

STAGECRAFT

K.THIEL

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Course Description: Stagecraft (grades 9-12) Full Year

The objective of this course is to introduce the student to the fundamental elements and principals of technical theatre through hands-on learning that makes use of the production facilities, operations, methods, and technologies used at Great Falls High School and to relate these practices to those used in professional, amateur, and educational theaters. The course will include a brief history of theatrical stages and technology, and an overview of professional theatre and associated labor unions.

- Students will learn the functions of the creative team, production staff, technicians and stage crew.
- Basic elements of scenic construction, design concepts, theatrical lighting, sound technologies, and stage management will be introduced and assessed through practical application.

Participation in GFHS Stage Crew is required for this course.

Course Units and Associated Topics: The following is an overview of the units and associated topics covered in this course. It is important to note that due to the interrelatedness of all areas of Technical Theatre, certain topics may overlap or be introduced out of sequence and revisited for more in-depth study at different points during the course year.

Unit I: Introductions: Stage/Stagecraft/Auditorium

1. Theatre Safety - Fire Safety
2. Introduction to GFHS Proscenium Stage
3. Introduction to Technical Theatre: What is Stagecraft?
4. Historical Overview – Evolution of the Stage from Epidaurus to Broadway
5. Types of Stages/Stage Geography

Unit II: Personnel and Operations

6. Theatre Hierarchy
7. Stage Crew Operations

Unit III: Arriving at the Design

8. Play Analysis
9. Types of plays
10. Concept Statements
11. Prop List
12. Costume Plot
13. Sound Plot

Unit III: Scenic Elements and Set Construction

- 14. Scenic Elements: Flats, Platforms, Wagons, Stairs, Drops, etc.
- 15. Set Construction: Planning
- 16. Scenery Shop Safety
- 17. Set Construction: Practical Application
- 18. Elements of Scenic Art: Paints/Fabrics/Coverings

Unit IV: Design/Practical Applications for Lighting

- 19. Theatrical Lighting Basics
- 20. Introduction To Lighting Design

Unit V: Set Design

- 21. Basics of Set Design: Concepts/Research/Collaboration
- 22. Introduction To Sound Design
- 23. Sound System Operations: Practical Application

Unit VI: Production Management/Careers

- 24. Production Stage Management
- 25. Theatrical Careers/Union Affiliations

STAGECRAFT EXPECTATIONS

RESPECT YOURSELF

- 1. **PARTICIPATE!**
- 2. **COME PREPARED TO WORK.**
- 3. **BRING A POSITIVE ATTITUDE.**

RESPECT OTHERS

- 4. **BE ON TIME.**
- 5. **WORK COOPERATIVELY WITH EVERYONE IN THE ROOM.**
- 6. **KEEP COMMENTS POSITIVE.**

RESPECT THE ENVIRONMENT

- 7. **PROPERLY USE AND PUT AWAY ALL CLASSROOM MATERIALS**
- 8. **DO NOT EAT, DRINK, OR CHEW GUM IN CLASS. (*Except bottled water*).**
- 9. **KEEP IT SAFE, ALWAYS.**

CONSEQUENCES

- 1st offense- Warning
- 2nd offense- 25 minutes of after-school work detention
- 3rd offense- 40 minutes of after- school work detention
- 4th offense – Meet with Parents and Administrators

HOW WILL I BE GRADED?

PARTICIPATION

Stagecraft is based on participation, meeting deadlines, projects and tests or quizzes. You will receive up to ten points each day based on your level of class and group participation.

1. Attendance is important! If you miss class for *any* reason, it is *your* responsibility to make up those points. Make-up points will be in the form of an article review or a short essay over a relevant topic or working for 55 minutes on a stage project (outside of the school day).

2. PROJECTS

At the end of each unit of study, you will have some type of project geared around the skills worked on in class. Most of the time your project will be with a partner or a group. With each project, you will have a list of skill sets that you are expected to demonstrate.

3. TESTS and QUIZZES

4. PLAY ATTENDANCE

Each semester all theatre students are required to see one live theatrical production. GFHS Theatre productions are always free for all theatre students. In order to receive points for seeing a play at GFHS, you must exhibit superior audience etiquette. This means no phones, no texting, no feet on chairs and no talking during a performance. Failure to abide by the “house rules” will result in receiving no credit for seeing the play. After you have seen the play you will turn in a type review following the format given in class.

I will keep classes informed as theatre opportunities around Great Falls arise.

5. All stagecraft students must 6 hours per semester of stage work outside of class time. You will 100 points per hour for a total of 600 points. You may do an hour at a

time, or come in on a Saturday to complete all of your hours at once. Any hours beyond the required 6 will be extra credit.