

Middle School Theatre Arts

Brandi Derr

Required Materials

- Pen/Pencil
- Notebook paper (please replenish this throughout the year when necessary)
- Folder reserved for Theatre Arts for storing homework and graded assignments
- Highlighter (if desired)

Class Expectations and Consequences

- Rules
 - Be respectful ALWAYS!
 - Keep your hands (and other body parts), objects, and personal comments to yourself.
 - Use appropriate language.
 - Always give 100% effort.
 - Turn in completed work on time.
 - Do your own individual work!
- Consequences (dependent on severity or frequency of offense)
 - Reflection time in hallway
 - Communication with parent/guardian
 - Visit to office

Communication

- brandiderr@frankstonisd.net
- 903-876-2215
- ParentSquare - Brandi Derr

Grading Policy

- You can expect to have **at least** 11 daily grades and **at least** 3 test grades per nine weeks in this class. Some daily grades will be participation grades, some will be performance grades, and some will be paperwork grades. Some test grades will be performance grades, and some will be paper tests or project grades. Daily grades will count for 40% of your grade, and test grades will count for 60%.

- Assignments must be turned in on time. Students will receive a zero for assignments that are not turned in. Zeros will remain until the assignment is turned in.
- Corrections/reattempts of daily assignments are allowed at teacher discretion.
- If students are unhappy with their test grade, they may retake their test. The test will cover the same material but may not be exactly the same as the original test. If the test grade is a group assignment grade, either the whole group may reattempt the assignment, or individuals may do an alternate assignment with the same objectives. Please make arrangements with me to come before school, after school, or possibly during Power Hour to retake the test.
- All corrections/retakes are due by the end of the 3-week grading period during which the work was originally assigned.
- The class will present a performance (usually for selected elementary classes) in the spring semester. Students may be excluded from this performance due to unacceptable behavior. The class will culminate with a brief performance for the middle school (in conjunction with the middle school talent show in May). These performances are mandatory and result in test grades.

Academic Dishonesty

- Plagiarism, or copying someone else's work (including artificial intelligence, or AI) and passing it off as your own, is not acceptable. If plagiarism or another form of cheating is detected, the student will receive a zero for the assignment and the opportunity to redo the assignment or complete an alternate assignment. They will keep the zero until the assignment is turned in again.

Use of Technology in the Classroom

- Technology will be used routinely throughout the year. Students must complete digital assignments with integrity. Students will be assigned a laptop number and must use their assigned laptop in class. Devices must be handled appropriately, and any damage, discovered, inadvertent, or otherwise, must be reported immediately. Consequences will be determined according to the district technology use policy.

Major Topics Covered

- Theatre History
- Pantomime
- Improvisation
- Performance
- Acting
- Design
- Marketing/Publicity
- Playwriting

- Musicals