2018 – 2019 Syllabus and Classroom Guidelines

Theatre III Honors and Theatre IV Honors

Creekside High School

Ms. Fixel

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*“Education is the most powerful tool with which we can use to change the world.” - Nelson Mandela*

Welcome to the start of a new school year. I am so excited I get to work with you again this year. As we begin the school year, I would like to give you some information about what to expect from my class and about what I expect from each of you. I want you all to know that I am here to support you and help you succeed. Remember to check my website for due dates, copies of handouts and notes, and other important class information. Please feel free to contact me with any questions or concerns by email. Here’s to a great year!!!! Go Knights!!!!

Course Description:

***Theatre III Honors:*** This course is designed for students with significant experience in theatre, and promotes depth of engagement and lifelong appreciation for theatre through a broad spectrum of teacher-assigned and self-directed study and performance. Students regularly reflect on aesthetics and issues related to and addressed through theatre, and create within various aspects of theatre in ways that are progressively more innovative. In keeping with the rigor expected in an accelerated setting, students assemble a portfolio that showcases a significant body of work representing personal vision and artistic growth over time; mastery of theatre skills and techniques in one or more areas; and evidence of significant oral and written analytical and problem-solving skills based on their structural, historical, and cultural knowledge.

***Theatre IV Honors:*** This course is designed for students with extensive experience in theatre, and promotes significant depth of engagement and lifelong appreciation for theatre through a broad spectrum of primarily self-directed study and performance. In keeping with the rigor expected in an accelerated setting, students assemble a portfolio that showcases a significant body of work representing personal vision and artistic growth over time; mastery of theatre skills and techniques in one or more areas; and evidence of sophisticated oral and written analytical and problem-solving skills based on their structural, historical, and cultural knowledge.

Required Materials (Bring Each Day):

* Binder with three dividers (You will need 3 sections: Notes, Journal Entries, Assignments/Projects) OR 2 Pocket Folder dedicated to drama and Composition/Journal Book to use for Writing
* Composition/Journal Book to use for Writing
* Loose Leaf Notebook Paper – (8 ½ x 11)
* Pens (Black or Blue Ink), Pencils, and Highlighters
* Index Cards
* Student Planner

Classroom Needs: **Parents: Please donate hand sanitizers and boxes of tissue for class use. Your students are in constant need of these supplies throughout the year!!! Thank you!!!**

Grading Scale: A= 90- 100% B= 80- 89% C= 70- 79% D= 60-69% F= 0- 59%

Parents and Students are advised to check the Home Access Center on a weekly basis. Please contact me by email for any questions regarding grades.

Units of Study – Theatre III & IV:

* Pantomime
* Performing in non-traditional ways
* Monologue and Scene Work
* Playwright and Play Studies
	+ Henrik Ibsen – A Doll’s House
	+ Fredirico Lorca – Blood Wedding
	+ West Side Story/Romeo & Juliet Comparative Study
	+ Influential and Important Musicals
* Media and Social Media in Theatre
* Acting Methods and their influence on playwrights
* Comparing Eastern to Western Theatre
* Playwriting and Technical Theatre
* Social, Historical, and Political Issues through the lenses of the theatre
* Theatrical Resume Building
* Theatre IV: Portfolio Project and Directing
	+ Theatre IV students will serve as student learning leaders for the Access Theatre Course.

**\*Students enrolled in Theatre III and Theatre IV are expected to fully participate in all class activities and assignments. Additionally, it is expected that the majority of students will choose to get involved with theatre outside of the classroom. \*\*\*See the theatre enrichment and workshop requirements below.**

Course assignments:

* This course will incorporate language arts elements through reading and writing and social studies elements through the study of theatre history. Students will complete reflective journal entries and take notes regularly; these recordings will serve as study aids and project notes. Students will be expected to participate in group work and complete projects regularly. Please check the class website for information about these projects throughout the school year.

* **Theatre Enrichment:** All students enrolled in Theatre III – IV will be required to see one CHS (or participate) play per semester and one play outside of Creekside (includes: another high school’s production, a college production, a community theatre production, or professional show).
* **Workshop Hours:** All students enrolled in Theatre III – IV will be required to complete at least four workshop hours per semester outside of class. These hours can be completed by participating in a production as a performer/crew member or by attending a workshop day or two for a total of at least 5 hours per semester.

Behavior Expectations:

* **Daily Guidelines –** Students are expected to demonstrate the following behaviors at all times and to abide by the Knights Code of Honor:
	+ Respect others and yourself at all times.
	+ Show good character every day.
	+ Set goals, stay focused.
	+ Think and act like a leader.
	+ Strive for excellence.

Classroom Expectations:

* **Daily Guidelines** **–** Students are expected to adhere to the following school and classroom rules each day:
* Come to class each day prepared with the correct materials and ready to engage in class discussions and activities. If there is a warm up assignment, begin working on it immediately after you enter the room.
* Participate and contribute to the class at all times, in a mature, respectful, and responsible manner.
* **No food or drinks (except bottled water) are permitted inside the classroom.** NO GUM!
* Portable electronic devices, including cell phones, IPODs, MP3, other music, or gaming systems, shall not be taken out or made visible at any time inside the classroom. These items will be confiscated on sight and sent to the dean’s office. #notextinginclass #no snapping
	+ \*For specific projects, students may be able to use personal electronics for research or sound needs. Students must ask for permission before using these items. Students may only use the item with permission during the specific class period; the student will not be allowed to use the device in other classes. In addition, the student must have a personal use form on file with the school in order to use the personal electronic device in class.
* **FIXEL’S #1 RULE**: Keep it Positive! ☺
	+ Practice Kindness, Be Courteous, Respectful, and Uplifting to One another

* **Tardies –** Students who are not seated when the bell rings, will be considered tardy, and marked as such. Please note: After three (3) unexcused tardies (per quarter) the student will be referred to the Dean for disciplinary measures. 1st Tardy = Warning; 2nd Tardy = Notify Parent; 3rd Tardy = Referral to the Dean.

* **Homework –** Most of our assignments will be long-term projects; students will be aware of due dates for these projects several weeks in advance. Students are responsible for asking for help when experiencing difficulties prior to the due date. Most projects and assignments for this course will be completed in class.

* **PARTICIPATION –** This class is fun! Be ready to actively participate in class projects and activities. Remember, you are now earning honors credit for this course; theatre class is not study hall.

* **GET INVOLVED** - There are many opportunities to get involved with theatre outside of class through school productions and through the International Thespian Society. However participation in these activities goes hand in hand with academic attentiveness and a commitment to being a responsible student. ***In order to participate in after school rehearsals and/or performances you must be present at school on the day for which there is practice or performance.***

* **Make-Up Work –** If a student is absent, it is his or her responsibility to request the make-up assignment(s). Students will have two days to make-up a missed assignment due to an excused absence. Tests and Quizzes which are missed during absences can be taken before school by appointment. Extended absences will be handled individually. Unexcused absences will result in 50% credit on assignments.
* ESE and ELL accommodations will be addressed within the classroom.
* **Extra Help/Tutoring –**If any student is having difficulty understanding or completing an assignment, please notify me immediately. Extra Help is available anytime throughout the year.

* **Academic Integrity –** It is non-negotiable that students will exhibit academic integrity at all times and in all classes at Creekside High School. All work submitted should be your own, with credit given to any expert used. Cheating, plagiarism, falsification - or attempts to cheat, plagiarize or falsify - will not be tolerated. Aiding others in their desire or attempts to cheat is also not permitted. **Academic dishonesty will result in a zero on the assignment, a referral to the dean, and parent notification**. NO EXCEPTIONS.
* As part of theatre, our class will watch film versions of plays and other film clips to enhance the study of theatre. A separate permission slip will be sent home for each film.

Creekside High School



Theatre III Honors

Theatre IV Honors

**(Please return this portion of the syllabus by Wednesday, August 15th.)**

**Student Contract:**

I have read and understand Ms. Fixel’s classroom guidelines and syllabus (including the grading policy), and I understand the consequences of failure to do what is expected of me in this class.

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Student Signature Print Student Name Period

**Dear Parents:**

**\*\*The easiest and fastest way to contact me is through email.\*\* Please do not hesitate to email me at leia.fixel@stjohns.k12.fl.us** if you have any questions, comments, or concerns. Also, be sure to check the homework section of my website frequently at http://teachers.stjohns.k12.fl.us/fixel-l/for assignments, updates, and reminders.

I have read Ms. Fixel’s syllabus and classroom guidelines for her Theatre classes, and I am aware of what is expected of my student in her class.

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Parent Signature Parent Printed Name

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Parent Email Contact Parent Contact Phone Number

Notes:

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