



## **Theatre Arts**

Perry Daniell

pdaniell@ems-isd.net

Wayside Thespians on FaceBook

**Conference Period:** 11:42-12:28

**Tutoring Opportunities:** 7:45-8:15, 3:40-4:00 M-Th

### **Class Materials:**

- Binder
- Blue Folder
- Pens/Pencils
- Paper
- Canvas and Office365 will be utilized for assignments

Access to Canvas and Office365 tools is available to students through our [Single Sign-on Portal \(SSO\)](#). Students receive their SSO login during enrollment.

### **Course Description:**

Designed as a performance-based course, students learn skills in speaking, acting, directing, production, design and technical theatre. Through studying theatre, students are provided opportunities to: (1) perform in large and small group casts; (2) interact with other students and develop teamwork skills; (3) develop and increase personal and academic discipline; and (4) develop a positive self-image.

### **Course Goals:**

Students who complete this course successfully will:

1. be able to explore realities, relationships, and ideas through creative expression.
2. develop cognitive functioning and critical thinking.
3. improve communication and collaboration skills.
4. foster a broad cultural awareness and acceptance.
5. be better prepared for college, career opportunities, and workplace environments.

### **Student Evaluation:**

The grading system for this course is as follows:

- Grade averaged 60% Major 40% Minor
- Major grades – tests (including six weeks assessments, projects, presentations, and performances); minimum three per six weeks
- Minor grades – quizzes, daily participation assignments, journals; minimum four per six weeks
- Semester exams will count 1/7 of the semester grade

- A letter system (S, N, U) is used to report a student’s conduct based on proper/responsive conduct and citizenship; however, one of the Theatre TEKS, 5(A), is “The student will learn to apply audience etiquette at all performances.” Audience Etiquette means classroom behavior during all presentations, instruction, and performances and, therefore, will be a daily grade each week.
- Per Board Policy EIA (LOCAL), “The District shall permit a student who meets the criteria detailed in the grading guidelines a reasonable opportunity to redo an assignment or retake a test for which the student received a failing grade. This policy applies only to initial identified major grades and does not apply to daily assignments, quizzes, six-week test, and semester final examinations. Upon reteach and retest, the new test, project, etc. recorded will be a high score of 70%.

**Assignments, exams, expectations outside of the classroom:**

Most of the work in Theatre happens during class time; however, memorization assignments such as monologues, scene work and play scripts will have to be rehearsed at home as well. Unlike traditional classes, theatre does require attendance to scheduled activities outside of regular school hours. The Texas Education Agency’s policy states that music classes may require attendance to activities that meet outside of regular class time, and that grades may be given for these events per Commissioner’s Rule 19 TAC 76.1001. It is important for parents and students alike to understand the time commitment for classes such as athletics and fine arts.

**Attendance/Tardy Policy/Make-Up Work:**

**Attendance**

Students are required to engage **daily** in the lessons, complete and turn assignments in on time, interact with the teacher, and show progress in the learning. A student will be considered absent if the student does not have documented engagement listed above. Students who are receiving remote asynchronous instruction are considered enrolled on the first day the student participates through one of the engagement methods listed in this document.

Daily attendance will be taken, and compulsory attendance will be followed. If a student is not engaged online, the normal truancy process will be followed (TEC, §25.092). Students must be present for 90% of the required days of learning to be promoted to the next grade level. Notes for absences will still be required if a student is in remote learning.

**Tardy Policy**

Because tardiness disrupts the classroom and negatively affects the learning environment, students should arrive punctually to each of their classes. Students have an adequate passing period to travel from one class to the next. Tardies will be addressed by Mr. Daniell and campus administration in the following manner:

1. Warning from Mr. Daniell
2. Parent Contact (Email or Phone Call)
3. After School Detention
4. Office Referral Make-Up Work

**Make-Up Work**

Students shall have time equal to days absent from class plus one day to complete all missed assignments. A student will be permitted to make up tests and to turn in projects due that were missed because of absence;

however, a late penalty may be assessed on any long-term project in accordance with time lines approved by the principal and previously communicated to students. To be clear, this means that missing days (absences) during a long-term project, whether excused or unexcused, will not extend the due date of the project. In addition, an absence on the due date of a long-term project will mean that the project is due upon the student's return to class. The student will be responsible for communicating with Mr. Daniell to obtain, schedule, and complete tests or work missed upon his return to class. A student who does not make up assigned work within the time allotted will receive a grade of zero for the assignment.

### **Classroom Expectations:**

“You never make yourself look good by making someone else look bad.”—Mr. Daniell

Culture: Be Kind and Respectful to others at all times. Keep a positive attitude in the theatre classroom. No cell phones.

Accountability: Be on time for class every day. 100% Effort in Participation. Practice your scripts, monologues, and scenes at school and at home. Memorize your lines on time. Admit when you make mistakes; it's how we learn and grow.

Teamwork: Build up others. Be kind. Compliment others often. Learn your parts for every performance. Be a strong team member. Clean up after yourself. Keep your hands and feet to yourself.

Success: “Leave it all on the stage,” means always giving your all. Learn and grow with mistakes and critiques. Live with integrity.

### **Preliminary Schedule of Topics, Readings, and Assignments**

- Discovering Self/Ensemble
- Terms and anatomy of theatre spaces
- Pantomime
- Improvisation
- Characterization
- Acting Techniques and Styles
- Play production
- Technical theatre, including lights, sound, costumes, makeup, publicity
- Theatre History
- Auditioning

### **Academic Integrity:**

Academic integrity values the work of individuals regardless if it is another student's work, a researcher, or author. The pursuit of learning requires each student to be responsible for his or her academic work. Academic dishonesty is not tolerated in our schools. Academic dishonesty, includes cheating, copying the work of another student, plagiarism, and unauthorized communication between students during an examination. The determination that a student has engaged in academic dishonesty shall be based on the judgment of the classroom teacher or other supervising professional employee and considers written materials, observation, or information from students. Students found to have engaged in academic dishonesty shall be subject to disciplinary and/or academic penalties. The teacher and campus administrator shall jointly determine such action.