

## Drama III : Course Syllabus

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Dear Parents, Guardians, and Students,

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. 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. ***Because every class is a performance rehearsal, students will turn in their cell phones at the beginning of class and get them back at the end of class.*** This will keep us all focused on the task at hand: preparing a professional quality performance.

### Our Work

This class is unique in that all of our class time will be spent preparing and rehearsing for public evening performances in the Black Box Theater the first week of November. In essence, we are preparing a TJ fall play in class. **(Performance Dates/Time : November 5, 6, 7, 7:00 P.M.)** The expectations, however, are every bit as high as I set them in the main theater: professional quality. This is a short timeline, with one class period per day to rehearse; it will require all of us to work hard and work efficiently. For this to happen, ***every student must:***

> **show up, on time, ready to work incredibly hard every day. None of us can take a "day off", literally or metaphorically.**

> **keep a positive attitude, an in-check ego, an ever-present kindness, spirit of cooperation, and dedication to the team effort.**

> **At times, we will split into groups to work on several scenes at once. Students must be accountable and stay focused during these split rehearsals.**

> **For students with acting parts, there will be considerable at-home memorization required. Off-Book Date (Fully Memorized By) : October 1.**

I know this show has the potential to be amazing; I am 100% committed to do whatever it takes to make that happen. I know the students will do the same. We could use a bit of help, especially leading up to and during performances. Frieda is back as our costumer (-:-), and Eric Oss is already working with me on some small(er) but cool set pieces that my Stagecraft/Theatre Arts class will build. We may need some help from other parents. I'm going to feed the kids on show nights; I could use a bit of help with that. Please use my cell phone and email to get in touch with me about this and with any questions/detailed information you would like.

Parents : It's great to be back directing the kids. Hope to see you on Back-to-School Night on September 10. Thanks for your kids and for your support. Peace

***We have read this together, and will work together for success. My student can commit to the three show nights - November 5, 6, 7, 3:00 P.M. - 9:30 P.M.***

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Student Signature

Parent / Guardian Signature