



Creekside High School
2019-2020 Syllabus and Classroom Guidelines
Technical Theatre with 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. We are about to embark on what I am sure will be an incredible journey together. I am very excited to get to know you. 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:

Technical Theatre and Design: Students focus on developing the basic tools and procedures for creating elements of technical theatre, including costumes, lighting, makeup, properties (props), publicity, scenery, and sound. Technical knowledge of safety procedures and demonstrated safe operation of theatre equipment, tools, and raw materials are central to success in this course. Students explore and learn to analyze dramatic scripts, seeking production solutions through historical, cultural, and geographic research. Students also learn the basics of standard conventions of design presentation and documentation; the organizational structure of theatre production and creative work in a collaborative environment; and the resulting artistic improvement. Public performances may serve as a culmination of specific instructional goals. Students may be required to attend or participate in technical work, rehearsals, and/or performances beyond the school day to support, extend, and assess learning in the classroom.

REQUIRED MATERIALS (BRING EACH DAY):

- ❖ 2 Pocket Folder with Composition/Journal Book OR Binder with Dividers and Notebook Paper
- ❖ Colored Pencils
- ❖ Loose Leaf Notebook Paper – (8 ½ x 11)
- ❖ Blank White Computer Paper
- ❖ Pens (Black or Blue Ink), Pencils, and Highlighters
- ❖ 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 – TECH THEATRE:

- Parts of the theatre
- Who's Who?: Technical Theatre Roles
- Producing A Show/Publicity
- Theatre Safety
- Rehearsal/Production
- Directing: Casting A Show Staging and Blocking/Movement/Staging
- Costume Design and Construction
- Set Design and Construction
- Lighting and Sound Design and Implementation
- Characters Brought to Life – Makeup, Hair, and Costume
- Stage Management

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.
- ❖ **This course will be hands on. All students are expected to fully participate in all projects and undertakings.** (*This may require dressing for the class – not being dressed for the pre announced activity should not hinder participation. *Students may keep “paint clothes” in the appropriate dressing room.)

Play Enrichment: It is highly encouraged that all tech theatre students view at least one play per semester (at Creekside or outside of school).

Workshop Hours/ Hands on Tech Hours: All students enrolled in Tech Theatre II – IV will be required to complete at least 2 workshop/hands on hours per semester. Ms. Fixel will provide a list of dates and times for open workshop hours for the fall and spring semesters. These hours can also be completed by serving in a technical role for a school event or show.

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** – Homework is a necessary part of the learning process. However, 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.
 - ❖ **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. Tutoring and/or Extra Help is available anytime throughout the year (please see me to schedule meeting times). Communication is ESSENTIAL! I cannot help you if I do not know that you are having trouble.
 - ❖ **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

TECHNICAL THEATRE WITH MS. FIXEL

(Please return this portion of the syllabus by Friday, August 16th.)

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.

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-1/> 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.

Parent Signature

Parent Printed Name

Parent Email Contact

Parent Contact Phone Number

Notes: _____

