

FUNDAMENTALS OF THEATRE – SPRING 2021

MRS. SHANNON LINDSAY

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www.HarrisonTheatre.com

COURSE DESCRIPTION: Open to all students, regardless of experience level, this semester long course serves as an introduction to Theatre Arts. Students will explore basic acting and performance skills, actor preparation techniques, design and technical theatre, dramaturgy, and theatre etiquette. Actors and Technicians will combine these skills in a culminating Devised Theatre performance.

[Georgia Standards of Excellence -Fundamentals of Theatre](#)

AREAS OF STUDY

- Ensemble Building
- History of Theatre
- Theatre Criticism
- Technical Theatre
- Performance Styles & Theories
- Basic Acting techniques
- Theatre norms
- Improvisation
- Devised Theatre

DAILY FOCUS

- Moments Monday - Focus on World Theatre & Theatre History
- Tech Tuesday - Exploration of all the tech aspects of theatre
- Work it Wednesday - Piece of Choice project
- Theory Thursday - Performance theories, Acting styles, Theatre Criticism, Theatre norms
- Fun Friday - Improvisation, rehearsing & performing

VIRTUAL CLASS EXPECTATIONS:

- Be on time - classes will begin promptly at the designated start time.
- Be prepared
 - have your computer charged
 - turn your screen on when you can
 - use headphones if you have them
 - have materials ready to go for class
- Use the chat box and agreed upon hand signals to comment, share, ask and answer relevant questions.
- Mute your microphone when you are not the one speaking
- Make sure your sound is on
- Speak clearly into your microphone when commenting or sharing
- Minimize distractions during live sessions and video calls.
- Abide by the [Student Code of Conduct](#)

CLASS EXPECTATIONS:

- Students are expected to attend and be fully prepared with all materials and proper attire for every rehearsal and performance.
- All clothing and footwear should be appropriate for movement. Long hair should be pulled back off your face.
- There will be NO FOOD, DRINKS, or GUM in either the Black Box or the Performing Arts Center.
- Students are expected to meet all deadlines according to the timelines given
- Students are expected to rehearse or complete work outside of class in order to make performances and projects successful
- All classroom materials, including student written material, will be appropriate and refrain from using offensive or suggestive language. It is expected that you respect your audience as well as your fellow actors and technicians.

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- Students are expected to embrace and exhibit the **Theatre Core Values**. Everything you need to know about how to behave and what is expected of you in classes and rehearsals can be summed up within these seven **Core Values**:

TRUST: Genuine trust is a necessary component of artistic expression and collaboration within an ensemble.

HONESTY: We intend to be honest, authentic, and sincere in order to build a stronger ensemble.

ENSEMBLE: We intend to be a strong and supportive ensemble in order to create meaningful experiences in rehearsals and performances.

ATTITUDE: A positive attitude is necessary to maintain a productive learning environment.

TALENT: We commit to bringing the best of our individual talents to each project.

RESPECT: When we demonstrate respect for each other, our spaces, and the artistic process it strengthens our ensemble and results in a positive experience for all.

EXCELLENCE: We strive for excellence in everything we do. It is the repetition of excellence that makes an artist.

CELL PHONE POLICY: Cell phones, headphones, earbuds and other electronic devices should be put away, out of sight, and on silent during class. NO social media apps, video streaming apps or games that are not being used in instruction should be open at any time during the class period. On the rare occasion that a cell phone is needed in class, students will be directed to retrieve them. Any cell phones out during class without permission will be placed in a closed container for the remainder of the class.

ASSESSMENTS: Students will receive a daily grade which includes active participation, quizzes, journal and writing assignments, rehearsals, homework, and preparation. Students are expected to keep a well-organized notebook and/or folder throughout the class, which will be collected and reviewed periodically throughout the class. Just a reminder, I do not GIVE grades, YOU EARN THEM! I will make EVERY effort to support you and will accept late work within a reasonable amount of time. PLEASE DO NOT TAKE ADVANTAGE OF MY GRACE AND KINDNESS OR IT WILL NOT BE EXTENDED AGAIN.

Performances and class projects	40%
Daily grades	30%
Tests (open notes)	20%
Final Project/Reflection	10%

MATERIALS:

- Access to a laptop or tablet for online Journals, notes, etc.
- 1-inch, 3-ring Binder or Folder with prongs
- Divider Tabs labeled: **Moments Monday; Tech Tuesday; Theory Thursday; Fun Friday**
- 3 hole punched Loose-leaf paper
- Any scripts or materials given out
- Pencils and blue/black ink pen
- Re-fillable Water Bottle
- *Optional items: Highlighter, Colored pencils, post-it notes

ABSENCES, PARTICIPATION, & MISSED WORK:

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- Active participation and sharing of your individual talents (even those you don't know you have yet!) creates a positive attitude and builds a respectful, trusting ensemble. You are expected to take risks, participate each day, and consistently strive for excellence.
- Attendance and participation are signs of respect for yourself and your ensemble. Students should be sitting in their seats, ready to work, when the bell rings. Except in the case of illness or emergency, all absences should be communicated ahead of time. Excessive absences may result in removal from a scene or, in extreme cases, from the production itself.
- It is your responsibility to make up any work you have missed. Late work will be accepted up until the end of the grading period. Missing assignments at the end of the grading period will receive a zero. Students that are absent on days that performances or presentations are due will be expected to present the assignment on the day the student returns to school.

COMMUNICATION:

- General information including auditions information, ticket information, and general Harrison Theatre information can be found at the Harrison Theatre website: www.harrisontheatre.com.
- Class communication will be done through CTLS and through Remind. To join the Remind for this class, text @theatreind to 81010. Please make sure all student and family information is up to date.
- Feel free to join the following groups on Remind to get text message updates:
 - For general Harrison Theatre information, text @HTinfo to 81010
 - For Drama Club updates, text @hoyadrclub to 81010
 - For ITS updates (inducted Thespians only!), text @its4996 to 81010
- Many of you will be pushed out of your comfort zone at some point during class. This is encouraged and to be expected, but please always feel free to contact me to talk through any discomfort or challenges you may be having. I may be available to speak with students before or after classes and rehearsals. You can call me at 678-594-8104, ext. 056, but the best policy is to email me at shannon.lindsay@cobbk12.org for an appointment.



Follow us on social media: @hoyatheatre

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Participation Rubric				
60%	70%	80%	90%	100%
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Student is rarely or never engaged in class activities or refuses to participate • Student participates in off-task behavior including sleeping, using a non-approved device, texting, engaging in social media, reading, non-theatre related work, excessive talking • Student displays a negative attitude and complains about activities • Student is disrespectful to classmates, teachers, materials, etc., frequently interrupts and/or puts down the views of others 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Student is sometimes engaged in the activity, needs a reminder to get back on task at times, but refrains from any off-task behavior • Student sometimes distracts others because of a lack of focus on the activity. • Student is neutral about the activities. Student displays mixed feelings around the class, both positive and negative. • Student sometimes pays attention to the Ensemble. Student is not always receptive to others' opinions and input and sometimes criticizes others in a non-constructive way 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Student is often engaged in the activity, refrains from any off-task behavior, and is never a distraction • Student is positive about the activities and has a good attitude when asked to help other students. • Physical and verbal cues indicate active listening to others. Student asks questions and builds on others' comments/ideas. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Student is consistently and actively engaged in the activity and refrains from all off-task behaviors • Student does not need reminders to stay on task and is helpful in prompting others to also participate. • Student is positive about the activities and sets an example for students around them by helping other students whenever possible without prompting. • Student respects and encourages the views of others, politely asks questions or clarification and appropriately shares the space. Student builds on others' comments/ideas. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Student engages and behaves in a manner that is above and beyond expectations. Some examples of this behavior could include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Volunteering to lead Warm Up ○ Contributing to the Mindful Moment or Daily Inspiration ○ Actively caring for our spaces ○ Attending <u>optional</u> work days ○ Attending theatre events (proof required) ○ Reviewing theatre events ○ Volunteering for Harrison Theatre (eg. Ushering, working lights/sound, helping backstage, helping with marketing, publicity, tickets, etc.)

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