



## Drama 1

**Course Description:** An introduction to theatre arts and performance through the topics of storytelling, the origins of drama, pantomime, vocal production, improvisation, basic stage movement, playreading, performing, and observation. Students will engage in theatre related exercises and activities, developing characters, and creative problem-solving skills using dramatic literature. Theatre etiquette and art appreciation are also covered.

**Attendance:** Students are required to be in school every day. Students are responsible for communicating with their teachers to make up missed learning.

**Essential Skills:** Participate, Collaborate, Communicate, Create.

**Course Expectations:** Although not everything is graded, everything is important. In order to demonstrate growth and learning, students will need to:

1. Participate in class activities (take notes, work in a group, complete in class tasks, ask questions) without distractions (cell phones, games, etc.)
2. Use morning time and teacher to seek help outside of class when needed.
3. Complete all assessments (or rehearsals and performances) within teacher timelines.
4. Theatre, by definition, cannot exist without the experience of a live audience. Your participation in this class is essential to this live experience. Demonstrating these skills to a captive audience is a crucial piece of evidence in the successful completion of this course and the earning of a grade.

## Grading

**Skyward Assessment (Grades)** may include quizzes, learning checks, speeches, performances, and projects.

Final Grade	
A	100% - 90%
B	80% - 89%
C	70% - 79%
D	60% - 69%
F	0% - 59%

## **Calculations:**

<b>Final Grade Calculation</b>	
Cumulative Grade	<b>95%</b>
Final Exam(s)	<b>5%</b>

## **Instructional Resources:**

Scripts of various genres, including plays and musicals, Dramatics Magazine, American Theatre magazine, Theatrefolk.com, and textbooks:

Theatre: Art in Action, *National Textbook Company*

The Stage and the School, *McGraw Hill/Glencoe*

Essential Theatre: *Brockett and Bell*

Organizations: *Black Hills Playhouse and Black Hills Community Theatre*

Contacts & Network: Theatre Educators in Aberdeen & Sioux Falls, SD, plus Seattle, Minneapolis, Chicago, Denver, New York City

Videos, movies, other forms of media to enhance learning

**SEMESTER Course Calendar/Pacing:** Drama 1, Mr. Speck, RC Central High School Theatre Department

### **Weeks 1-3:**

Getting to know you and each other

**Introduction to Theatre:** What is it? What do we learn? How do we learn it? How can theatre help us?

Introduction to Storytelling Unit & career exploration

Collaboration and Creation (practice)

Participation and Demonstration (performance assessment)

### **Weeks 4-6:**

**Introduction to Pantomime** (Movement, Body Language, Dance & Choreography)

Movement through space

Understanding how to communicate with Body Language

The use and function of Choreography and Dance & career exploration

Collaboration and Creation

Participation and Demonstration (performance assessment)

**Weeks 7-9:**

**Improvisation Unit and Creative Problem Solving** (on the spot solutions)

Collaboration, Creation, Participation (practice) & career exploration

Demonstration (performance assessment)

**Weeks 10-12:**

**Vocal Production Unit**

Understanding of physiology and function

Use of voice in creative ways and career exploration

Solo interpretation of written works

Rehearsals, workshop, and performance

**Weeks 13-15:**

Discovery and study of a major, published, **dramatic work & career exploration**

Read & Interpret text

Development of characters

rehearsal process

performance

**Weeks 16-18:**

**Final creative project** development and execution

Performance or presentation assessment

# Course Calendar/Pacing:

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