

Introduction to Theatre

Mrs. Braibish (Miz. B)

Laura.Braibish@corvallis.k12.or.us

School phone number: 757-5811

Office: Room P-10 (Black Box Theatre)

Classroom phone number- 757-3820

Class Website: mizb.net

(All copies of handouts and schedules will be posted to the website as well as class kudos, announcements and assignment changes.)

Course Description

Introduction to theatre is a semester-long, comprehensive introduction to the theatre. Students will be given a broad general background in theatre including production elements (lights, sound, sets, costumes, make-up, etc) acting, theatre history and criticism. Students will read plays, watch live performances and videos of plays, write reviews of live and filmed theatre, do two design projects, one historical research project, do a number of acting exercises and prepare cuttings from plays for presentation to the class.

Instructional Activities

Production Elements

*Rigging
Lighting
Sound
Set design
Stagecraft basics
Costuming
Make-up*

Theatre Criticism

*Reviews of plays, films and
in-class work*

Acting

*The actor's instrument
Warm up
Pantomime
Improvisation
Movement
Voice
Memorization
Characterization
Basic Script Analysis*

Theatre History

*The Ancient World
Theatre of the Middle Ages
Renaissance Theatre
Restoration Theatre
18th Century Theatre
19th Century Theatre
Contemporary Theatre
Existentialism*

Assessment Procedures

Written and oral assignments- including tests, quizzes, performances, and projects- will receive a number score based on my evaluation of your success against the total number possible on the assignment. For your convenience I've included the total points possible and then a space for you to keep track of your earned score:

<u>Assignment</u>	<u>Points possible</u>	<u>Points received</u>
Mini design project	100	_____
Quizzes (25 pts ea)	100	_____
Written reviews (25 pts ea)	100	_____
Journal entries (10 pts ea)	100	_____
Graded scenes (25 pts ea)	100	_____
Midterm Examination	100	_____
Historical Research Project	100	_____
Participation & work ethic	100	_____
Paper Play	200	_____
Lip Synch	Extra Credit	_____

Grading scale

There are 1000 pts possible throughout the course. Percentages and correlating letter grades are as follows:

A= 90-100%

B=80-89%

C=70-79%

D=60-69%

F=59% or below

Credit Denial Policy

Credit denial in this course may occur when a student has accumulated 5 unexcused absences and their grade has fallen below a 50%. Students and their parents/guardians will be informed in writing of the *possibility* of credit denial when a student has accumulated 3 unexcused absences and/or their grade has fallen below a 70%. Credit denial decisions will not be based on absences due to religious reasons, a student's disability, or an excused absence, as determined by district

policy. Students who are failing a class at the time of credit denial will have an “F” entered on their transcript. No credit will be awarded for the course.

Participation & Work Ethic

Participation and work ethic points are earned by being an active contributor and an active listener. I will assess your participation and understanding in part by observing you individually and in groups. Participation grades also reflect your respect of the theatre process as we discuss the material and questions that come up in class, the respect you show others in the group- including the teacher- and your active presence in class. You CAN'T participate if you are not in class, therefore unexcused absences and tardies will seriously affect your grade. For each unexcused absence (1 block) you will lose 10% of your grade. Tardies will add to this total at the rate of 1 unexcused (split block) for each 3 tardies. In addition, each time you are tardy you will be required to pull a theatre task card (see below) and complete the required duty on your time (at lunch or after school).

1 st offense-	yellow theatre task card (5 minutes)
2 nd offense-	blue theatre task card (10-15 minutes)
3 rd offense-	red theatre task card (20-30 minutes) and 1 unexcused absence demerit
4 th tardy-	Parents called/ credit warning

Late Work Policy

Deadlines in the theatre are some of the most absolute there are, so we need to observe them closely. Work is due at the beginning of the period on the day due. Work which is late because of an *excused* absence is due on your return to class or at an agreed upon date. Excused absences are only those for illness, emergencies, school-related absences, medical appointments or pre-arranged absences cleared with the attendance office. Work which is late due to *unexcused* absence will receive an automatic reduction of 1 letter grade. Scenes which are missed due to *unexcused* absence will receive a grade of 0. In special circumstances, a modified due date can be arranged so long as Miz B is notified in ADVANCE of an absence.

Outside-Class Activities, Journal Entries, Handouts

- All pertinent class information like journal entries, observation assignments or class handouts will be posted on my website mizb.net. Site will be updated daily so there will be no excuse for you not knowing about an assignment or a due date. *If you miss class, check the website.*
- You need to plan for scene rehearsals outside of class time. While some class time will be given to rehearse scenes, in all likelihood it will not be enough. Scenes that are under-rehearsed or under-prepared will receive substantially lower scores.

Class Rules & Expectations

- You are expected to be in the room, ready for warm-up when class begins.
- There is **NO GUM**, no food, and no drink (besides water) allowed in my class at any time.
- **NO** flip flops or open toed shoes on stagecraft and rigging days
- **NO** short skirts or other revealing clothing. Wear clothes in which you can roll around on the ground

Materials Needed

The following items need to be brought to **every** class:

- Pencil (NO PENS)
- Script you are working on at the time
- A three prong/ two pocket folder filled with lined paper (See Miz B for examples and color requirement)
- A binder or other place to keep papers and scripts neat and wrinkle free.

Career Related Learning Standards Addressed in this Course

Personal Management – Exhibit appropriate work ethic and behaviors in school, community, and workplace.

Problem Solving – Apply decision-making and problem solving techniques in school, community, and the workplace.

Communication – Demonstrate effective communication skills to give and receive information in school, community, and workplace.

Teamwork – Demonstrate effective teamwork in school, community, and workplace.