

Horizon High School Course Syllabus

2011/2012 Period 6 -1st Semester

Title: Ensemble Theatre I- ½ credit Language Arts/English

Teacher: Mrs. Brittany Wallis

Student (print name): _____

Description: The Ensemble/Performing Arts course series at Horizon High School takes a look at numerous areas in the field of presentational arts. Students begin at an introductory stage and move to the advanced level. Class time is devoted to theatre history and literature, performing arts methods, acting, script analysis and technical theatre concepts. The first level course is designed for the English student, with an emphasis in the literature of theatre. Parents should make themselves aware of and familiar with the course website, www.hhsdrama.com.

Essential Learnings/Percentage of course:

Students will understand:

- The use of fundamental skills in performance arts, techniques and genres. Theatre Standard II, V – **25%**
- The impact of theatre history on contemporary theatre arts. Theatre Standard IV, V, VI
- Technical analytical applications of the Performing Arts. Theatre Standard III
- Through analysis of the creative process including the fundamental skills of acting and directing.
- Theatre Standard II **10%**
- Students will work through a collaborative effort to create ensemble and individual performance.
- Theatre Standard II – **15%**

Ensemble I is a ½ credit of Language Arts, therefore students will make use of, apply and show proficiency in the following Language Arts Standards:

- Standard I: Students read and understand a variety of materials **10%**
- Standard II: Students write and speak for a variety of purposes and audiences **10%**
- Standard III: Students write and speak using conventional grammar, usage, sentence structure, punctuation, capitalization and spelling **15%**
- Standard IV: Students apply critical thinking skills to reading, writing, speaking, listening and viewing. **10%**
- Standard V: Students read to locate, select and make use of relevant information from a variety of media and reference sources. **2.5%**
- Standard VI: Students read and recognize literature as a record of human experience. **2.5%**

Students will be required to write journal entries, constructed responses, several literary critiques, a literary analysis, storytelling piece, and a research paper in addition to several performances. It is critical that theatre students are able to use written language to critique, analyze, and discuss the theatre arts. These benchmark papers are in direct support with the District 12, Language Arts Curriculum Framework and Standards.

Instruction Strategies: Audio and video presentations, individualized reading and oral readings, lectures with note taking, performance oriented presentations, group projects and class discussions. Numerous texts will be utilized throughout the course, primarily *Theatre: Art in Action* and *Drama Projects*. Students must follow through with the required reading.

Assessment: As with all areas of the performing arts, deadlines are crucial to a successful production. This is a participatory class and students will receive a grade on daily work. Quizzes and written student outlines are a weekly occurrence. Access to the internet outside of class time is essential to the student's success. Extra Credit is occasionally available, but none will be accepted the last few weeks of the quarter. Students are encouraged to turn in written work and present performances in a timely fashion to the best of their ability. Students with more than three missing assignments will not be offered extra credit opportunities.

Note: Students will be given an individual, as well as an ensemble grade for duet and ensemble performances.

*****Plagiarism/Cheating Policy: See student handbook for honor code.*****

General Guidelines:

- Assessment and grading standards are applied consistently to students of similarly demonstrated ability.
- Assessments are based solely on demonstrated student progress and achievement of reasonable and clear standards.
- Students who participate in group projects will receive a grade for work as an individual as well as a group performance grade.
- Students are encouraged to be engaged and motivated in the completion of assignments.
- Attendance Board policy 7.1: Make-up work for absences. Makeup work will be provided upon request for a student who has been absent. It is the responsibility of the student and/or parent to request and arrange to obtain make-up work no later than the second day after returning to class or school from the absence.
- Attendance Board policy 7.2: Students shall be given the same number of days they were absent plus one additional day to make-up assignments.
- Attendance Board Policy 7.3: Students are eligible to receive full credit for make-up work completed and submitted by dates and times established by this policy. Credit may be denied for make-up work completed after the designated deadline. **Credit may be reduced for in-class or group activities such as labs, presentations, or assessments which are not readily able to be completed with comparable make-up assignments and/or without the validity of the assignment being compromised.**
 - (If a student misses a group presentation and/or assessment, they may be offered a written assignment to make up the grade. It is unfair for groups to perform a second presentation due the absence of a group member.)

Grading Criteria: 100-90%=A, 89-80%=B, 79-70%=C, 69-60%=D. Progress reports will be sent home regularly thru email. Grades are weighted in this course. 60% of the grade will be based in assessments, including but not limited to final written work and final performances. 40% of the grade will be daily work and homework.

Absences, tardiness and discipline: *Strict adherence to school policy is an absolute.* Class work cannot be made up in DVD/Video presentations; thus, students may be assigned additional study reports. Tardiness causes disruption to the ongoing course work for fellow students. Students are expected to display an appropriate level of respect in regards to their classmates, guest speakers and their teacher. Bullying or harassment of any kind will not be tolerated and will be dealt with according to Adams 12 School Board Policy.

Mrs. Wallis can be reached by email at brittany.wallis@adams12.org or by phone at 720-972-4502.

Office hours are periods 3&5, by appointment please.

Parent signature:

I have read, understood and support the course objectives as described on this cover sheet. I will support, to the best of my ability, Horizon High School, the administration and the teacher, in accomplishing the goals of this course as described to my son/daughter. I understand that excessive absences and incomplete work may cause my son/daughter to receive a lower grade, if not a failing grade, in this course.

Parent Signature Date

_____ Yes, I have access to the Internet and am able to be contacted by email.

_____ Email Address

_____ No, I do not have access to the Internet and cannot be contacted by email. The best way to contact me is: