

Summit High School Thunderous Applause Syllabus

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COURSE DESCRIPTION

Thunderous Applause is Summit High School's performance troupe which specializes in improvisations, classic drama, children's plays, one-acts, and student-written material. The course may also include various studies in stage combat, period plays, world theatre forms, advanced acting theory, as well as production and performance of shorter plays. Class work ranges from improv and character study to voice and movement training to directing and playwriting. In addition to public performances, this class performs for grade schools and service organizations. Time spent outside of class rehearsing, preparing materials and performing is expected.

CLASSROOM EXPECTATIONS

I expect students to arrive promptly and prepared for class. This means putting book bags, etc. away against the back wall and be standing in a circle at the beginning of class. You will ALWAYS need to bring your iPad and a pen/pencil to class, although we will not always use them.

This is a performance-based class: the purpose of which is to develop and perform theatrical productions. However, students may contribute in various ways besides performing, including: writing, directing, designing, teaching, managing or marketing. The course is meant to help students discover their various interests and talents in order to create a miniature production company where all members are contributing.

Classroom Guidelines

1. **Work hard and take risks.**
2. **Support each other.**
3. **Appreciate diversity.**
4. **Take care of the performance space.**
5. **Be a good audience member.**
6. **Have fun!**

ASSIGNMENTS

Students will be assessed through performances, written work, discussion, reflection and ensemble work, using the national theatre proficiency standards.

Absences

Students will be immersed in ensemble work consistently throughout the semester, in which their participation will be vital. Students need to make sure to communicate with the teacher and ensemble members when absent to make sure they are contributing and pulling their weight in the project. Failure to do so may result in alternate assignments or inability to travel with the performance, resulting in a "0" for the project.

Touring

All students in the Thunderous Applause class will be part of the touring production that is developed during the first semester. Whole class or small groups will be touring productions and showcases throughout the second semester. These performances may be during the school day or after school hours. Students need to be prepared to miss classes and keep up with school work as well as plan around scheduled performances.

Extra Credit

Extra Credit can be earned by going to an additional theatrical performance (high school, community or professional) and turning in a 1-2 page typed critique of the play using proper theatre terminology learned in class (i.e. use of movement, voice, etc.). Other opportunities might include workshops or tech days working on shows outside of class.