

Drama Explorations: Disclosure Letter

Miss Tami: tami@slarts.org

Class Overview and Objective

Drama Explorations is a semester long class intended to explore the many aspects of theatre from acting, playwriting, and technical theatre. Students will also study a variety of theatre genres from classical to contemporary plays. Students will create their own materials. And study published playwrights. This course provides opportunities for students to gain collaboration skills as they work with their peers on projects and develop creativity.

Class Materials

Students will be required to bring the following items to class each day.

- o A pen or pencil
- o Paper
- o Folder that can serve both as an organizer for assignments and handouts. Students may use a section of their binders to keep hand out from this class. **THIS IS REQUIRED AND IMPORTANT!!**

Classroom Policies and Procedures

Unprepared Students- If students need a pen/pencil; he/she must bring a valued item such as a folder to trade with Miss Tami. She will return the item when the pencil is returned. Also, borrowing this item will cost the student 5 class responsibility points. Assignments and handouts will be posted in Google Docs in a shared folder for the class. If students lose handouts they will be expected to reprint them when they have access to a computer and printer. There are no computers in drama class and students will not be allowed to leave class to print lost work. Each student will start the term with 100 responsibility points.

Late Work- Students may turn in one assignment late each quarter without any penalty. The student must turn in the assignment with their Late Work Pass (which is given to each student). After the one free late assignment, students may turn in late assignments for 50% credit until one week before the end of the term. This is a firm policy. Drama is a performance and collaboration based class and late work takes the time of the others. If the student does not use the late pass, they may turn it in for 5 points of extra credit at the end of the semester. If a student is struggling with an assignment and talks with the teacher **before to its due date**, it is possible to arrange for late work to be turned in without penalty.

Attendance- Drama is a participation class and students must attend class to fully learn all material. Most projects in the class are group projects. When students miss class they affect the ability of their peers to work effectively. Students are still responsible for assigned work missed during an absence unless other arrangements are made with the teacher.

Make-up Work- It is the **student's responsibility to get make-up work before or after an expected or unexpected absence**. The student is responsible for all information or notes missed the day of the absence. Students have one week after the day they return to class until the day it is due. After one week, the work will be graded as late. If a student misses the day of a quiz the student will be able to make up the quiz within one week. This must be taken within one week. Write "ABSENT" on all work that is late due to an absence or it will be counted as late.

Tardies- This class is a participation class. Tardies waste the time of both the teacher and other students. Each unexcused tardy will drop the student's CAB (Cooperation, Attitude and Behavior) one half point.

Food Drinks, and Gum- No food, drink or gum are allowed in the classroom. Gum is unacceptable in this class. Students may not bring these items to class. If there is a medical necessity for a student to have food, the student or parent may talk to Miss Tami ahead of time and special arrangements will be made. **Bottled water is permitted and encouraged to bring to class.**

Class Content – Miss Tami's classroom is to be a safe and welcome place. Students may not use violent or vulgar content, or rude comments on or off stage. Students will not receive any warning for crude or rude language in class. Students will not receive credit for offensive assignments and/or performances. Students will

not be able to make up credit lost due to crude content. Talking and shouting out during performances is considered rude and degrading. **ABSOLUTELY NO DISRESPECT DURING PERFORMANCES WILL BE TOLERATED!**

Cheating- Students cheating on any assignment or quiz will be given a zero and will not be allowed to make it up. Cheating will also result in the lowering of one CAB (Cooperation, Attitude Behavior) point.

Nuisance Items- Cell phones, I-Pods, Game Boys, and other items that distract from the learning atmosphere do not belong in class and will be taken away by the teacher and turned into the office. A parent or guardian will have to pick it up. **LEAVE THESE ITEMS IN YOUR LOCKER!**

Disruptive Behavior and Noncompliance with Procedures-The first time a student chooses to break the class rules or procedures, the student will receive a warning or reminder from the teacher. First warnings do not deduct participation points. If the student chooses to break the class rules again the student will receive an official warning. On a third offense the teacher will remove the student from the situation as she sees fit. If a student is consistently disruptive during class they will be given alternative learning assignments in class. They could also lose the privilege to work with and perform with their classmates.

Severe Clause-Severe behavior and disruptions will be dealt with by the teacher and administration as they see fit with appropriate consequences for the student.

Grading Criteria

Students' Academic grade will be based on the following criteria:

PEPR and CAB (40%) - Participation, Effort, Preparation and Risk-Taking are part of drama. As are Cooperation, Attitude and Behavior. They will directly affect a student's academic grade.

Assignments, Activities, Performances (55%) A variety of other assignments, activities, and performances will be given to the student to complete at different point values. Students will also participate in quizzes at different point values. Quizzes will always be announced ahead of time so students can prepare. Each quiz and assignment will affect the student's grade accordingly.

Responsibility Points (5%- 100 points) – Students will start each term with 100 Responsibility Points. Please refer to “Unprepared Students” above, under “Classroom Policies and Procedures.”

Grading For Academic, PEPR & CAB

Breakdown: 95-100% 5, 90-94% 4.5, 83-89% 4, 78-82% 3.5, 65-77% 3, 60-64% 2.5, 50-59% 2, 0-49% 1
Academically a 5 is considered truly amazing work, 4 is considered great work, 3 is considered average/normal grade level work.

Parent Support and Involvement

I am excited to work with your student and, along with you, want what is best for his/her success. On occasion I will be inviting you to come and see your child perform in class. **Please email me with your name as well as the name of your child and what period they have my class so that I can contact you for future projects.** Please feel free to contact me whenever you need. My contact information is given at the top of this document. If you email me, please include the words “parent of...” in the subject heading.

Detach and return by the due date. Keep the above information for your records.

Due NEXT CLASS!

Value: 10 points

I have read the disclosure statement for Miss Tami's Drama Explorations class and understand the policies and procedures of the class. I agree to abide by these policies and procedures.

Student Name: _____ Period: _____

Student Signature: _____ Date: _____

Parent/Guardian Name: _____

Parent/Guardian Signature: _____ Date: _____

Parent/Guardian Comments to the Teacher: