



Creekside High School
2019-2020 Syllabus and Classroom Guidelines
Theatre II
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:

Theatre II: This course is designed for students with a year of experience or more, and promotes enjoyment and appreciation for all aspects of theatre through opportunities to build significantly on existing skills. Classwork focuses on characterization, playwriting, and playwrights' contributions to theatre; improvisation, creative dramatics, and scene work are used to help students challenge and strengthen their acting skills and explore the technical aspect of scene work.

REQUIRED MATERIALS (BRING EACH DAY): *(Use your Theatre 1 Notebook if you have it)*

- ❖ 2 Pocket Folder dedicated to drama and Composition/Journal Book to use for Writing OR Binder with three dividers (You will need 3 sections: Notes, Journal Entries, Assignments/Projects)
- ❖ 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.

***Participation** is a major component of the Florida standards for Theatre.

UNITS OF STUDY – THEATRE II:

- Reading the text and Developing Your Character
- Playwrights and Plays/Musical and Composers/Lyricists
 - Thornton Wilder – *Our Town*
 - Arthur Miller – *All My Sons*
 - Samuel Beckett – *Waiting for Godot*
 - Sarah Ruhl - *Eurydice*
 - Influential and Important Musicals
- Acting Styles and Methods
- Theatre and the World
- Theatrical Budget
- Introduction to Theatrical Resume and Portfolio Building

***Students enrolled in theatre II 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 and attend performances to see theatre brought to life (see theatre enrichment assignment 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 II will be required to see one CHS (or participate) play per semester OR one play outside of Creekside (includes: another High school's production, a college production, a community theatre production, or professional 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. If you are a little shy, no worries...you will never be required to perform alone!
- ❖ **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.

“Be not afraid of greatness: some are born great, some achieve greatness, and some have greatness thrust upon them.” - William Shakespeare



CREEKSIDE HIGH SCHOOL THEATRE II 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-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.

 Parent Signature

 Parent Printed Name

 Parent Email Contact

 Parent Contact Phone Number

Notes: _____

“There are hundreds of languages in the world, but a smile speaks all.”