

Theatre Arts 1 Syllabus

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Conference: 5th Period 11:42 am-1:01 pm

About the Course

Through self and collaborative exploration, students will develop skills in all aspects of acting. During this course students will investigate stagecraft, voice, movement, text, improvisation, and performance within focused units of study. Students will be assessed and evaluated through rubrics, portfolios, self-reflection, group-reflection, and quizzes. The student will become more confident in not only their acting skills, their movement and vocal quality but their public speaking skills in general. The course will be broken into the following areas/units:

- The Stage: Parts, Types, & Stage Directions
- Warm-ups & Theatre Games
- Improvisation
- History of Theatre
- Shakespeare
- Careers in Theatre
- Mime & Stage Combat
- The Voice & Personal Resources
- Character Analysis
- Monologues & Scene Acting
- Musical Theatre
- Puppetry
- Technical Theatre/ Design
- Script Reading & Writing

Attendance and Participation

Your attendance and participation in EVERY class is imperative! We can't play if all our team members aren't present. Participation means arriving prepared, engaging in warm-ups and activities, using class time productively, showing respect for all classmates, and giving full effort in performances and projects. Disruptive or uncooperative behavior will impact your participation grade.

1 tardy to class will result in 1 lunch detention. 3 unexcused tardies to the same class in the same 6-week grading period will result in 1 day of ISS and loss of final exam exemption in that class.

Performance Etiquette & Respect

In this class, we are each other's audience and creative partners. Every student deserves the opportunity to perform in a safe, supportive environment. This means:

- Listening attentively and without side conversations when someone else is performing or speaking.
- Offering positive, constructive feedback when appropriate.
- Encouraging your classmates and celebrating their efforts, even if they make mistakes.
Avoiding any behavior—such as talking, laughing at mistakes, making unnecessary noises, or moving around the room—that could distract or disrupt a performance.
- Remaining in your assigned space during performances unless given permission to move.

Grading

Your grade will be based on the following:

Major Grades (Tests, Projects, Participation, etc.) **40%**

Minor Grades (Classwork, Notes, Journal, etc.) **60%**

Required Materials

- 3 Ring Binder (1" - 1½")
- Binder Dividers, Notebook Paper
- Pencils, Pens, Highlighters
- Chromebook

Discipline Policy

We do not expect to have disciplinary issues in this class. If, however, I become concerned about your participation or your behavior, the following steps will be taken:

- Verbal warning in the classroom
- Seat Change/Isolation
- Phone calls to parents
- Teacher Detention
- Discipline Referral

Missing/Late Work:

- If you have work that is not turned in by the end of class on the day that it is due, it is considered LATE.
- You have 3 days for a maximum grade of a 70 to turn in any missing work.
- If the work is not received by the end of the third day, a failing grade of 0 will be put in the gradebook.

Make-up Work

- Students who are absent will have the amount of time missed to make up any work up to 1 week. (1 absent = 1 day)
- If you know you are going to be absent, you must let me know as soon as possible and NOT at the last possible moment.
- You are responsible for getting your classwork prior to your absence. It is not my responsibility to get it for you.

Technology & Food

- Cell phone use is not allowed in class in accordance with Texas law and Jim Ned ISD policy.
- Please wait until instructed to take out your Chromebooks.
- Snacks in the classroom are okay until it becomes a problem. Please be mindful of the classroom and keep it clean. Failure to do so will result in loss of food privileges in the classroom.

Dress Code

- Please be sure to follow all the school dress codes. This includes but is not limited to facial hair, inappropriate t-shirts, hair length, dress or skirt length.
 - Students will be referred to the office for failure to follow dress code.
- Because this is a hands-on class, please be sure to wear comfortable clothes and closed toed shoes. Take note on days where we will be in the theatre or will be doing active lessons.

Theatre Arts I Parent/Student Contract

Dear Parent/Guardian,

I am so excited to have your student in Theatre Arts I this year! The Jim Ned High School Theatre Department is committed to building confidence, creativity, and collaboration through engaging, hands-on learning experiences.

This course is an introduction to the many areas of theatre, including acting, voice, movement, improvisation, theatre history, stagecraft, and design. Students will explore these areas through games, warm-ups, scene work, projects, and performances—all completed during our regular class period. There are no required after-school rehearsals for this class.

While this is not a varsity-level production course, the same principles of teamwork, respect, and active participation apply. Theatre is a collaborative art form, and success depends on every student contributing positively and consistently. Students will be expected to:

- **Participate fully** in all warm-ups, games, and activities.
- **Work respectfully** with classmates during group work and performances.
- **Complete all assignments and projects** to the best of their ability.
- **Follow classroom and school rules**, including dress code and technology policies.
- **Be present and prepared** each day, with required materials ready.

In this class, your student will develop important skills that go beyond the stage—public speaking, creative thinking, problem-solving, and the ability to work as part of a team. These skills will benefit them in school, the workplace, and in life.

Thank you for supporting your student's participation in Theatre Arts I. I look forward to a fantastic year of learning, creativity, and growth!

Acknowledgment: Please return this page by the first Monday of classes, signed by both the student and the parent/guardian.

I have read the Theatre Arts I syllabus for 2025–2026 and understand what is expected in this course.

Student (print) _____

Student (signature) _____ Date _____

Parent (print) _____

Parent (signature) _____ Date _____

Dates to put on your calendar NOW:

August 30: Murder Mystery Dinner Theatre

September 2-5 : Macbeth Auditions

September 5: Macbeth Cast List Posted

September 8: Macbeth Read-thru

October 25 & 26: Macbeth Performances (x3)

Oct. 25 @ 2:30 & 7:30

Oct. 26 @ 2:30

November 8-9: Bayou Escape Room

November 19-22: Texas Thespians Festival (ITS)

December 4: Junior High OAP Contest @ Clyde

December 6: Jingle Bell Drop Off Fundraiser

December 13: Holiday Reel & Wrap Fundraiser

December 8 - 12: Varsity One Act Play Auditions

December 14: Varsity OAP cast list posted

December 15: Varsity OAP Read-thru/Book Making Party

January TBD: UIL Film Entries Due

February 10: OAP Clinic @ Clyde

February 14: Theatrical Design Prelims Due

February TBD: State Film

March 4-5: District Varsity OAP @ Clyde HS

March 25-26: Bi-district Varsity OAP @ Clyde HS

April 10-11: Area Varsity OAP @ Clyde HS

April 23-24 Region Varsity OAP @ Clyde HS

TBD: State Varsity OAP (Austin is Beautiful in the SPRING!!!)

TBD: State Theatrical Design

TBD Drama Fest

TBD International Theatre Society Inductions & Banquet