

Stagecraft / Theatre Arts : Course Syllabus

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Dear Parents, Guardians, and Students,

Hi. Welcome to Stagecraft / Theatre Arts class. This syllabus will help us work together for our students' success. Please read it with your student, sign one copy, and keep one 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, teaching theatre, our students' learning, photography, travel, 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 approved by teacher. Per school policy, any seen will be confiscated and sent to the dean.*

This is a *performance-based* class. Students who attend faithfully, work diligently and cooperatively, and take pride in their work will succeed in the class. ***Attendance, every day, is critical and absolutely essential for success in this class.*** It must be this way, because theatre is this way and life is this way. If a person is scheduled to work on a show, or work a performance, they cannot ask to "do it tomorrow." If students attend every day, use class time wisely and work hard in class and at home, they will not only enjoy class, but also learn invaluable theatre and life skills.

Having produced and directed twenty-three shows on stage at Denver High Schools, I have picked up some valuable information and strategies to share with our students. **There is a waiting list for this class. Students who have exemplary attendance, performance, cooperation, and adherence to safety standards will earn a year-long place in the class.**

Students will:

- > practice and become proficient in many theatre arts, including: acting, lighting design, stage design, set design, and stage hand work.
 - > collaborate with team members on projects.
 - > learn about many aspects of theatre, via mastering terminology and hands-on experience.
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- > I encourage students to use the skills developed in this class to audition for the tech team for our Black Box Theater show and on TJ's main-stage shows.
 - > I encourage students and parents/guardians to attend **Back-to-School Night on September 10** and parent conferences during the school year.

Grading is 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