

Drama I : Course Syllabus

Michael Palmieri : EMail - michael_palmieri@dpsk12.org ; Cell Phone - 303-906-3554

Dear Parents, Guardians, and Students,

Hi. Welcome to Drama I class. This syllabus will help us work together for our students' success. Please read it with your student, sign one copy, and keep the other as reference.

A bit about me. I'm an East Coast guy, living in Colorado since 1975. This is my twenty-sixth year teaching in DPS and my tenth at TJ. I am passionate about family, our students, teaching theatre, photography, travel, and reading, and am kind of an old school/new school blend. I believe learning should be fun, and I can relate well to today's young people, but also believe that challenging, hard work is good for the body and soul. My goal is for all students, even those who may not have a successful track record, to succeed and enjoy learning in our class. I love what I do, and am literally a guy living the dream.

The Class

Our class runs on mutual respect: the teacher respects the students, the students respect the teacher, and the students respect each other. Behavior issues in our class are rare. Our goal is to have fun while working hard. *Please note : no electronics of any kind are allowed in our classroom unless used for class. Per school policy, any seen will be confiscated and turned over to the dean.*

This is a ***performance-based*** class. Students who prepare diligently and perform on time will learn to speak and perform proficiently in front of an audience, be prepared to act on stage, and will succeed in the class. ***Any student who is not ready to perform at their scheduled time, or is absent unexcused (in IC) for their scheduled performance, will earn a "0" for that performance with no make-up available.*** It must be this way, because life is this way. If a person is scheduled to deliver a speech, or act in a performance in the real world, they cannot ask to "do it tomorrow."

Having produced and directed twenty-three shows at Denver high schools, I have picked up some valuable information and strategies to share with students in drama class. Students who use class time wisely and work hard in class and at home will experience the thrill of successful performing.

Students will:

- > memorize professionally and self-written scripts, rehearse performances to a proficient, polished level, then perform in front of an audience (their classmates.)
- > brainstorm, plan write, revise, memorize and rehearse scripts individually and in groups.
- > use class time wisely to plan, and rehearse, and spend time at home memorizing.
- > present dynamic performances in front of an audience (the class.)

* * * *

- > I encourage students and parents/guardians to attend **Back-to-School Night on September 10** and parent/teacher conferences throughout the school year.
- > I encourage students to audition for TJ's big stage productions, and am available for individual audition coaching for your audition.

Grading

Grading will be according to the DPS high school grading system, computed by points. Students who consistently work hard and complete assignments on time and in a quality fashion will succeed.

I look forward to a great year working with you and your student.

Best regards,

We have read this together, and will work together for success.

Student Signature

Parent / Guardian Signature