

## Drama

Instructor-Daniel Arias

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Class overview: This Drama Class will provide the structure necessary for the practice and understanding of the drama genre as a student actor and reader. Students will gain experience in choosing appropriate play selections for monologues and scenes, analyzing these scripts, rehearsing, critiquing and ultimately performing scenes and monologues. Emphasis will be placed on building acting skills through improvisation, voice, stage movement, characterization, and ensemble staging. Students will practice and learn vocabulary used by actors, especially common words and phrases, and they will read a variety of plays either individually or in class groups. Although it is not a requirement, students are encouraged to audition for the fall one-act or the winter musical for the experience; they will not be required to accept a stage role, but attendance at a performance of the one-act or musical is recommended. Students are also encouraged to audition for the musical. Students must attend at least one full performance of a production in order to write a multi-page critique at or near the end of the course.

Objective:

A Drama Student will be able to...

1. Prepare the voice and body through warm-up exercises.
2. Improvise a scene using the guidelines for improvisation.
3. Use vocabulary developed for the actor, the stage technician, and for the process of staging and producing plays.
4. Read a variety of play scripts critically for content, theme, and acting cues.
5. Work cooperatively in groups to develop listening, thinking and verbal skills.
6. Work cooperatively in groups to stage and perform scenes.
7. Rehearse individually to perform monologues from plays.
8. Develop respect and understanding for acting as a discipline.

Suggested/ No required Materials needed:

1 Subject Notebook

Pocket folder (for handouts)

Pencil/Pen

Class rules:

1. Engage in all group activities
2. Do not use profane language or negative language towards the educator or a student.  
Keep it clean

3. Respect everyone's abilities
4. Do not bring food or any drink besides water to class
5. Sit up and act like a human being
6. Unless otherwise directed, avoid using phones or ipads for anything that is not class related.
7. Do not make up excuses or whine.
8. Stay positive
9. Come ready to work every day in class (you don't get off days)
10. It is especially important to treat any substitute teacher, in the event of any unexpected absence of the classroom teacher, with courtesy and respect.

#### Grading Policy:

**Late Work:** Late work will be awarded a grade reduction of 50% for the first day it is late. After the second day it is late work will not be accepted, and a grade of 0% will be awarded. **Late work is not acceptable. Turn your work in on time.**

#### Make Up Policy

Students will have two (2) days for the first day missed and one (1) day for each day missed thereafter to turn in work after an absence. Points will be made up by completing regular class work or an alternative assignment at the discretion of the teacher. Students are responsible for asking for make up work. This also applies to field trips and school-sponsored activities. In addition, students absent from class will need to make up their "engagement" points. Writing a full-page journal single-spaced (or double spacing a word processed full page) will allow the student to make up lost engagement/accountability points. Check with Mr. Arias for suggested journal topics before you write. A student may also stay after school for 30 minutes or make up time from 7:30 to 7:55 a.m. to make up engagement/accountability points.

#### Grading

Grading will be categorized in three main areas: engagement, minor work, and major work

#### Engagement/Daily Work – 15%

1. An absence is the loss of 5 points.
2. Non-participation in class discussion or group work will result in the loss of up to 4 points per day.
3. Misbehavior and disrespect will result in the loss of up to 4 points per day.
4. Leaving necessary materials, laptop, or books at home, in a car or a locker will result in the loss of up to 4 points per day. Lanyards should be around the neck when the student enters the room.
5. No gum or candy in the mouth during class.

6. After an absence, points can be made up by reading a short play, performing an improvisation, or performing “extra” scene or monologue work.

**Minor Work/ Homework –35%**

Assignments include homework, vocabulary work, class notes, including those on reading, play production, or scene work, reflective and response writing, and an occasional quiz. Students should keep **all papers** – handouts, notes, and graded work – until the end of the semester.

Students are required to attend either the fall one-act or a UNK theatre production and write a critique about the performance and experience.

**Major Work/ Performance/ Presentations –50%**

Unit or final tests will have writing segments. Essays, critiques, and presentations such as memorized monologues and scene work also fall into this category. Assigned project work, either by individual or by group, will be graded and may include memorized scene work. There will be a final exam at the end of the semester (December 20-21) so plan ahead.

**“Semester Test” Grade (will count 10% per semester)**

- Q1 Grades + Q2 Grades = 90% of the First Semester Grade; Semester Test = 10%
- Q3 Grades + Q4 Grades = 90% of the Second Semester Grade; Semester Test = 10%

**Contact Information**

Parents may contact me by calling the high school and having the office leave a message. I will return calls as soon as possible.

Mr. Daniel Arias Lexington High School Room 117 - Phone 324-4691

Email: [daniel.arias@lexschools.org](mailto:daniel.arias@lexschools.org)

\_\_\_\_\_Date\_\_\_\_\_

**Ipads & Hardware:**

This year we will be using Ipads to type and do a lot of our school work. You are responsible for following instructions given by the instructor in regards to your device: Specifically enabling the bluetooth connectivity and allowing the instructor to use the *Google Classroom* app to share information (homework, class activities). This app will also be used to monitor progress and accountability (staying on task). You will receive three warnings if you are not following these directions: Next you may be sent to administration for further consequences.

Additionally, we will have a classroom set of keyboards that will be used in class and checked out on an overnight basis (checked out after school and returned before school the next day).

Late fees may be given or you may be referred to administration if device is not returned or returned broken.

These pieces of technology are here for you: to make your educational experience more wholesome. Don't forget.

------(CUT HERE)-----

Student Name (printed) \_\_\_\_\_

Student Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Parent Name (Printed) \_\_\_\_\_

Parent Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_

The above signatures validate that my son/daughter shared this syllabus with me and we spoke about Drama class and the expectations.

Las firmas anteriores validan que mi hijo / hija compartió este programa de estudios conmigo y hablamos sobre la clase de Drama y las expectativas.