



## Liberty Charter High School: Drama 1 Syllabus

**Instructor:** Mr. Holz

**Room:** R4

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### **Course Description**

This course is designed to be an introduction to classic and contemporary practices in theatre arts. Students can expect a wide range of knowledge, skills, and practice that will challenge their abilities as actors and producers of the theatre. This is an academic course and will require study outside the classroom. Basic understanding of stagecraft, acting practices, rehearsal techniques, and character development will be the focus of the year. There is no pre-requisite for this course. Students of all skill levels are welcome and encouraged to attend and do their absolute best.

### **Expected School-wide Learner Results (ESLRS)**

In accordance with the adoption of the ESLRS, this course will align its key assignments and activities to promote well-rounded students. The ESLRS are designed to enhance academic learning and bring connection to real world skills for all students. By the time students graduate from Liberty Charter High School, they will be:

*Literate Citizens*

*Responsible Community Leaders*

*Effective Communicators*

# *Self-directed Learners*

## *Values-conscious Thinkers*

### **Course Objectives**

Students will

1. Demonstrate understanding of basic acting skills through performance
2. Identify key elements of stage environment and design
3. Practice effective techniques of body and vocal usage
4. Identify nuances of character from text and performance
5. Improvise and perform on stage in front of an audience

### **Course Outline**

This is a year-long course and will be divided into 8 units.

#### **Unit I: Setting the Stage**

#### **Unit II: Characters**

#### **Unit III: Stage Environment**

#### **Unit IV: Using Pantomime**

#### **Unit V: The Body**

#### **Unit VI: The Voice**

#### **Unit VII: Stage characters and imagination**

#### **Unit VIII: Theatre production and preparation**

### **Grading**

Parents and students can expect grades to be updated weekly through the Genesis portal.

Emphasis is placed on the final product (summative assessment) of student learning.

Students can expect to prepare for memorized monologues/scenes outside of class; as well as assessment through formal exam.

Formative Assessment: Ongoing/Informal **25%**

- Homework
- Class work

Summative Assessment: End result/Formal **75%**

- Tests/Quizzes/Projects (60%)
  - Formal Exams
  - Essay Writing
  - Presentations
  - Portfolios

- Final Exams (20%)

## Grading Scale

Grade	Percent	Unweighted / College Prep G.P.A	Weighted Honors G.P.A.	Weighted AP G.P.A.
A	100% - 94%	4	4.5	5
A-	93%-90%	3.75	4.25	4.75
B+	89%-87%	3.5	4	4.5
B	86%-84%	3.25	3.75	4.25
B-	83%-80%	3	3.5	4
C+	79%-77%	2.8	3.3	3.8
C	76%-74%	2.4	2.9	3.4
C-	73%-70%	2	2.5	3
D+	69%-67%	1.8	2.3	2.8
D*	66%-65%	1.4	1.9	2.4
F	64%-0%	0	0	0

**\*In order to receive credit, students must earn a 65% or higher. This is different than the previous 60% cut off between D- and F.**

## Physical Requirements

Acting is a physically demanding endeavor. This course employs physical warm-ups (stretching, light toning, and movement) to enhance the abilities of students on stage. Please ensure that you wear appropriate attire to class each day. Clothing should be loose and unrestrictive. Skirts should not be worn. Students may slip on sweat pants over clothing if desired.

Students are expected to communicate clearly if they have any conditions which may prevent them from performing tasks related to the acting field. Everyone is welcome and accommodations will be made for legitimate physical constraints.

## Attendance

Attendance in all classes for which a student is registered is an essential part of meeting the requirements to pass each course. Students will not receive credit for a registered course if they have more than 7 excused or unexcused absences within any one semester. Course absences can be made up by completing the missed course work through an independent contract provided the missed course work is completed within 2 weeks of the due date or by completing the missed course work during Saturday school.

During this course, students will perform monologues and scenes in front of their peers, either in class, or at assemblies. These are graded performances. Please note that **YOU WILL NOT BE ABLE TO MAKE-UP ANY PRESENTATIONS THAT YOU ARE ABSENT FOR**

This course requires attendance at the end of year drama performance. Students will employ their working knowledge of theatre production as backstage crew, ushers, ticket and concessions workers, etc. This performance is their final exam grade.

### **Parent Portal**

Keep up to date with all grades, class information, and school announcements with your Genesis account. Students and parents should monitor their progress weekly in order to be well informed. Grades will be updated each Monday.

### **Discipline and School Policies**

It is my goal to keep students in the classroom. Students are expected to abide by the code of conduct outlined in the student handbook. This includes issues of dress code, language, personal and academic integrity, etc. Procedures for discipline within the classroom will be rehearsed and strictly adhered to. Consequences for disruptions will follow standard procedures as outlined in the handbook.

**Return this page by Friday, August 29 2014 (Drama 1)**

I have read and understand the syllabus as described above. I agree to abide by the terms and conditions set by the student handbook and the course in which I/my student is enrolled.

**Parent/Student Sign off Page**

Student Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Student Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Parent Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Parent Signature: \_\_\_\_\_