes**. **Historical** perspective and **analysis** will also be covered and students will learn to analyze and assess the **aesthetic and technical properties** of their own work as well as recognized artists.

PRIORITY STANDARDS

This is a California standards-based course (with careful, selective attention to appropriate ELA Common Core Standards). All standards will be taught, with a special emphasis on the following (<http://www.cde.ca.gov/be/st/ss/thadvanced.asp>):

1.0 ARTISTIC PERCEPTION

Students observe their environment and respond, using the elements of theatre. They also observe formal and informal works of theatre, film/video, and electronic media and respond, using the vocabulary of theatre.

- **Development of the Vocabulary of Theatre**
- **Comprehension and Analysis of the Elements of Theatre**

2.0 CREATIVE EXPRESSION

Students apply processes and skills in acting, directing, designing, and script writing to create formal and informal theatre, film/videos, and electronic media productions and to perform in them.

- **Development of Theatrical Skills**
- **Creation/Invention in Theatre**

3.0 HISTORICAL AND CULTURAL CONTEXT

Students analyze the role and development of theatre, film/video, and electronic media in past and present cultures throughout the world, noting diversity as it relates to theatre.

- **Role and Cultural Significance of Theatre**
- **History of Theatre**

4.0 AESTHETIC VALUING

Students critique and derive meaning from works of theatre, film/video, electronic media, and theatrical artists on the basis of aesthetic qualities.

- **Critical Assessment of Theatre**
- **Derivation of Meaning from Works of Theatre**

5.0 CONNECTIONS, RELATIONSHIPS, APPLICATIONS

Students apply what they learn in theatre, film/video, and electronic media across subject areas. They develop competencies and creative skills in problem solving, communication, and time management that contribute to lifelong learning and career skills. They also learn about careers in and related to theatre.

- **Connections and Applications**
- **Careers and Career-Related Skills**

RECOMMENDED MATERIALS

For your overall academic success, it would be beneficial to have the following items (if you need assistance obtaining these items, please talk to me privately)

- a blue/black pen and/or a pencil
- a highlighter
- access to a computer with internet access, a word processing program, and a presentation program
- scripts or other instructional materials designated for that unit
- SUGGESTED: planner or calendar to keep track of the agenda and assignments

CLASSROOM CONDUCT AND EXPECTATIONS

- Students are expected to be on time and ready to learn when the bell rings. This includes preparedness of any and all assignments that are due that class period. Students entering the class after the bell will be marked “tardy” in the attendance record.
- BE RESPECTFUL AND RESPONSIBLE. Any behavior in which a student engages must be appropriate. This means no references to **drugs, alcohol, sexuality**, or other **unsuitable issues**. Anything considered unkind or inconsiderate is unacceptable.
- **Profanity** is not tolerated.
- Please put cell phones and other electronic devices away during class time.
- Be positive and willing to try! Listening to instructions and follow them the first time they are given! *There are **no** excuses!*

EATING AND DRINKING

This rule is subject to change at any time without warning.

Eating and drinking is allowed during class. Please keep consumables in a spill-proof container, and don’t eat anything that is distracting to those around you (i.e. loud noises or strong odors). **THROW YOUR TRASH AWAY!!!**

BATHROOM POLICY

This rule is subject to change at any time without warning.

You may use the bathroom as needed; however, this is privilege that will be removed if it is abused. Class time is for academic learning; passing periods, break, before and after school, and lunch are for taking care of personal needs. I do recognize that sometimes there are emergencies that can not wait. Typically, I will require you leave your ID card and/or your phone with me when you use the restroom in addition to taking a the class hall pass.

OVERVIEW OF ASSIGNMENTS

Below is an overview of the assignments students are expected to participate in this year. The majority of assignments will be covered; assignments are subject to change or modification or can be added or deleted at anytime during the year at the discretion of the instructor.

Daily Participation:

Students are expected to *voluntarily* participate in daily classroom assignments and activities to receive full credit (10 points each class meeting). **This is an “all or nothing” assignment.** Severe misbehavior can result in a loss of participation points. If you are absent, it is your responsibility to see Ms. Paxton for an assignment to make up these points. ****NOTE: being on your phone, being tardy, or not participating to the best of your ability puts you at risk for losing these points.**

Acting: Voice and Movement

- Tableau/Pantomime
- Improvisation
- Storytelling
- Scenes and Monologues
- Characterization

Writing and Theatre Projects

- **Critiques:** *Students are required to attend and write one critique of a live theatre performance per semester* at a local theatre. This can be intermediate school, high school, college, community, or professional theatre. *Critiques turned in past two weeks of attendance will not be accepted under any circumstance.*
- **Play Analysis:** Students will read the play of their choice in small groups and complete a written analysis and oral presentation of analysis of the work selected.
- Reading and written homework assignments
- Standards-Based Quizzes and Tests
- Multimedia projects & presentations

Technical Theatre

- Directing and Design

Historical Context

- Theatre History
- Careers of stars, directors, and designers

Performance/Production: *Students are encouraged to participate in one or more Bear Stage Productions over the course of the year. “Participation” may include, but is not limited to: acting, directing, choreographing, building, stage-managing, tech-ing, selling tickets, ushering, etc.*

EVALUATION OF ASSIGNMENTS

Student work will be evaluated on the basis of quality, range of style, depth and complexity of thinking, creativity and originality, and mechanical correctness.

LATE WORK POLICY:

An assignment is considered late if it is not turned into the teacher by the designated due date.

ALL late assignments will be awarded 50% of what the assignment deserves. An assignment worth 10 points can not receive more than a 5/10 if it is late.

I will not accept work past a 6-week grading period.

If you are absent, it is *your responsibility* to contact the teacher to obtain any and all missed materials and information. The website calendar is also an excellent way to keep track daily of what is happening in class and what is for homework. If you missed a test or fail to turn in an essay on time, you may turn in these assignments for late credit within the grading period that it was assigned. Assignment deadlines are non-negotiable. If a student is absent on the day of a performance, he/she will be expected to be ready to perform on the day he/she returns to class. Students will be allowed the same number of days they were absent to make up assignments, assuming the absence is excused.

CHEATING AND PLAGIARISM

Students will be expected to complete assignments to the best of **their personal ability** to reveal their learning. Cheating violates this belief and will not be tolerated. Anyone caught cheating will automatically fail the assignment and be subject to school and district penalties.

Plagiarism is the act of using another person's work and submitting it as your own. This behavior is **unacceptable**. Anyone caught plagiarizing will automatically fail the assignment and be subject to school and district penalties.

GRADING POLICY

Extra credit assignments may be available throughout the school year, but extra credit assignments will not be accepted **unless that student has turned in all of the class's required assignments**. Extra credit can account for no more than 2% of your overall grade.

Your grade will be weighted according to category and determined as follows:

Participation: 25%	A = 100-90%
Written Assignments: 35%	B = 80-89.9%
Performances: 35%	C = 70-79.9%
Critique/Review Writing: 5%	D = 60-69.9%
	F = 0-59.9%

There will be no rounding of grades (i.e. in order to earn an A-, a student needs to have a 90.0%).

****NOTE: Parents and Guardians—** I regularly update grades on Q/Zangle, and I require **all** students receive a parent signature and return a progress report during the 3rd week of each 6-week grading period. Any grade lower than a 70% is not considered passing; I will frequently phone home with information about Drama 1 assignments if this percentage applies to your child. Please do not hesitate to contact me if you have concerns regarding your child's progress in my class.

DUE (1st Period) THURSDAY, August 30th
(2nd Period) FRIDAY, August 31st
AGREEMENT/ACKNOWLEDGMENT FORMS

Drama 1 SYLLABUS

I have read and discussed the syllabus. I understand the requirements and expectations of the course and agree to meet, or help my child meet, those requirements and expectations.

Student Name (please print): _____

Signature _____ Date _____ Period: _____

Parent Name (please print): _____

Signature _____ Date _____

Parent Contact

Best way to contact (circle one): CELL EMAIL HOME

Please write number or email address of choice here: _____

Best time of day to contact: MORNING AFTERNOON EVENING ANYTIME

Other things I should know:

_____ I have a working computer at home OR

_____ I have a working computer AND printer at home

_____ I have regular access to the internet (from computer or smart phone)

or

_____ OTHER, please explain:

(please include any other comments/concerns you would like me to know/respond to)