

**Orange High School**  
**Course Outline/Syllabus**  
**Intro to Drama/Fundamentals of Theatre**

Instructor: Dana Levin  
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Phone #: 973-677-4050

Planning Period: 5  
Classroom #: Trailer D  
Principal: Mr. Belton

Parents are encouraged to contact me regarding any questions or concerns regarding your child in my class. You can reach me at my email address or you can leave a message at 973-677-4050. I will do my best to return emails and/or phone calls within 48 hours.

**Course Description:**

This performance course will include the history of theatre and develop, through workshop exercises, dramatic techniques in acting from improvisations to play production. Students will write and perform skits, scenes, and plays to enjoy the experience of acting. Actors hone in on their prior acting skills and develop different characters. Students are encouraged to participate in one high school play, either in an acting or supportive role, and/or in stage crew capacity.

**Course Objectives:**

Students will :

1. Increase their comfort with taking risks
2. Effectively assess their work and that of their peers
3. Create positive, constructive feedback for their peers
4. Effectively utilize a variety of non-verbal communication techniques
5. Demonstrate mastery of concepts of dramatic action and subtext
6. Effectively perform a character analysis as well as a text analysis for a monologue
7. Upon the successful completion of this course, students will be able to:
8. Create publicity announcements, press releases and various others forms of communication and
9. promotional materials.
10. Identify and utilize basic terms used within theatre
11. Analyze, plan and choose a costume design for use within a production.
12. Understand the basic process a director goes through to take a project from inception to completion.
13. Understand and utilize various tools, materials, and documents to assist with the process of taking a production
14. and cast from beginning to end.
15. Plan and create a set design for use within a production.

**Major Assignments and Projects:**

The following assignments are required for the course:

Classroom Based Assessment on Improvisation  
Pantomime Performances  
Vocal Recitations  
Play Reviews and Analysis  
Duo Scenes and Monologues  
Technical Theatre Projects  
Theatre History Presentations  
Class One Act Production  
Playwriting Scripts

**Expectations:**

Students are expected to attend all class sessions, arrive on time, participate in class activities, and treat all members of the class community with respect, compassion, and kindness. Disrespect and or/judgement towards peers and/or

the teacher will not be tolerated. CELL PHONES NEED TO BE OFF AND PUT AWAY FOR THE ENTIRE DURATION OF CLASS!

**Textbook:**

Basic Drama Projects 8<sup>th</sup> Edition  
Theatre Arts I Student Handbook

**Required Supplies:**

1. Homework/Classwork Notebook
2. Journal Notebook
3. Folder

Note: It is mandatory that each student have his/her notebook in class every day.

Note: Parents/Guardians & administrators will have the right to look at the students' notebooks at any time.

**Grading Policy:**

- **30%** of the grade consists of tests (20%) and quizzes (10%). In some cases mid-terms and finals.
- **15%** of the grade consists of class participation (questioning, discussion, problem solving, team work, and offering relevant comments).
- **20%** of the grade consists of class work (journals, logs, assignments, tasks, demonstrations, skill applications).
- **25%** of the grade consists of Authentic Assessments (portfolios, performance assessments, projects, 21<sup>st</sup> Century real world experiences)
- **10%** of the grade is Homework (including long term projects i.e. essays, research, and 20 to 60 minute reading depending upon grade level).

**Homework:**

Homework will be assigned daily and is expected to be completed in a timely manner. A missed assignment may be submitted at a later date for partial credit. Ten points will be deducted for each late day.

**Projects:**

Independent and collaborative projects will be assigned periodically.

**Tests:**

A test will be given at the end of each chapter.

**Make-Up Policy:**

All missed work must be made up. Arrangements for submission are to be made with the instructor.

**Classroom Rules of Conduct:**

An atmosphere of mutual respect, cooperation, and camaraderie is to be maintained at all times. All performances and creative input must be school appropriate.

**Academic Dishonesty Policy:**

Plagiarism and cheating will not be tolerated.

## **COURSE OUTLINES/SYLLABUS AGREEMENT**

I HAVE READ AND UNDERSTAND THE EXPECTATIONS OF THIS CLASS AS OUTLINED IN THIS SYLLABUS. I AGREE TO ABIDE BY THE RULES AND PROCEDURES ESTABLISHED BY THE INSTRUCTOR.

Student's Printed Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Student's Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Parent/Guardian's Printed Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Parent/Guardian's Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Current Phone Number: \_\_\_\_\_

Current Email Address: \_\_\_\_\_

**PLEASE RETURN THIS PAGE SIGNED!**