



***Department of Teaching & Learning***  
***Parent/Student Course Information***

***Technical Theatre***  
***(LA 1443)***  
***One Credit, One Year***  
***Grades 10-12***

*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**

This course is designed to help students interested in technical aspects of theatre to integrate and build upon concepts and skills acquired in Introduction to Theatre Arts. This course affords students the opportunity to gain experience in all elements of technical theatre through practical application. Students will study scenic design, theatre management, sound design, stagecraft, makeup, masks, costume design and construction, scenery painting, stage management, lighting design, theatre spaces, props, and special effects. Students will study, analyze and respond to a variety of theatre experiences that will refine their communicative, collaborative, analytical, interpretive, and problem-solving skills. Technical Theatre will focus on the process and development of performances from the technician's perspective and, as a result, will expand their technical and artistic abilities and appreciation of theatrical arts. Content in this course changes annually; therefore, this course may be repeated. After-school rehearsals and performances may be required of all students.

The standards for Technical Theatre help students apply and expand their knowledge of theatre design, production, and management. Students develop problem-solving, communication, organizational, and management skills. Drawing on fine arts and other disciplines, they work individually and collaboratively to explore the interrelated components of design, production, and management. Students practice safe operating procedures, including the care, maintenance, and storage of tools, materials, and equipment.

**PREREQUISITE**

Introduction to Theatre Arts and teacher's approval

**OPTIONS FOR NEXT COURSE**

Performance Theatre, Studio Theatre and Cinema Studies

**REQUIRED STUDENT TEXTBOOK**

Scene Design and Stage Lighting, Ninth Edition

Stage Makeup, Tenth Edition

Technical Theatre for Non-Technical People, Second Edition

The Stage Manger's Handbook

**VIRGINIA BEACH STANDARDS AND OBJECTIVES  
FOR THEATRE ARTS**

**DESIGN AND PRODUCTION**

- TT.1 The student will summarize how the fundamental aspects of scene design, lighting, sound, costumes, properties, and makeup are applied in individual and collaborative theatre projects.
- TT.2 The student will explain how production design is derived from research, script analysis, and the directorial concept and how it communicates meaning to the audience.
- TT.3 The student will describe the different types of theatre spaces (e.g., proscenium, thrust, area), suggesting specific design considerations for each.
- TT.4 The student will identify the components of the theatre facility.
- TT.5 The student will identify the responsibilities of the running crews.
- TT.6 The student will demonstrate set construction by
1. Adhering to safety guidelines;
  2. Identifying and using construction tools and hardware; and
  3. Building scenic elements (e.g., flats, platforms, step units).
- TT.7 The student will demonstrate scene design by
1. Adhering to safety guidelines;
  2. Analyzing required and implied design considerations;
  3. Sketching preliminary designs;
  4. Drawing floor plans to scale for given stage dimensions;
  5. Creating front view drawings, perspective drawings, and models;
  6. Applying painting techniques to scenery and backdrops; and
  7. Acquiring and placing furnishings and stage properties.
- TT.8 The student will design, produce, and manage properties by
1. Analyzing the required and implied design considerations;
  2. Creating a prop list;
  3. Constructing, gathering, and/or adapting objects to enhance the production elements; and
  4. Preparing locations for storage.
- TT.9 The student will demonstrate lighting design and production by
1. Adhering to safety guidelines;
  2. Identifying and using lighting instruments (e.g., fresnel, ellipsoidal, parcan) as well as their parts (e.g., connectors, lamp, lenses) and accessories;
  3. Identifying and operating a dimming system;
  4. Demonstrating the mechanics of lighting;
  5. Explaining and applying additive color mixing of light; and
  6. Creating a simple lighting plot.

- TT.10 The student will demonstrate use of sound to enhance performance and convey mood and information by
1. Adhering to safety guidelines;
  2. Analyzing required and implied design considerations;
  3. Identifying and using sound equipment;
  4. Using amplification and sound effects;
  5. Creating a sound plot; and
  6. Adhering to relevant copyright and royalty requirements.
- TT.11 The student will demonstrate costume design and production by
1. Analyzing required and implied design considerations;
  2. Creating a costume plot and costume drawings;
  3. Identifying tools, materials, and equipment;
  4. Employing the fundamentals of sewing, following safety guidelines; and
  5. Adapting an existing costume from stock.
- TT.12 The student will demonstrate hair and makeup design by
1. Analyzing required and implied design considerations;
  2. Creating a hair and makeup plot;
  3. Identifying tools, materials, and equipment; and
  4. Using safe, hygienic fundamentals of hair and makeup application and removal.
- TT.13 The student will identify the responsibilities of the stage manager, house manager, and business manager.
- TT.14 The student will apply principles of stage management by
1. Creating a prompt book, noting blocking and cues for lighting, sound, and effects;
  2. Assisting the director in all areas of production management; and
  3. Maintaining effective communication with members of the cast and crew.
- TT.15 The student will apply principles of house management by
1. Preparing and maintaining a facility during a production;
  2. Recruiting and instructing house staff (e.g., ushers, concession workers);
  3. Following safety regulations and emergency plans (e.g., medical, fire); and
  4. Assuring the comfort of patrons.
- TT.16 The student will apply principles of business management by
1. Adhering to copyright and royalty requirements for use of materials (e.g., contemporary media, recordings, written materials);
  2. Preparing and tracking a budget for a production;
  3. Collaborating to create and maintain a web site; and
  4. Collaborating to create a publicity plan for a production (e.g., press releases, posters, flyers, web information, playbills, tickets).

## **THEATRE HISTORY AND CULTURAL CONTEXT**

- TT.17 The student will examine the development of technical theatre by
1. Explaining the impact of technological advancements on theatre; and
  2. Analyzing a variety of dramatic texts to determine their production requirements by referencing their historical and cultural contexts.
- TT.18 The student will research theatre architecture, technology, fashion, furnishings, objects, and lighting in various historical eras.

TT.19 The student will trace the development of theatre stages and staging through history.

### **ANALYSIS, EVALUATION, AND CRITIQUE**

TT.20 The student will justify personal choices in specific design, production, and/or management areas through a variety of completed materials.

TT.21 The student will critique the design and production aspects of a live performance.

TT.22 The student will devise a constructive critique of peer work.

### **AESTHETICS**

TT.23 The student will explain how personal aesthetic criteria are applied to theatre design, production, and management.

TT.24 The student will compare and contrast the design and production elements of theatre with other fine arts products (e.g., concerts, recitals, exhibitions).

TT.25 The student will identify how theatre design elements elicit an emotional and/or intellectual response from the audience.

Dr. Aaron C. Spence, Superintendent  
Virginia Beach City Public Schools  
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For further information please call (757) 263-1070.

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