



Creekside High School  
2019- 2020 Syllabus and Classroom Guidelines  
Theatre I 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/Schoology 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:**

This course is designed for students with little or no theatre experience and promotes enjoyment and appreciation for all aspects of theatre. Classwork focused on the exploration of theatre literature, performance, historical and cultural connections, and technical requirements. Improvisation, creative dramatics, and beginning scene work are used to introduce students to acting and character development. Incorporation of other art forms in theatre also helps students gain appreciation for other art forms, such as music, dance, and visual art.

**REQUIRED MATERIALS (BRING EACH DAY):**

- ❖ 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)
- ❖ Loose Leaf Notebook Paper – (8 ½ x 11)
- ❖ Pens (Black or Blue Ink), Pencils, and Highlighters
- ❖ Colored Pencils
- ❖ 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%

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

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 Etiquette**
- ❖ **Improvisation Techniques and Activities**
- ❖ **Character Development/Characterization**
- ❖ **Technical Theatre**
  - Areas of The Stages/Parts of the Theatre/Sets/Scenery/Sound/Lights/Costumes/Make-up/Publicity
- ❖ **History of Theatre**
  - Theatre Origins, Storytelling, Ancient Theatre, Pantomime, Commedia dell'arte, Eastern Theatre
- ❖ **Introduction to Shakespeare**
  - Shakespeare's Words and Works, The Globe Theatre
- ❖ **Musical Theatre**
  - History and Styles/Types
- ❖ **Plays and Playwrights and Musicals and Composers/Lyricists(Ongoing)**

## **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.

## **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. 1<sup>st</sup> Tardy = Warning; 2<sup>nd</sup> Tardy = Notify Parent; 3<sup>rd</sup> 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.** Participating in theatre activities outside of class is not required as part of this course.
- ❖ **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.
- ❖ **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.
- ❖ **Supplemental Films:** As part of theatre, our class will watch film versions of plays and other film clips to enhance the study of theatre. There will be a separate permission slip 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 I 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](mailto:leia.fixel@stjohns.k12.fl.us) if you have any questions, comments, or concerns. Also, be sure to check website/Schoology 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 Creekside 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.”**