



**THEATRE APPRECIATION**  
**GRADES 9-12**  
**ONE-HALF CREDIT, ONE SEMESTER**

*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**

Introduction to Theatre Arts, Studio Theatre, Topics in Performance Theatre, Topics in Technical Theatre

**REQUIRED STUDENT TEXTBOOKS**

*Understanding Plays*, 2<sup>nd</sup> Edition, 1994, M. Barringer  
*The Actor as Storyteller*, 2000, Bruce Miler

**THE KNOWLEDGE, SKILLS, AND ATTITUDES THAT COMPRISE THE THEATRE APPRECIATION COURSES ARE SUMMARIZED AS FOLLOWS FROM THE PRESCRIBED CURRICULUM:**

**TOPICS OF STUDY**

- 1.1 Organize and maintain a safe, clean working environment.
- 1.2 Collaborate with classmates on group projects.
- 1.3 Meet deadlines for class and extracurricular activities.
- 1.4 Utilize both peer-generated and teacher-generated criticism to improve growth in theatre arts.
- 1.5 Respond to both peer-generated and teacher-generated criticism with maturity and grace.
- 1.6 Develop critiquing skills.
- 1.7 Identify various visual styles in selected periods.
- 1.8 Identify various visual styles in selected periods.
- 1.9 Compare and contrast acting styles of different eras and cultures.
- 1.10 Investigate the contribution of the playwright during different eras of theatre history.
- 1.11 Research the use of costumes, makeup, and masks in selected theatrical traditions.
- 1.12 Identify elements of dramatic literature including structure, style, form, mood, language, spectacle, symbolism and genre.
- 1.13 Create an alternate theatrical expression based on a play from a historical era.
- 1.14 Recognize the playwright's use of characterization, plot, and setting to illustrate a theme.
- 1.15 Predict the outcome of a play.
- 1.16 Maintain a critical journal of plays.
- 1.17 Interpret the theme of a play in technical terms.
- 1.18 Identify motivations and conflicts of characters in a play.
- 1.19 Analyze the structure of a play.
- 1.20 Recognize the play's relativity to the contemporary world.
- 1.21 Identify the playwright's purpose.
- 1.22 Identify and respond to the play's theme.
- 1.23 and appreciate the play's style.
- 1.24 Analyze a character in the play.
- 1.25 Respond to the production of a play.
- 1.26 Analyze and summarize the plot of a play.
- 1.27 Discuss and appreciate the production of a play in both the educational and professional environments.
- 1.28 Identify terminology related to directing.
- 1.29 Recognize the responsibilities of a director.
- 1.30 Develop critiquing skills of a live performance/video of a play in terms of direction.
- 1.31 Develop a dramatic presentation utilizing a variety of genres and mediums.
- 1.32 Correlate relationships between non-theatrical and theatrical literature.
- 1.33 Use research skills to enhance a classroom activity.
- 1.34 Use skills developed and enhanced in Theatre Arts in oral presentations.
- 1.35 Use problem-solving skills developed and enhanced in Theatre Arts in group projects in other classes.



# **VIRGINIA BEACH CITY PUBLIC SCHOOLS**

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

## **MISSION STATEMENT**

**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**

**2512 George Mason Drive P.O. Box 6038**

**Virginia Beach, VA 23456-0038**

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Alternative formats of this publication which may include taped, Braille, or large print materials are available upon request for individuals with disabilities. Call or write The Department of Curriculum and Instruction, Director of Secondary Instructional Services, Virginia Beach City Public Schools, 2512 George Mason Drive, P.O. Box 6038, Virginia Beach, VA 23456-0038, Telephone (757) 263-1070 or (757) 263-1429, fax (757) 263-1412.