



Advanced Drama

2023-2024

Miss. Mayfield ~ mmayfield@ahsmail.com

"[The] scriptures are an object. They have no ability to move on their own unless I move them. You and I, however, are agents. We have the power in us to act, not simply to be acted upon."

~ David A. Bednar

Course Description

In this class, you will embark on a transformative journey, honing your acting skills to a greater level of artistry. From intensive character development to cultivating a commanding stage presence, this course is designed for those who aspire to become not just performers but true agents to act, both on and off the stage. If that's you, you're in the right place.

In this class, we will:

- Dive deep into the psychology of characters.
- Uncover the nuances that breathe life into roles.
- Explore various techniques to portray complex characters authentically.
- Harness the power of presence on stage.
- Learn to command attention through body language, voice, and emotional depth.
- Cultivate the ability to captivate an audience with every performance.
- Explore the transferability of acting skills to real-life situations.
- Apply acting techniques to enhance communication and interpersonal skills.
- Develop emotional intelligence through acting exercises and self-reflection.

Students in this class collaborate on a compelling performance to showcase the culmination of their skills in an after-school staged production of a play.

This class is for you if you are passionate about advancing your acting abilities and are committed to the rigors of an advanced curriculum.

Those interested in auditioning can reach out to Miss. Mayfield.

Units

The course includes 6 units:

Term 1: Presence in Life & on Stage

- Unit 1: Theatre Crash Course
- Unit 2: Presence on and off the stage

Term 2: Character Development

- Unit 3: Elements of Character Building

Term 3: How We React

- Unit 4: To Act or ReACT?

Term 4: Putting it All Together

- Unit 5: The Transformative Power of Theatre
- Unit 6: Audition Workshop

The above unit outline is subject to change. Depending on the needs of the class, Miss Mayfield may spend more or less time on certain units to help take each student to the next level of their skill sets.

Course Assignments

Blocking Participation. Because the majority of this class is spent putting our class performance together, your participation in the blocking process is key. You will be most successful in this class when you show initiative within your character by bringing new ideas and creativity to our class.

Class Assignments. You will participate in class activities, discussions, and assignments designed to help you dive deeper into your character both on and off the stage. Because assignments are so rare, your participation is crucial to your grade.

Memorization. You will have regular checks to help keep you on track to memorize your lines for our class performance. This will help you to memorize more quickly and keep you from having to worry about having to memorize so much in a short amount of time.

Character Work. You will receive a grade on the progression of your character work throughout the class. The closer we get to our performance, the more deeply you should be able to understand and embody your character.

Course Outline While Preparing for Show:

Mondays:

- Monday will begin with a class warm-up and lesson that ties directly into the unit/skill we are working on at the time.
- You will be required to participate in a class assignment that relates to the unit/skill we are working on. This will help you to dive deeper into your character on and off the stage.

Wednesdays:

- On Wednesdays, we will work on blocking our class performance while implementing that week's lessons and objectives.

Friday:

- Fridays will begin with a reflection of the week's lessons and finish with more blocking of our show. On occasion, there will be a class assignment due for the week.
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Course Outline After Closing Show:

After closing our class performance, we will work on the following class projects:

- Personal Monologues
- Audition Workshop

Grading: Point Breakdown for Each Term

Class Assignments	500 Points
Blocking Participation	500 Points
Character Work	500 Points
Memorization	500 Points
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TOTAL	1000 Points

Grading: Scale

A = 100% - 94%	C = 76% - 74%
A- = 93% - 90%	C- = 73% - 70%
B+ = 89% - 87%	D+ = 69% - 67%
B = 86% - 84%	D = 66% - 64%
B- = 83% - 80%	D- = 63% - 60%
C+ = 79% - 77%	F = 59% - 0%

Strategies for Success

- Demonstrate strong effort.
- They bring their own ideas and creativity to their character.
- Asks smart and engaging questions.
- Make significant or frequent contributions to the class.
- Complete and submit all in-class and homework assignments on time, unless otherwise excused by the instructor.
- Do not require more than one warning from faculty or administration to improve specifically identified misbehavior.

Instructor Contact Information

Miss Micole Mayfield
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