

# Technical Theatre

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## Course Description:

Technical theatre is a class where the student learns to operate all aspects of theatre. This includes basic lighting, sound and stage operations. The student will also participate in minor maintenance of electrical and mechanical items along with set construction for various school and community programs, working in and around the school theatre to include operations in the rigging of the stage.

## Course Goals & Objectives:

- Develop ability to operate all sound equipment
- Develop ability to operate all lighting equipment along with proper adjustments.
- Develop ability to operate all rigging equipment
- Develop ability to work safely in all areas of the auditorium
- Develop ability to recognize, diagnose and correct minor problems which occurs in theatre equipment.

## Course Materials:

- Operation manuals for all sound equipment
- Operation manuals for all lighting equipment
- Theatre reference manuals
- Power tools and there manuals
- Various hand tools

## Format & Procedures:

- Lectures
- Demonstrations
- Group Projects
- Individual Projects

## Course Requirements

During school hours: students must keep their academic grades up or they will not be on the run crew for assemblies and other performances. A 2.0 GPA is required.

Outside school hours: rehearsals and school programs many times will be after school or in the evening. 75% participation is necessary for an "A" grade.

Tests: Each term, hands on performance tests or assignments will be given on different pieces of theatre equipment

Work assignments will be given during class time. They may be anything from setting lights, hanging scenery, repairing equipment, set-up or striking for a performance. Student must perform tasks to the best of their current ability, put equipment and materials used away properly and leave the area clean by the end of the time allotted.

## **Activity Timeline**

### First Semester

- Tools and safety
- Rules and expectations
- Design & building
- Running the musical
- Portfolio building
- Strike the set
- Band concerts
- Choir concerts
- Assemblies

### Second Semester

- Stage management
- Lighting design
- Sound board & microphones
- Fly system
- Winter Play
- Dance Concert
- Band concerts
- Choir concerts
- Assemblies
- Spring play

## **Attendance:**

Students are expected to be on time for all class periods for the entire duration of the period unless excused by the instructor, arriving late or leaving early disrupts classroom proceedings and will be recorded as an absence. As the lectures and projects are an integral part of the course, students are expected to attend all classes. Missing more than three (3) class period will result in a lowering of the students grade by 10% excused absences may be arranged with the instructor for medical and other emergency hardships as long as the student can provide written verification.

## **Student Behaviors:**

- Work safely in and around the theatre
- Follow all rules of the theatre
- Be willing to operate equipment
- Maintain and use tools and equipment properly. If you have not been instructed on the proper use, ask and wait for instruction
- Being able to work with other students in the class as well as all performers in a professional manner

## **Grading Procedures**

- We will be working on a points system. If the student violates a rule(s), they will have points automatically deducted from their grade.
- Students will receive points per day for participation, hard work, and good attitude
- Students will be put on committees with a committee head. You will be expected to take care of your area before the bell rings. You will pass off to your committee head who will then pass off to me. Laziness and disrespect to peers will not be tolerated!
- Students MUST clean out paintbrushes, pick up their area, and put away tools a few minutes before the bell rings. If an item is left out or items are unclean or a rental/assembly is not put away, the student will lose 20 points. Students must also remember to NEVER dump paint or any other items down ANY sinks. Paint must always be washed out in the big sink. Students should also NEVER paint over the top of the stage plugs and microphone jacks. If you are unsure, always ask!
- If a student purposely breaks a tool, ruins supplies/equipment, puts graffiti on the walls, or acts recklessly towards Mr. Caldwell or other students, they WILL pay a fine for equipment and graffiti and pulled from the class to do book work.
- Students are not allowed up in the catwalk to hang and focus lights unless they have permission from Mr. Caldwell. If a student violates this rule, they will be pulled from the class to do book work.
- You will be required to wear all black to any event you are running. If you own a tech sweatshirt, please wear it, introduce yourself to the person who is in charge and ask what their needs are. You receive points for following through on this
- When running a show, assembly, concerts, or rentals, please put all cords, mics, podium, etc. away before you leave. Also make sure that the booth is clean, the sound and light board are turned off.
- Professional behavior is required while running events. Please show up at call time or earlier. Please do not text, talk on your cell phone, put your feet on the counter, have friends in the booth, or be listening to music. Your job is to watch and listen to the show, make sure it runs smoothly, and catch any mistakes.
- You will be required to run the Fine Arts Department performances.

- Please no swearing or inappropriate conversations while you are on the headsets running a show.
  - You will be graded on:
  - Your participation in class
  - Your attendance and participation of the technical crew for shows, rentals, and assemblies
  - Musical deadlines
  - Cleaning up your area
  - Taking care of equipment
  - Outside hours
- |           |           |           |
|-----------|-----------|-----------|
| 94-100% A | 80-82% B- | 66-69% D+ |
| 90-93% A- | 76-79% C+ | 63-65% D  |
| 86-89% B+ | 73-75% C  | 60-62% D- |
| 83-85% B  | 70-72% C- | 0-59% F   |

### **Discipline:**

A student will be notified when he or she has broken the theatre protocol and it will be documented. Parent/guardian notification will occur after the second occurrence.

#### Theatre Protocol:

- No horseplay
- No bullying
- Respect for yourself and others
- Respect for tools and equipment
- Respect for the teacher
- School dress code will be enforced
- Follow all safety rules as outlined in safety lecture and handout