



Doral Academy of Nevada

Doral Academy of Nevada – Saddle Campus

Intro to Theatre (Theatre I)

Ms. Dana DellaMonica

Room 119

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Website: <https://doralsaddletheatre.weebly.com>

Course Description:

This one-year course introduces basic theatrical skills. It is designed to develop concentration, characterization, and creativity through the use of improvisation, physical theatre, and monologues. Students will cultivate their skills through their participation in various acting exercises. Students will develop an appreciation for theatre as they explore dramatic structure and the evolution of theatre as an artistic medium. The class will utilize the National Core Arts Standards for Theatre to teach and improve student understanding and performance in the art of Theatre.

Materials Required:

Each student is expected to have the following items available for use in this class:

- A designated section in their student binder for class handouts
- A writing utensil (pen or pencil)

Course Outline:

This course will focus on the following units throughout the course of the year:

- Improvisation
- Pantomime
- Commedia dell'arte
- International Theatre: Japanese Theatre
- Greek Theatre & Play Analysis
- Monologue Performance

Assessment:

This course will involve occasional reflective practice, three (3) major in-class projects, two (2) formal class performances, and a vocabulary and/or history knowledge check at the end of some units.

Introduction to Theatre Grading Policies

While this class is an elective class, it is still a course for which students are graded and consequently impacts the student GPA. Therefore, it is expected that all students will put forth their best effort to prepare as necessary for all course assessments.

At Doral, there are four (4) quarter grades during the school year. Students are graded on a letter scale at Doral. Below are letter grades broken into percentages:

- A: 90% - 100%
- B: 80% - 89%
- C: 70% - 79%
- D: 60% - 69%
- F: 50% - 59%

The breakdown of grading for Introduction to Theatre is as follows:

- In-Class Reflective/Analytical Exercises, Informal Performances, & Worksheets..... 20%
- Knowledge Checks, Performance/Analysis Projects, Commedia dell'arte & Monologue Showcases..... 80%

Class participation in Introduction to Theatre falls under the jurisdiction of *citizenship*. The participation grade will be determined on a weekly basis according to the attached rubric.

All available grades will be accessible on Infinite Campus.

Expectations for Student Conduct

All Upper School students are expected to adhere to the **Dragon Code of Conduct**:

1. Be Safe
2. Be Respectful
3. Be Responsible

The Progressive Consequences for violating any part of the above are as follows:

1. First Offense: Verbal Warning
2. Second Offense: Conference with the Teacher
3. Third Offense: Parent Contact
4. Fourth Offense: Detention
5. Fifth Offense: Referral to the Office

In order for students to safely and effectively learn in Theatre class, it is imperative that students work hard to uphold and abide by the established Code of Conduct.

Tardiness:

Students are expected to be on time to class. Students arriving past the official start time without a late pass from a staff member will be considered as an unexcused tardy. Any unexcused tardiness may have a direct impact on the student's citizenship grade, therefore students are encouraged to do their best to be on time to class.

The official class start times for Introduction to Theatre are:

- Period 0: 7:58 a.m.
- Period 4: 12:01 p.m.
- Period 5: 12:53 p.m.

Food & Drink:

Because Theatre is a subject that involves students actively moving their bodies and utilizing their voices, students should not partake of the following at any time during class: food items; beverages such as juice, soda; etc.; or gum. (*Please see the Chewing Gum Policy.*)

Students are permitted to bring a water bottle into class, as long as it stays in their hands or with their belongings when not in use.

*Period 4: When circumstances prevent a student from being able to eat lunch during the scheduled lunchtime, an exception may be made to allow that student to eat lunch. Students will not be permitted to participate in **any** class activities until they have finished their lunch. **Please be aware that this is solely at the discretion of the teacher.** This exception **will not** be provided to students who deliberately choose not to eat their lunch during the scheduled lunchtime.*

Phones & Electronic Devices:

Theatre is an applied art form. Therefore, any phones or tablets; etc. are to be kept in backpacks for the duration of class unless otherwise directed by the teacher. Students will have the option of completing formative assessments electronically through Google Classroom; however, students will only be permitted to complete these assignments on a tablet or laptop. Phones will not be permitted for formative assessment assignments.

Any student who uses a cell phone at any point during the class without express permission from the teacher will have that device confiscated.

Chewing Gum Policy

Students are not permitted to have chewing gum in Theatre class. This is primarily a safety issue: students in Theatre are moving frequently; therefore, the risk of choking is substantially increased.

Chewing gum is also prohibited for sanitary purposes. Unfortunately, students have not always disposed of gum properly. Given that there are no desks in our Theatre classroom, many of our students sit on portable benches and/or the floor. Gum that is improperly disposed of can get onto a student's shoe, clothing, or bare skin.

All this being said, the primary reason chewing gum is not permitted in Theatre class is per school policy. The Parent/Student Handbook includes the following passages:

Page 15:

GENERAL SCHOOL EXPECTATIONS

- Act safely and responsibly.
- Use appropriate language.
- Respect school property.
- Be respectful to all people.
- No fighting (including play fighting).
- Leave personal items and games at home.
- Wear school uniform.
- Keep school grounds clean.
- Refrain from chewing gum.
- Walk on blacktop, sidewalks, and in the halls.
- Walk bikes until off campus.
- Cell phone policy: cell phones are to remain off and in backpack, unless otherwise instructed by school staff.
- Bring your own device only 5th grade and Upper School.
- Come to school prepared, on time, and ready to learn and work hard.

Page 21 (listed under "Charter School Offenses"):

- FIGHTING or play fighting.
- FORGING OR USING FORGED PASSES, EXCUSES OR OTHER SCHOOL DOCUMENTS.
- GUM CHEWING AND EATING FOOD AT INAPPROPRIATE TIMES OR IN INAPPROPRIATE PLACES AS DETERMINED BY THE ADMINISTRATOR.
- HAZING: Any act that forces another student to undergo a humiliating or abusive ordeal, as in initiations.
- ILLEGAL SUBSTANCE: Being on campus, on school-sponsored transportation or at a school-sponsored activity while consuming or after having used an illegal substance.

Students who violate this policy and insist on chewing gum in Theatre class will automatically receive a citation.

Class Jobs

Stage Manager of the Week:

Merit-based position. At the end of each week, the teacher will review the performance of each individual student. The student who is thought to best demonstrate leadership skills will receive the honor of Stage Manager of the Week for the following week. The Stage Manager of the Week will serve as the teacher's assistant by helping with attendance, class warm-ups, and other tasks as they arise.

House Manager:

Student application. Students will be selected as House Manager for the week through an informal application process. The House Manager is responsible for reminding classmates of proper audience etiquette during class performances, field trips; etc.

Usher:

Student application. Students will be selected as Usher for the week through an informal application process. The Usher is responsible for greeting and assisting visitors and new students to our class. The Usher is also responsible for returning assignments to students, as well as assisting the House Manager with monitoring audience etiquette.

Contact Information:

Should any questions arise, please feel free to contact me at:

Dana.DellaMonica@doralacademynv.org

Please be aware that as the only Theatre teacher at Doral, my schedule can at times be quite busy due to after-school productions, and I am not always able to provide an immediate response. I will, however, always do my best to return any correspondence within a 24-hour window. Any attempts to reach me over the weekend or during school breaks will not receive an immediate response and instead will be dealt with upon my return to school.

Syllabus Signature Sheet

*Please complete and return this sheet to Ms. DellaMonica no later than **Friday, August 17th.***

I have read the course expectations for Introduction to Theatre and understand them.

Student Printed Name:

Parent/Guardian Printed Name:

Student Signature:

Parent/Guardian Signature:

Date: _____

Date: _____