**BEGINNING AND ADVANCED DRAMA**

Ms. Angie Engelbert

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Office Hours: select Tuesdays and by appointment



**COURSE DESCRIPTION:**

This course provides means to develop fundamental acting techniques for film and theater and a broad overview of other areas of the performing arts including but not limited to directing, designing, and dramaturgy. This class will challenge experienced and novice performing artists alike through activities and projects geared towards “living truthfully under imaginary circumstances” through genre study and a survey of historical periods. Students will hone their performance and critiquing skills as well as use their daily opportunities to express themselves creatively in a safe and nurturing environment.

**ATTENDANCE:**

This class will thrive on daily participation and collaborative group presentations. Therefore your presence is necessary every day! Furthermore, all students enrolled in both Beginning and Advanced Drama must **participate in the semester end performance piece and attend one outside theatrical performance per semester.**

**BEHAVIORAL EXPECTATIONS:**

-Students are to come to class on time with the necessary materials and a positive attitude.

-Students are expected to participate daily in activities and discussions.

-Students will refrain from eating in class and using technology without permission.

-Students will keep all content PG.

*Any violation of the above behavioral expectations may result in assessment retake opportunities being revoked and/or disciplinary action.*

**GRADING:**

Grades are given on a total points system. Grades will be awarded on the percent of points possible using the following scale:

  **A 100-90%B 89-80% C 79-70% D 69-60%**

Any grade on the cusp of .5% or more will be rounded up to the next grade if the student has **no tardies**. (For example, a student earning an 89.5 with no tardies will be rounded up to a 90% or A.) Grades are available for viewing on PowerSchool.

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| --- | --- | --- |
| **PARTICIPATION** | Daily participation in improv games, acting exercises, and discussions | **50%** |
| **HOMEWORK/CLASSWORK** | Readings, quizzes, directors book, physcial assignments, journals | **20%** |
| **ASSESSMENTS** | Scene performances, field trip review reports, major tests | **30%** |

**COURSE OUTLINE**

**Semester One**

**UNIT 1 | THEATER REVIEW/VOICE ACTING FOR PODCASTS (8/27-9/28)**

* Basic improv and games
* Voice, Body, and Movement
* Field Trip to Kybelle Dance Theater

**MAJOR ASSESSMENT: Fiction Podcast**

**UNIT 2 | THEATER HISTORY (10/1-11/2)**

* Ancient Greek Theater
* The Egyptian Passion Play
* Medieval Theater and the Morality Play *Everyman*
* Kabuki Theater
* Recommended field trip to Upright Citizen’s Brigade

**MAJOR ASSESSMENT: Genre Skit Performance**

**UNIT 3: SHAKESPEARE STUDY: A MIDSUMMERS’ NIGHT DREAM (11/5-12/21)**

* Shakespearean monologues and scenes
* Guest Speakers: Shakespearean actors
* Script Analysis and Mask Work

**MAJOR ASSESSMENT: Shakespearean monologue**

**Semester 2**

**UNIT 4: MUSICAL THEATER (1/5-2/8)**

* Special Performance and workshop of new musical, *Starry*
* Choreography and Stage Pictures

**MAJOR ASSESSMENT: Presentation on Musical of Choice**

**UNIT 5: ACTING FOR THE CAMERA (2/5-3/9)**

* Commerical copy
* Drama vs Comedy Script Analysis and Performance
* Field Trip to see a live show taping
* Guest speakers and actor coaching

**MAJOR ASSESSMENT: Screen Test**

**UNIT 6: DIRECTING AND PLAYWRITING WORKSHOP (3/12-4/27)**

* Open Scenes
* Director’s Notebook
* Basic Playwriting
* One Act Plays

**MAJOR ASSESSMENT: Director’s Scene**

**UNIT 7: CAREERS IN THEATER AND FILM (4/30-5/25)**

* Career Speakers and Research
* Rough Cut Acting Reels and Headshots
* Tech Theater Speed Exposure

**MAJOR ASSESSMENT: SECOND SEMESTER PRESENTATION NIGHT**

**GROUP PROJECTS/TASKS:**

This class will heavily depend upon group projects and scenes. If someone in your group is not present on presentation day, you will still need to preform without them. In the event that you are absent, you will need to arrange an alternative assignment with the teacher.

**ACADEMIC DISHONESTY:**

There will be absolutely no tolerance for cheating or plagiarism on any assignment. Such behavior will result in failure for that particular assignment as well as the possibility of disciplinary action. All formal assignments must be turned in using Turnitin.com in order to be assessed.

*Plagiarism is any intentional representation of another’s ideas, words, or work as one’s own. Plagiarism includes the misuse of published materials, electronic material, and/or the work of other students. The original writer who intentionally shares his/her paper for another to copy, without permission of the teacher, is also engaged in plagiarism.*

If any student submits a plagiarized assignment, the student risks earning an “F” on the assignment with no make-up permitted, detention, referral to the assistant principal, contact with parent/guardian, individual academic contract, being dropped from the class with no credit, suspension from school, removal from AMA, and removal from leadership positions for the remainder of the school year.

**Course Supplies/Materials**

To be consistently organized and successful in this class, the following is recommended:

* Notebook (to be used for this class only!)
* Blue or black pens and a highlighter
* 3-Ring Binder Section or folder
* YOUR IMAGINATION!!!!

**Classroom Rules**

The rules for Engelbert’s class are very simple:

**RESPECT YOURSELF.**

*Do your own work. Try your best. Stay organized and prepared. Seek help when needed.*

**RESPECT THE TEACHER.**

*Arrive on time. Complete work on time. Maintain high behavior expectations for yourself.*

**RESPECT EACH OTHER.**

*Treat others as you want to be treated. Pull your weight in projects. Stay focused.*

**RESPECT THIS PLACE.**

*Keep your work area free of trash and debris. No food or drink other than water in the classroom.*

**Dear Parents:**

This is a performance based class. In order for the student to successfully complete this class it is essential that attendance is CONSISTENT. In case of an EXCUSED absence it is the student’s responsibility to find out what was missed in class the day of their return. IF it is an excused absence (refer to Ed Code below for excused absence list) the student will have as many days as they were absent to make up the work. If a student is tardy to any block period he/she will not be able to make up the quiz and or will miss homework stamping. The classroom agenda is a helpful tool for students to get the work missed. PLEASE do not ask for missed work days or weeks after the absence.

Furthermore, attending two outside performances (one each semester) and participating in the end-of-the-year presentation for parents are all requirements to pass the class.

***Excused Absences per California Ed Code 48205***

* If a student is absent for one of the following reasons listed in California Education Code 48205 the absence will be excused: illness, quarantine directed by county or city health officer, medical/ dental/optometric/ chiropractic appointment, attendance at funeral services of a member of the student’s immediate family, jury duty, and illness or medical appointment during school hours of a child of whom the pupil is the custodial parent.

Open, 2-way communication is essential for the student to succeed. My first initial contact is through this syllabus. The school also sends out progress reports every five weeks. You also have access to Power-School. If you have any concerns or questions for not hesitate to email me at engelberta@cvuhsd.org. Signing below indicates that you have read and understand the attached general description and classroom policies for Engelbert’s Beginning Drama class.

**I have read and understand the class expectations and grading policies for Engelbert’s Beginning Drama class. I further agree to support my child at home knowing what is expected of him/her.**

Student Name: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_Student Signature: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Student Email:\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Parent Name: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_Parent Signature: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Parent Email: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Home/cell Number: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_Work Number: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Preferred Language: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

*Please circle one:*  MY CHILD **DOES/DOES NOT** HAVE INTERENT ACCESS AT HOME.