

# SHAKESPEARE ALIVE!

## Syllabus / Procedure

Mrs. Nicole Voss

415-7940

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### COURSE DESCRIPTION

This course takes a practical approach to learning and understanding the writings of William Shakespeare through the use of drama. Dramatic techniques will be used to enhance students' thought through a lively engagement of both intellect and emotion. Analysis of text, production elements and interpretation will be the focus of the course. Memorization is required.

### CONTENT COVERAGE

Unit 1 Elizabethan Theatre  
Unit 2 William Shakespeare  
Unit 3 Shakespeare's Language  
Unit 4 Acting Shakespeare  
Unit 5 Physical Shakespeare  
Unit 6 Interpreting Shakespeare

#### Texts Covered:

*Othello*  
*A Midsummer Night's Dream*  
*Twelfth Night*

### GRADING

#### **Cumulative Grade (85%)**

##### 1. PLAY PRODUCTION HOURS

You need 6 hrs of production work for the semester. This breaks down to 2 hrs every 6 week grading period. Anything over 6 hrs. will be counted as extra credit. See the attached sheet for more details.

##### 2. ACTIVITIES / PROJECTS

Activities: Daily Performances (25-50 pts) Projects: Long term rehearsal and performances (100-300pts)  
Process Grade: Technical aspects (scene/play/ch analysis) Can be both an individual and/or group grade.  
Acting Grade: The performance of the material. Can be both an individual and/or group grade.

##### 3. TESTS / QUIZZES

Expect a quiz or test over major concepts studied.

##### 4. DAILY GRADE

This is based on your ATTENDANCE and PARTICIPATION IN CLASS!!! You will receive 25 points every WEEK. Remember, if you miss class, you must make up these points. (Unexcused absences only)

#### **Semester Final (15%)**

##### 1. WRITTEN FINAL

This will be a written test which will cover all the material taught in the class for the whole semester.

##### 2. PERFORMANCE FINAL

There will be some type of performance final which will test your ability to utilize the acting skills taught in the class throughout the year.

### MATERIALS NEEDED:

1. Notebook
2. Folder for handouts

***There is ZERO TOLERANCE for cheating. Anyone caught cheating will receive a zero for a grade and parents will be called. No alternate assignments will be given.***

# CLASSROOM PROCEDURE

## **EVERY DAY.....**

*Come in, put book bag on the table and have a seat.... in your chair! (do NOT congregate at the couches!) I will take attendance and make any necessary announcements. Once a week we say the Pledge of Allegiance. I expect everyone to listen to the daily announcements when appropriate. Once the business is out of the way, we will warm up and begin our activities. Remember this is an ELECTIVE class! Either accept this class by giving it your best and trying 100% or take another elective class...there are many!*

## **1. ATTENDANCE**

Since this is a participatory class, your attendance is very crucial. If you miss work or a performance in class for whatever reason, you **MUST MAKE IT UP** by doing extra scenes, reports, etc. for the points. If the work is a group activity, you will be replaced after two days of absences. If you are absent the day of a performance, I **WILL CALL HOME** to confirm your absence. If it is excused, you will then perform the **FIRST** day you return to school. Remember, you get daily points for participating. Missing class unexcused, will give you a zero for that day.

## **2. TARDIES**

Time is precious in a theatre class. Therefore, if you are late, you are not prepared and will result in loss of participation points. Excessive tardiness will not only cause you to lose points, but detentions will also be given. I expect everyone to participate in any given activity, critique or performance. Failure to do so will result in a zero for the activity / performance or loss of participation points.

## **3. SURROUNDING AREAS**

Classroom: This is a working area..... **NO FOOD** (includes candy), or **DRINK** (unless it's a screw top lid. Gum and Hats are OK unless you are performing. **NO cell phones!**

**\*FOOD:** If you must eat a personal snack, do so in the lobby as I prefer that you do **NOT** eat in the theatre classroom. Per district policy, food is not to be shared as a class.

Restroom: It is across the hall from the classroom. There is no pass. Please tell me you need to use it and be quick to return to our activities.

Theatre Storage Area: Do not get into the props / costume / set pieces / hats without my permission.

Computers: Chrome Books are available on a first come basis. Do not download any software or add documents to the desktop. Use your student folder and the Google drive. Be courteous of your time and let other use them as well.

Hallway: If you need to rehearse in the hall or theatre, let the poor teacher know where you are. Make sure you rehearse and not visit the commons or music dept. Trust is a factor here, do not break it. If you cannot be trusted in the hall to rehearse, you will **ONLY** rehearse in the room.

Scene Shop: This room is off limits to everyone, unless the class requires the use of this facility

## **4. COMMON COURTESY**

Audience Member: Do not disturb the player in anyway. (Walking, entering/exiting the room whispering, planning, or just being non responsive)

Performer: Be prepared (on time) so the audience doesn't have to suffer.

Towards Substitutes: Be kind and courteous in every way. They too can deduct points or give detentions. The Substitute is in charge and any conflicts, which may occur, will go in favor of the sub. **RESPECT, RESPECT, RESPECT!!!!**

**DO NOT LEAVE UNTIL I DISMISSES YOU!!!**

**BE DEPENDABLE, ACCEPTING, TACTFUL, AND KIND TO ALL.**

***Please check my website for updated course information and events for play production hours!***