



INTRODUCTION TO THEATRE ARTS
GRADES 9-12
ONE CREDIT, ONE YEAR

Counselors are available to assist parents and students with course selections and career planning. Parents may arrange to meet with the counselor by calling the school's guidance department.

COURSE DESCRIPTION

Introduction to Theatre Arts gives students a sampling of all aspects of theatre by tracing its development throughout history. Students will be offered the opportunity to act, mime, improvise, design for the stage, and explore career options in the field of theatre.

PREREQUISITE

Membership is open to all students.

OPTIONS FOR NEXT COURSE

Studio Theatre, Theatre Appreciation, Topics in Performance Theatre, Topics in Technical Theatre

REQUIRED STUDENT TEXTBOOKS

Understanding Plays, 2nd Edition, 1994, M. Barringer

The Actor in You, 1999, Robert Benedetti

THE KNOWLEDGE, SKILLS, AND ATTITUDES THAT COMPRISE THE INTRODUCTION TO THEATRE ARTS COURSE ARE SUMMARIZED AS FOLLOWS FROM THE PRESCRIBED CURRICULUM:

TOPICS OF STUDY

1.1 Demonstrate self-respect, respect for others, and respect for property. (VASOL TI.1)

E 1.1.1 Evaluate peers in performance as well as the technical areas of theatre.

E 1.1.2 Evaluate own performances.

E 1.1.3 Organize and maintain a safe, clean working environment.

1.2 Demonstrate teamwork, cooperation, and dependability while participating in selected theatre experiences. (VASOL TI.1, TI.2)

E 1.2.1 Explore effective group problem-solving techniques.

E 1.2.2 Collaborate with classmates on group projects.

E 1.2.3 Meet deadlines for class and extracurricular activities.

1.3 Give and receive constructive criticism appropriately. (VASOL TI.9)

E 1.3.1 Develop oral and written critiquing skills.

E 1.3.2 Understand the need for diplomatically critiquing peers.

E 1.3.3 Utilize both peer-generated and teacher-generated criticism to improve growth in theatre arts.

E 1.3.4 Respond positively to both peer-generated and teacher-generated criticism.

1.4 Identify major stylistic movements in selected theatrical periods. (VASOL TI.8)

E 1.4.1 Recognize key differences in the theatrical architecture during selected periods.

E 1.4.2 Identify various visual styles in selected periods.

E 1.4.3 Compare and contrast acting styles of different eras and cultures.

E 1.4.4 Trace the evolution of the director's role in theatrical history.

E 1.4.5 Investigate the contribution of the playwright during different eras of theatre history.

E 1.4.6 Research the use of costumes, makeup, and masks in selected theatrical traditions.

1.5 Read and analyze selected western and non-western dramatic literature and demonstrate informed responses to those plays. (VASOL TI.6, TI.10)

E 1.5.1 Identify elements of dramatic literature including structure, style, form, mood, language, spectacle, symbolism and genre.

E 1.5.2 Create an alternate theatrical expression based on a play from an historical era.

E 1.5.3 Recognize the playwright's use of characterization, plot, and setting to illustrate a theme.

E 1.5.4 Predict the outcome of a play.

E 1.5.5 Maintain a critical journal of plays.

E 1.5.6 Interpret the theme of a play in technical terms.

E.1.5.7 Identify motivations and conflicts of characters in a play.

1.6 View and analyze live theatre and demonstrate informed responses to those events. (VASOL TI.11, TI.12)

E 1.6.1 Analyze the structure of a play.

E 1.6.2 Recognize the play's relativity to the contemporary world.

E 1.6.3 Identify the playwright's purpose.

E 1.6.4 Identify and respond to the play's theme.

E 1.6.5 Identify and respond to the play's style.

E 1.6.6 Analyze a character in the play.

E 1.6.7 Respond to the production of a play.

E 1.6.8 Analyze and summarize the plot of a play.

E 1.6.9 Discuss and appreciate the production of a play in both the educational and professional environments.

1.7 Develop and demonstrate acting skills and techniques. (VASOL TI.1, TI.2, TI.3)

E 1.7.1 Develop and demonstrate vocal variety and techniques.

E 1.7.2 Develop and use appropriate gestures.

E 1.7.3 Develop and demonstrate stage movement skills.

E 1.7.4 Demonstrate and utilize memorization skills.

E 1.7.5 Demonstrate and explore a variety of styles of pacing.

E 1.7.6 Develop and practice emotional characterization techniques.

E. 1.7.7 Develop and practice ensemble skills.

1.8 Participate in accordance with individual development levels in theatre games and improvisations. (VASOL TI.2, TI.4, TI.5)

E 1.8.1 Participate in theatre games.

E 1.8.2 Create an improvisational situation.

- E 1.8.3 Respond to the improvisations of peers.
- E 1.8.4 Collaborate in small groups toward an improvisation.
- E 1.8.5 Evaluate one's progress during the theatre game/improvisation phase.
- 1.9 Explore directing skills (VASOL TI.4, TI.5)**
 - E 1.9.1 Identify terminology related to directing.
 - E 1.9.2 Recognize the responsibilities of a director.
 - E 1.9.3 Develop critiquing skills of a live performance/video of a play in terms of direction.
- 1.10 Develop technical theatre skills. (VASOL TI.4, TI.5)**
 - E 1.10.1 Recognize and understand information on technical theatre to produce and justify solutions to production problems.
 - E 1.10.2 Evaluate and synthesize information on technical theatre to produce and justify solutions to production problems.
- 1.11 Develop techniques of theatre management. (VASOL TI.5)**
 - E 1.11.1 Correlate the relationship between theatre management and the other artistic/technical crews.
 - E 1.11.2 Understand the process in developing a house/publicity crew.
 - E 1.11.3 Appreciate and understand the components of a successful house and publicity crew.
- 1.12 Demonstrate an understanding of how theatre is both similar to and different from other literary genres and other art forms. (VASOL TI.8, TI.12, TI.13)**
 - E 1.12.1 Develop a dramatic presentation utilizing a variety of genres and mediums.
 - E 1.12.2 Correlate the relationships between nontheatrical and theatrical literature.
- 1.13 Reinforce skills and concepts learned in other classes or other school activities to their work in theatre arts. (VASOL TI.7, TI.8)**
 - E 1.13.1 Use research skills to enhance a classroom activity.
- E 1.13.2 Use social studies skills in the areas of directing, acting (and all its components), costuming, designing, and decoration. (Social studies skills will be understood to include principles of psychology, sociology, history, research, etc.)
- E 1.13.3 Use language arts skills in the areas of publicity, playwrighting, acting, directing, and theatre management.
- E 1.13.4 Use mathematics skills in the areas of design and theatre management.
- E 1.13.5 Use science skills in the areas of design, special effects, and acting.
- E 1.13.6 Use physical education skills in the area of acting.
- E 1.13.7 Use practical and other fine arts skills in the areas of costuming, makeup, publicity, set design, and set construction.
- E 1.13.8 Use foreign language skills to understand pertinent cultures and dialects.
- E 1.13.9 Use leadership skills developed in other curricular and cocurricular activities in the areas of directing and production.
- 1.14 Apply concepts and skills learned in theatre arts to other school or life activities. (VASOL TI.7, TI.12)**
 - E 1.14.1 Use skills and concepts developed and enhanced in theatre arts in oral presentations.
 - E 1.14.2 Use problem-solving skills developed and enhanced in theatre arts in group projects in other classes.
 - E 1.14.3 Use skills and concepts learned in technical theatre in extracurricular activities (e.g., building floats, creating displays, lighting, choral and band concerts).
 - E 1.14.4 Use skills learned in acting and technical theatre classes in outside organizations (e.g., churches, civic clubs, the workplace) that can lead to career opportunities.



VIRGINIA BEACH CITY PUBLIC SCHOOLS

A H E A D O F T H E C U R V E

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The Virginia Beach City Public Schools, in partnership with the entire community, will empower every student to become a life-long learner who is a responsible, productive and engaged citizen within the global community.

DEPARTMENT OF CURRICULUM AND INSTRUCTION

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