



Syllabus

Course: Theatre 3 Semester: One Year Year: 2017-2018

Teacher: Crystal Spring
Phone: 612.668.3400 (ask for Blackbox)
Email: crystal.spring@mpls.k12.mn.us
Office hrs/Availability: 9:15-3:15 After school appointments available!

Prerequisites: Theatre Performance I, Theatre II

Students have the opportunity to develop artistic voice through:

performance *poetry*writing *movement * visual arts

Create & perform original theatre that reflects: YOUR ideas, experiences, goals and hopes for this world.

Program Description: Since 2008, the Black Box Acting Program has maintained a safe space for youth to create, perform and tour original theatre to diverse audiences throughout the Twin Cities community. *The foundation of the Black Box Acting Program is the belief that artistic expression can be a powerful and positive force in the lives of young people.* In that spirit, students from a variety of racial, ethnic, and socio-economic backgrounds are engaged in a rigorous and unique training program that results in student creation of original theatre. These performances make visible the all too often invisible voices of urban youth. Working together, students courageously and creatively use art to break down barriers and build bridges among themselves and within their community. Theatre 3 is a powerful educational force, a catalyst for social change, and a course of personal power for young people and their families.

Course Description: Students will participate in daily classroom activities in the black box theatre space. Students will work with a multi-racial team of educators and artists. Students have the opportunity to take on leadership roles in facilitating small group activities and work together to accomplish theatre support tasks.

Washburn Blackbox Theatre 3 is a touring theatre company that acts as a vehicle for student empowerment based strongly in arts leadership training. Theatre 3 utilizes play production to communicate student identified social issues and concerns to their community.

THIS IS AN ADVANCED CLASS. Theatre 3 students:

- *have a strong understanding of maintaining the value of SAFE SPACE, ENSEMBLE, and the power of artistic voice during creation, rehearsal and performance.*
- *are highly motivated and willing to perform for the community during the school day and outside of school time.*
- *work to build partnerships with community theatres, schools, and other organizations.*
- *have an understanding of their role as youth leaders and activists in the Twin Cities community.*
- *develop an understanding that they are members of and responsible to the community in which they live.*
- *demonstrate emotional intelligence (release ego for the greater good, tolerate differences, restrain emotions and demonstrate self discipline).*
- *maintain artistic integrity at all performances*
- *demonstrate consideration of audience and sponsors through appropriate behavior.*

Expectations for Theatre 3:

RESPECT: Create and maintain safe space in the Black Box Theatre program.... And BEYOND!

*Further the power of the program by setting an example for Level 1 and 2 theatre students.

*Work to build community and safe space, in our classroom and outside the walls of our theatre.

Enthusiastic Participation: Lead by example.

*100% participation in all we do!

*Push yourself to go deeper and further, encourage your classmates to do the same!

Master Advanced Level Theatre Skills:

Designed to enhance creativity, self-discipline, and cultural awareness.

Ensemble Acting Improvisation CHARACTER DEVELOPMENT Vocal Work

Movement and Dance

PLAY PRODUCTION

Research and Writing

Scene and Script Development

Interpretive Feedback and Analytic Commentary

Directing and Playwriting

AUDITION AND CAREER SKILLS Community

Leadership Production Management and Promotion

Arts Literacy Work

Learn from professionals: guest artists, playwrights, actors, poets, & choreographers.

* enrich class and provide students with a unique opportunity to work with professionals.

*Provides advanced students an opportunity to explore careers in the arts.

*Students are expected to work cooperatively with all guest artists and visitors.

Reflect on a daily basis: to support student comprehension.

*take time to celebrate successes *identify shortcomings *set goals for improvement

Grading Criteria:

Students will demonstrate their knowledge through **participation:**

performance, writing, reflections, investigations and presentations.

Required Materials/Assessments Include: Daily Participation Warm ups & Scene Work

Creative and Critical Writing Ensemble Performance Individual Performance

Teacher Assessment

Student Assessment

Peer Assessment

PERFORMANCE SKILLS AND THEATRE PRODUCTION Play analysis and review

LEADERSHIP

Student written work in response to play-related issues

Grade Make-Up:

- **Daily Participation** **30%**
 - At the core of every student's success is an excellent attendance and consistent commitment. Acting students are expected to be present, on time, and focused. Students will be required to present extra assignments in class to make up for tardies or absences. Make up work is available in the classroom.

- **Written and Performance Assessment** **35%**
 - Writing assignments, poetry, monologues, play reviews, etc. will be assessed by specific criteria and kept in a class journal.

- **Acting Performances** **35%**
 - Students will be required to perform in several community performances as part of their final grade. Friends and family will be invited to attend. ******Washburn Theatre 3 students are expected to be AT ALL performances and events. Some events may be before or after school with notice from Miss Spring. In the event of not attending a performance or event, student will be docked ½ letter to whole letter grade. ******

Course Units and Summative Assessments:

Tentative Schedule

Week 1-4 Safe Space & Community Building our foundation of trust, respect and support	Week 15-16 Premier of T3 Piece December 20 th /21 st 7PM U of M Rarig Center Thrust Stage
Week 4-8 Change Seekers Research and exploration of social justice topics	Week 12-14 Define and Refine Refining and contributing to the rehearsal process to prepare for professional exposure
Week 9-12 Building the Story Developing meaningful character, scenes and storylines to bring to community	Week 17-18 Reflection Reflect on successes and short-comings as well as tour preparation
SEMESTER 2 Week 19-20 Checking in, self care, and growth	Week 21-24 Tour Preparation Race to Justice Day Preparation
Week 25-28 Touring every Thursday Refining the Play Audition Skills/Playwriting/Movement Workshops	Week 29-32 Touring every Thursday Refining the Play Audition Skills/Playwriting/Movement Workshops
Week 33-34 Reflection End of the year wrap up Good bye Seniors!	Week 35-36 Closure Saying Goodbye Course Evaluation

Grading scale:

WHS GRADING SCALE		Grade Definitions
A A-	93.00 - 100% 90.00 – 92.99%	Exemplary , in circle when bell rings, no electronics visible, listens to others, contributes ideas regularly and without prompt, excellent attendance and promptness. Reliable in maintaining a safe space for self and others.
B+ B B-	87.00 – 89.99% 83.00 - 86.99% 80.00 – 82.99%	Proficient/Thorough , usually in circle when bell rings, minimal reminders about electronics and listening/contributing to classroom climate. Strong attendance and promptness. Some guidance needed in maintaining safe space for self and others. Effort is shown with room to improve.
C+ C C-	77.00 – 79.99% 73.00 – 76.99% 70.00 – 72.99%	Room to Grow , may need reminders to circle up, keep electronics put away, and prompting to listen and share. Attendance and promptness concerns. Effort is shown, yet reminders and support for growth is a need for this student.
D+ D D-	67.00 – 69.99% 63.00 - 66.99% 60.00 – 62.99%	Seeking Improvement , Attendance, promptness and electronics concerns. Struggles to follow through with participation, listening and contributing to classroom climate.
F	0 – 59.99%	Unacceptable , Spotty attendance, often late, does not finish work or participate, little success in maintaining an atmosphere of safe space and respect

Missing & Late Work: Participation and your physical presence is your guide to earning an A in theatre class. In the case of absences, the student will be responsible for checking in first with classmates about rehearsal changes, and then with teacher and/or guest artist for any clarifications.

Extra Credit: Students may attend invited performances for extra credit as applicable.

Re-Learning and Retakes: is not an option for theatre class. Attending performances is a required assessment for theatre students and missing this will result in lowering of grade by one letter.

Grading modifications may be made for students with IEP or 504 plans.