

Drama IB

Mrs. Kathleen Cannarozzi-Harris

Course Expectations

Mission Viejo High School

Drama line 586.0289

www.mvhsdrama.com

Meeting days and times: Monday and Thursday 2:30 – 4:30

Drama IB is an 8th period class, which meets for 4 hours a week. A total of 90 class hours for the semester must be met. Students will be given a schedule of seminar meeting times for class discussion, projects and research as well as a list of plays that we will attend through out the semester. The class schedule will need to be flexible to allow for students to attend theatrical productions and stage talks at various theaters in Southern California.

THE BASIC RULES

1. Attendance – **You must be here** for class and theatrical class trips.
2. **Be ready** to discuss readings and work on projects.
3. Late Work – I do not accept late work for a grade.
4. **Respect** each other, respect the work, respect the process, and respect the director.
5. Keep the stage and the drama room **clean** – No food, drinks or gum. Throw trash outside. Don't leave personal items.

Grade Overview

- An **A** grade indicates exceedingly high quality work. Masters all assigned work, shows originality and initiative, does more than required, and makes quality contributions in class.
- A **B** grade indicates good progress that is above the average. Masters portion of work, is alert and interested in work, completes work on time, and consistently participates in class.
- A **C** grade indicates a quality of work acceptable for this Drama IB level. Satisfactorily completes most assigned work under normal conditions and directions, shows interest in work, and completes work on time.
- A **D** grade indicates a need for greater effort to meet requirements of this course satisfactorily. Achieves below Drama IB standards, completes a minimum of assigned work, and seldom responds in class.
- An **F** grade indicates failure to produce an acceptable quality of work for a Drama IB class.

Class Assignments 30% of grade

1. **Class Participation** - attendance, active discussions, performing in scenes, theatrical designs.
2. **Homework:** essays, readings of plays, oral tapings, designs, play summaries
3. **Tests** – Theory, acting styles, directors, plays and playwrights (written tests and on oral tapes)
4. **Papers** – 1. Point of view of performer– Oct. 2
2. Point of view of designer – Nov. 6
3. Point of view of director– Dec. 11
Papers are 5 pages with sources. (Specific play titles will be studied in class)
5. **Critiques and reviews** – Live theatrical performances at local theatres to be determined with the class.

Class Projects 40% of grade

Research Project due Jan 8. – Choose a play distant from your own time and/or tradition and have an interest in pursuing. Format: This is in the form of a personal letter to the hypothetical person, in the point of view of a director, designer or performer. Information in the project must be of practical value and you may include audio and visual aides. No video.
Word length 2500. Must be typed.

Directing Projects

You will be required to **direct scenes in IB class** from plays that we are studying during semester 1.

Directing a one-act play – March 3,4,5. This includes casting, directing, creating a director’s book, director’s journal, designs, and producing your play.

Individual Project – Jan.29

This project should demonstrate creativity, problem solving, spontaneity and individual finding.

It should document:

- A high degree of aptitude in a specific area
- Ability to formulate and individual program of activity
- Ability to advance and develop original ideas
- Self discipline, reliability and responsibility
- Advanced investigative, critical and reflective skills demonstrated through oral and written presentation of ideas including a self evaluation

Portfolio 30% of grade

Our Theme for the Portfolio is “The Power of Theater”

Should include evidence of reflective evaluation of

1. Performance Skills – improvisation, acting techniques, vocal work, movement, ensemble work
2. Theatre Production – basic principles of play production and technical theater
3. Theater studies – Theater history, acting and directing theory
4. Play analysis and interpretation – Plays studied in Drama 3, 4 and IB.
5. You must also write an introductory paragraph about yourself and the power of the theater.
6. You include a summary of your individual project describing the project, results and what you learned. You may include some visual aides. You do not submit the actual project to IB.

Keep a notebook of activities studied in IB, including scene study and play analysis. Notes and reflection on theater history should also be included. There will be directed prompts to include in your journal.

Due dates:

Sept.18 – Organized format, last yr documented

Oct 23, Dec. 15, Jan. 15, Feb. 12, Mar 14, April (due to IB)

Oral Presentations

Each month there will be one oral presentation done on tape as an assignment for class based on the play we are studying. (This will prepare you for the oral style of the IB test)

March – IB Choices of oral presentation

You will be presented with three plays to read that are prescribed by the IB organization. We will read all three plays. You will choose one to pursue and you are to describe what you would want to do as the director of the play, in terms of giving it life in a real theatre. It is an oral presentation that is a record of your exercise of practical imagination. You will have four weeks to prepare for the oral exam. You may use notes for the oral exam.

Acting and Directing Theory – The following is a list of names to know as we study the evolution of acting and directing.

Aristotle

Quintilian

Francois Delsarte

Denis Diderot

Constantine Stansilavski

Michael Chekhov

Vsevolod Meyerhold

Lee Strasberg

Richard Boleslavsky
Stella Adler
Sanford Meisner
Viola Spolin
Bertlot Brecht
Jerzy Grotowski
Tadashi Suzuki
Uta Hagan
Peter Brook
Peter Hall
Vladmiir Nemerovish-Danchenko
Ann Bogart

Required Texts:

Brestoff, Richard. The Great Acting Teachers and Their Methods.

Boleslasky, Richard. Acting The First Six Lessons.

Worthen, W.B. The Harcourt Brace Anthology of Drama, Third Edition.