



Theatre Arts

Mr. Belcher

My Welcome: Welcome to Theatre Arts! It is my distinct pleasure to be your instructor this semester! This course will provide you with the tools to help you be successful in high school, college and after. Take this course seriously because it could be one of the most important courses you take throughout your academic career. One of my goals this semester is to help you feel confident as you embark upon the rest of your studies. I will guide you, cheer for you, coach you, and hold you accountable. This class as well as your other courses will require time management.

Here's what you will do this year:

- Read plays aloud, discuss them, and learn about their writers.
- Learn about stage movement (blocking) and parts of the stage.
- Take a tour of our theatre facilities.
- Do exercises in imagination, concentration, observation, relaxation, and motivation.
- Perform acting improvisations to build those skills.
- Learn ways to analyze and develop a character.
- Work in your seat and on your feet
- Develop vocal clarity, physical control, and self-confidence.
- Discuss and write about people, relationships and societal issues.
- Express yourself in comedic and dramatic performances
- Memorize and perform short monologues and scenes.
- Write your own monologue and perform it.
- Do worksheets about theatrical facts and information.
- Read articles about famous performers.
- Watch professional stage productions on video.
- Take written quizzes and tests to show what you've learned.
- Discover that there is more to Theatre Arts than you ever dreamed possible.

Course Objective: I hope to increase your appreciation of reading and writing by exposing you to as much diverse texts as possible. I want you to leave this class feeling confident about your academic abilities and to truly enjoy reading and writing. By the end of this course, you will be able to:

- Monitor your comprehension and utilize reading strategies that help increase your individual comprehension.
- Write academically and be able to express your thoughts by engaging in academic discourse with your peers.
- Develop strong study skills that will help you be successful in the classroom.
- Analyze characteristics of effective goals and create personal goals for your education and future career.
- Strengthen your research and writing skills through reasoning, intellectual curiosity, and the use of technology.
- Increase problem solving skills to find effective and actionable solutions.

Contact Information:

Preferred Mode of Communication: TEAMS Chat or Email

Email: Vaughn.Belcher@Houstonisd.org

Materials:

- HISD issued laptop and charger



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Grade Weight and Grading Scale:

Formative- 60% (Daily Grades, Check Point Performances, Homework)

Summative- 40% (Projects, Final Performance, Essays)

(A=100-90) (B=89-80) (C=79-75) (D=74-70) (F=69-0)

Honor Code: Jack Yates High School embodies a spirit of mutual trust and intellectual honesty that is central to the very nature of learning and represents the highest possible expression of shared values among the members of the school community. The core values underlying and reflected in the Honor Code are:

- Academic honesty is demonstrated by students when the ideas and the writing of others are properly cited; students submit their own work for tests and assignments without unauthorized assistance; students do not provide unauthorized assistance to others; and students report their research or accomplishments accurately
- Respect for others and the learning process to demonstrate academic honesty
- Trust in others to act with academic honesty as a positive community-building force in the school
- Responsibility is recognized by all to demonstrate their best effort to prepare and complete academic tasks
- Fairness and equity are demonstrated so that every student can experience an academic environment that is free from the injustices caused by any form of intellectual dishonesty
- Integrity of all members of the school community as demonstrated by a commitment to academic honesty and support of our quest for authentic learning.

Policy on Electronic Devices: Once students enter the classroom, all electronic devices should be silenced and put away such that they are not visible. These include cell phones, headphones, earbuds, etc. Students may only use electronic devices if authorized by the teacher. Teachers may use electronic devices for instruction purposes at their discretion.

Make Up and Late Work: Homework and daily class work should be submitted in a timely manner as much as possible. Evaluation on late work will be done on a case-by-case basis at the discretion of the teacher. Make-up work will not be made-up during class time; this time will be reserved for planned instruction. It is the responsibility of the student to get make-up work and to return it to the instructor in a timely manner.

Student Success: Additional time will be required for written assignments. The assignments provided will help you use your study hours wisely. Successful completion of this course requires a combination of the following:

- Reading the textbook
- Attending class in person and/or online
- Completing assignments
- Participating in class activities

There is no short cut for success in this course; it requires reading (and probably re-reading) and studying the material using the course objectives as a guide.

As your teacher, it is my responsibility to:

- Provide the grading scale and detailed grading formula explaining how student grades are to be derived
- Facilitate an effective learning environment through learner-centered instructional techniques
- Provide a description of any special projects or assignments
- Inform students of policies such as attendance, withdrawal, tardiness, and making up assignments



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- Provide the course outline and class calendar that will include a description of any special projects or assignments
- Arrange to meet with individual students before and after class as required

As a student, it is your responsibility to:

- Attend class on time
- Participate actively by reviewing course material, interacting with classmates, and responding promptly in your communication with me
- Read and comprehend the textbook
- Complete the required assignments and exams
- Ask for help when there is a question or problem
- Keep copies of all paperwork, including this syllabus, handouts, and all assignments
- Attain a raw score of at least 50% on the departmental final exam