

ENGLISH 163: INTRODUCTION TO THEATRE

Instructor: Mr. Dean	Materials: Three Ring Binder
Email: adean@dbqschools.org	Notebook
Telephone: 563-552-5555	Pen and/or pencil
Meetings: Room A209	Assignment Notebook

COURSE DESCRIPTION:

Theatre is designed to introduce students to all aspects of the theatre through the study of acting, improvisation, stage movement, technical theatre, play producing, terminology, and theatre history. Students will be required to read, write and perform in this class. Students read and write about four plays during the semester.

Alignment to the Iowa Core Curriculum: Instruction, learning, and assessment are built on a selection of the 9-10th grade-band expectations of the Iowa Core Reading, Writing, and Listening and Speaking Strands.

CORE STANDARDS:

Standard 1: Generate and conceptualize artistic ideas and work

Standard 2: Organize and develop artistic ideas and work

Standard 3: Refine and complete artistic work

Standard 4: Analyze, interpret, and select artistic work for presentation

Standard 5: Develop and refine artistic work for presentation

Standard 6: Convey meaning through the presentation of artistic work

Standard 7: Perceive and analyze artistic work

Standard 8: Interpret intent and meaning in artistic work

Standard 9: Apply criteria to evaluate artistic work

Standard 10: Synthesize and relate knowledge and personal experiences to make art

Standard 11: Relate artistic ideas and works with societal, cultural and historical context to deepen understanding

ASSESSMENTS:

- Projects and presentations
- Comprehension quizzes and tests
- Acting games and activities
- Group discussions
- Peer Evaluation Forms
- Self-Evaluation Forms
- Rehearsal sessions

CONTENT:

- Stage terminology
- History of Theatre
- Theatre conventions
- Acting terminology
- Critical analysis of plays (read and viewed)

- Improvisation
- Playwrighting
- Design Process and Implementation

INSTRUCTIONAL STRATEGIES

- Small and large group discussions
- Socratic Circles/Debates
- Projects and Performances
- Research
- Creative Writing
- Peer Sharing/Editing

RESOURCES:

- Class website: www.dubuqueseniordrama.com
- Teacher email: adean@dbqschools.org
- Handouts (hard copies provided in class and digitally on the website)
- PowerPoints (presented in class and on the website)
- Teacher availability: Monday – Friday (7:00 – 7:35 AM & 1:40 – 3:00 PM)

GRADING AND ASSIGNMENTS:

Assignments are to be turned in at the BEGINNING of class on the date that an assignment is due. Your grade will be reduced by one letter for each day the assignment is turned in late. Therefore, turning in an assignment late is not wise. However, NOT turning an assignment in at all is much worse. It is essential that performances are properly prepared for your assigned performance date.

GRADING CRITERIA:

- Φ Preparedness and thoroughness of preparation
- Φ Effort
- Φ Participation
- Φ Improvement
- Φ Completeness and thoroughness of written assignments

ACADEMIC HONESTY POLICY:

Cheating is a very serious issue. Cheating includes looking off of another student's quiz or test or discussing an exam with another student who has not yet taken the exam. Plagiarism, such as using another student's work as your own and/or using another's words or ideas as your own, is an extremely serious offense. Consequences for cheating will be a minimum penalty of a zero on that particular assignment or test. Nervous about your grade? See me, don't cheat.

ATTENDANCE:

Regular attendance is a MUST. This is a performance-based class. You will be working in a group setting for much of the semester. Missed classes will result in a major headache for your group members. Be on time for class. The expectation is you will be in your seat when the tardy bell begins to ring. A fifteen-minute detention will be given following the third tardy. Additional detentions will be handed out for subsequent tardiness.

HALL PASSES:

All students must have a pass to leave during class. Students **MUST** use the passes in their assignment notebook to leave the classroom. If you do not have your assignment notebook, you will not receive a pass from class. You must be prepared with all appropriate materials prior to the start of class. Locker passes will NOT be given to students to retrieve forgotten materials – you should bring your speech materials EVERYDAY. Pass privileges may be revoked for those students who abuse the pass system.

CELL PHONE POLICY:

School policy states that students may only use cell-phones during passing time. Cell phones should be placed away in a book bag or purse where they may not be seen and you will not be tempted to use them. If your cell phone accidentally goes off in class, please shut your phone off and we will move on. If it is a repeated problem, your cell phone may be confiscated.

If you choose to use your cell phone during class time, it will be taken away for the class period. If there is a second violation, the cell phone will be taken to the AP's office. A PARENT will have to come and pick up your cell phone from the AP's office in the case of subsequent violations. **IF YOU ARE CAUGHT WITH A CELL PHONE ON A TEST OR DURING PERFORMANCES, THE CELL PHONE WILL BE TAKEN DIRECTLY TO THE AP'S OFFICE.**

HEADPHONES/IPODS

The use of headphones, iPods, etc. is not allowed during normal class business. Occasionally, you will be given permission to use these devices during work time or down time as long as the music is not a distraction to those sitting around you or the teacher. These times will be designated by the teacher. **NO HEADPHONES and/or MUSIC** is allowed during tests or quizzes!

NO INAPPROPRIATE LANGUAGE WILL BE TOLERATED. This includes any name-calling, slang remarks, or derogatory statements in regards to other classmates or teachers. This is a **ZERO TOLERANCE POLICY.** The Dubuque Community School District harassment policy will be strictly enforced.

NO FOOD/DRINK IS ALLOWED!!! Bottled water is strongly recommended, especially on the day of a presentation.

THEATRE REVIEWS

The art form of theatre is unique because it is a live performance, unique to the moment, that only you and your fellow audience members share. Therefore, to learn about theatre, we must see it live whenever possible. As part of the requirements of this class, you will be expected to attend and analyze and critique one live production during this semester. Critiques will be graded on content, original thought and the display of your understanding and application of the information learned in class.

CURTAINS by John Kander and Fred Ebb

Presented by Dubuque Senior High School on November 6/7/8

You must attend the entire performance. Look at your calendars now and be sure you are available. If you have a valid conflict, you will need to make arrangements with the teacher to view a dress rehearsal. If ticket cost is an issue, see Mr. Dean and we will make accommodations.

GRADING SCALE:

A	93-100%	B+	87-89%	C+	77-79%	D+	67-69%	F	59%
A-	90-92%	B	83-86%	C	73-77%	D	63-66%		
		B-	80-82%	C-	70-72%	D-	60-62%		