

# **Newbury Park High School**

## **Visual and Performing Arts: Theatre I**

### **Instructor: Mrs. Marilyn Strange**

#### **CONTACT INFORMATION:**

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Google Classroom Code:

Turnitin.com Code:

Welcome to Theatre I! It is my greatest hope that the coming year will be filled with many happy memories, and of course, a great deal of learning! Theatre Arts class will give you the incredible opportunity to develop your imagination and creativity individually, while working as a community in a collaborative environment. We are all here to grow, learn, and encourage each other, together. Please take a few moments to review the policies of my classroom with a parent or guardian and sign and return the attached page by **Friday, August 23rd**. Students will also be expected to sign the co-curricular code and contract, to also be returned by **Friday, August 23rd**.

#### **COURSE DESCRIPTION:**

This course is designed for both the student new to drama and the student with a general background in the theatre. This Performing Arts Class will cover all aspects of theatre – the play, the audience, the actor, the production and its components. Group and individual work will be used to develop skills and understanding in movement, voice, story-development, conflict building, characterization, theatrical production techniques, theatre etiquette, and theatre terminology. Improvisation and memorization are required, and students will work (accruing service hours) on NPHS Theatre productions and fundraisers outside of the regular class hours and school day, on occasion.

This course aligns with the California State Standards for Visual and Performing Arts, along with several California Common Core State Standards in English.

#### **COURSE OBJECTIVES:**

1. Demonstrate self-confidence through acquired performance skills and provide the student the opportunity to develop as a unified whole; emotionally, intellectually, and physically.
2. Create truth in imaginary circumstances
3. Understand and appreciate the performing arts through newly discovered knowledge
4. Discuss the meaning of theatre and its place in contemporary American Society
5. Demonstrate the knowledge of the play production process, including technical theatre applications

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Theatre I

6. Understand, analyze, and apply knowledge of theatrical components to a theatre arts production and demonstrate the ability to critique the work
7. Develop stage presence, vocal projection, stage movement, diction, facial expressions, gestures, characterization, and improvisation skills
8. List and obtain skills needed in the basic principles of the technical theatre production: lighting, costume, sound, and set design
9. Develop theatre arts vocabulary in relation to performing and technical aspects

### **GRADING:**

All grading will be done on a point system. The overall grade will be the percentage of points accrued divided by points possible. Students who earn the following percent of the total points will earn the listed letter grade:

90-100% = A  
80-89% = B  
70-79% = C  
60-69% = D  
59% and below = F

Please note, due to the nature of this class, grading is highly subjective, so your best work is required. Grades are regularly updated on Q and I am always willing to discuss an individual grade. I will not discuss or compare a student's grade to another student in the class.

Late work policy for written assignments: 10% will be deducted for each day it is late. If an assignment is turned in after 5 days, only the maximum of 50% credit will be rewarded.

### **MANDATORY ASSIGNMENTS:**

1. **Daily Participation** – Students can earn up to 5 participation points each day they attend class and participate in the daily activities, which can include exercises, improvisation, warm-ups, and various performance related activities. **This class is based on attendance/punctuality and participation.** If a student is absent, they will not receive participation points for that day. If a student has an excused absence, they will be able to make up their points doing an alternative assignment.

**Alternative assignments** may be found on the Google Classroom site, titled “Alternative Assignments - Theatre I”. Each assignment must have the date of absence(s) on it. Once completed, please submit the assignment to [www.turnitin.com](http://www.turnitin.com). You will be given one day for each absence to turn in an alternative assignment. A student having six (6) unexcused tardies or trancies in any one class, per sub term, may be dropped from the course and assigned a grade of “F” (See the Newbury Park High School Agenda and posting in class).

2. **Classwork and Group work/projects** – Assignments will be given in class in order to apply principles and incorporate concepts. Some assignments will require group coherence and member attendance is crucial for success.
3. **Written Journal Assignments** – These are both in class activities and can also be assigned as homework.
4. **Performance/Play Critiques** – You are required to attend a theatre performance, either at NPHS or an outside organization, and complete a critique on the performance. The critique will be a minimum of 3 pages, double-spaced, 12 pt font. **You will need to include a ticket stub with the critique.** Please check with me before viewing an outside performance, to make sure it is acceptable for class.
5. **Service Hours** – 6 hours of service on NPHS Theatre Productions or fundraisers is required.
6. **Performances in Class** – Students will be asked to prepare various scenes and monologues, using both time in class and outside of class, to be performed in class. These performances include: a song performance, storytelling to an Elementary school audience, and writing an original monologue, in addition to other minor performances that may occur.
7. **Written Skills Tests and Quizzes** – Covering performance and technical theatre vocabulary, concepts, and class material.
8. **Midterm and Final Performances** – One monologue is to be performed for the midterm and a scene performed for the final.

**SUPPLIES** (these need to be brought to class everyday unless otherwise instructed):

- ✓ Spiral bound notebook or composition book for journal/notes
- ✓ 2 Pens (blue or black only)
- ✓ 2 Pencils with erasers
- ✓ Any scenes, monologues, plays, or small texts being used in class
- ✓ Agenda Book (optional)

### **SAFETY**

All safety rules and policies must be obeyed at all times, especially when in the Performing Arts Center. Wearing appropriate clothing that you can move in, following specified protocols, and using good judgement are all factors in maintaining a safe work environment. **If for any reason the safety of yourself or others are jeopardized due to dangerous actions or misbehavior on your part, you will be immediately removed from class and drop/failed.**

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Theatre I

### **CLASS RULES:**

**P**unctuality is very important. I expect you to be in your seats when I take attendance, otherwise, you will be considered tardy. Time is precious and being early is on time. Professionalism is expected in this performing arts class elective.

**A**lways be prepared. Please bring appropriate supplies to class, but leave you electronic devices turned off and put away. If I hear or see a student using their cell phone, not in an authorized way, a campus supervisor will relieve you of it. Refer to the student handbook for rules and regulation on cell phone usage.

**N**ever eat in the Facility. There is absolutely no gum, food, candy, and drinks allowed. Water bottles are appropriate.

**T**ime does not dismiss you. I will be the only person to dismiss you from class. There might be times when we have a guest speaker and class might run over a few minutes.

**H**ave fun, experiment, and don't be afraid to try something new. This is your class to play.

**E**veryone is to be safe. Be aware of your surroundings and pay attention in class when moving or doing an activity.

**R**espect each other. This can be a difficult class for some individuals and some of you might be shy. Stick to constructive criticism when critiquing individual's work and give each other the respect you all deserve. Our space needs to feel safe. Refrain from using language that hurts or offends others. Respect all individuals entering the classroom, whether that is a substitute, a guest speaker, or myself. Respect the space, both the classroom and the PAC. The PAC specifically is a shared facility that we need to take care of. It is a privilege to have and you are expected to take care of it. Do not use costumes, props, or touch equipment without asking my permission. No student is allowed in the catwalk or cove areas.

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Theatre I

***Agreement to follow rules and procedures:***

I (student), \_\_\_\_\_, have read the Classroom Management Plan and understand the expectations and rules for Mrs. Strange's class and will respect the facility.

I, \_\_\_\_\_, parent / guardian of \_\_\_\_\_, have read the Classroom Management Plan and understand the expectations and rules for Mrs. Strange's class.

I, \_\_\_\_\_, parent / guardian of \_\_\_\_\_, would like /would not like (please circle one) to be invited to the Google Classroom.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Student signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Parent / guardian signature

\*Parents and students, please make a regular habit out of checking your grades on

Q:

Q is available at <https://q.conejousd.org>.

Parent email: \_\_\_\_\_

Student email: \_\_\_\_\_