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**Theater Syllabus Room: B-8**

**North Dorchester High School mrsranksenglishandtheaterclass.weebly.com**

**Mrs. Rank Email:** [**rankl@dcpsmd.org**](mailto:rankl@dcpsmd.org)

**Course Description:**

This course is an introductory class in drama. Students learn basic acting techniques, basic stage production and history of the theatre as it relates to past and present cultures. Speaking skills are also developed and stressed.

**Course Goals:**

Students will demonstrate the ability to: Interpret theatrical scripts to develop props, stage production, and performance. Respond creatively and critically in a variety of methods to dramatic content. Control language for a variety of artistic and expressive purposes. Produce a stage production in small teams, taking on a specific role. Evaluate the content, organization, and language of various theatrical texts.

**Course Requirements:**

Students must complete the following activities: Read complete texts independently and respond to the text in writing and discussion. Workshop creative pieces in small groups, which includes receiving and giving criticism. Complete weekly acting, stage production, and technical check-ins and activities. **Work in small teams to independently perform a one-act play** **(Performance date: Fall 1 Act Plays, December 8th 2017, 7 pm with 6 pm call time, Mandatory Rehearsal: December 7th, 3-6 pm**), **Mandatory Spring Variety Show: May 4th, 2018, 7 pm, Auditorium, 6 pm call time and mandatory rehearsal: May 3rd 3-6 pm)**. These dates cannot be missed if a student wishes to pass this class.

Complete visual, spatial, and performative activities individually and in groups. Take a final exam that will count 10% of the final grade.

**Textbooks and Resources:**

*How Does the Show Go On?: An Introduction to the* *Theater* by Thomas Schumacher

*The Stage and the School: 8th Ed.* by Harry H. Schanker and Katharine Anne Ommanney

**Required Materials:**

Notebook paper

Pen/Pencils

Folder

Highlighter

**Grading Policy**

All assignments will be graded using a point system. As per the county policy, all classwork and homework grades are 30% of the overall final grade. Performances, quizzes, major projects, and essays are 70% of the overall final grade. Please refer to the County Calendar and your agenda for the full explanation of the grading policy.

**Guidelines for Success**

* You are not to stand in the hall before class.  As you enter the classroom, sharpen pencils, sit in your assigned seats, and begin warm-up before the bell rings.
* Attend class every day, and do not be late.
* Work hard on your daily assignments and meet all deadlines. Work will not be accepted if you decide not to do your work in class. Late work will not be accepted unless you have excused absences.
* In the event that you have an excused absence, please check the make-up work folder/binder, and/or the classroom assistance website. Please schedule a time outside of class if you need further assistance.
* Please be organized! I will provide a classroom folder for you. All submitted classwork must be placed in the folder. Please be gentle with the folder; it has to last the entire year.
* Raise your hand to be recognized and called upon by the teacher.  There is to be no talking or getting out of your assigned seat unless Mrs. Rank grants you permission.
* Be quiet and respectful during announcements.
* Do not touch things in the classroom that are not yours – let’s be respectful of each other’s belongings.
* No food, drinks, toys, cell phones, CD/DVD players, iPods, and/or electronic devices are to be brought to class.
* Profanity is not to be used in school.  If you choose to speak in this manner, you will be referred to the office.

**Consequences**

If for some reason you break one of the above stated guidelines, the following actions will be taken:

* **First offense**:  student conference, phone call home, or letter sent home
* **Second offense**:  phone call home and 1/2-hour after-school detention
* **Third offense**:  phone call home, 1/2-hour after-school detention, and office referral
* **Fourth offense**:  phone call home, 1-hour after-school detention, parent conference, and office referral

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I have read all of the information stated on Mrs. Rank’s Theater I Syllabus.  I understand that the guidelines and policies must be followed in order to achieve a positive classroom learning climate that will bring success to my classmates and me.  By following **North Dorchester High School’s** philosophy of being respectful, responsible, and ready, I can expect to be successful in this class.  Failure to abide by classroom rules will result in the consequences as specified in this document.  If I ever need extra help or have questions, it is my responsibility to ask Mrs. Rank at appropriate times.

Student Signature\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Parent Signature\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

North Dorchester Learner Commitment:

*We are the North Dorchester Eagles. We are becoming college, career, and community ready by demonstrating integrity, honor, and ethics through our voices and our choices.*