**Theatre Expectations—Fall 2018**

**Statement of Purpose**

The Theatre class at Gibbs is an opportunity for students to participate in a variety of activities on, behind, and around the stage. While there are many various activities incorporated into this general objective, the most substantial goal is to produce a product, in the form of a full-length (non-musical) play performance.

In order to reach this goal, it is imperative that the class operate at a SUPERIOR level. This includes observing/following the **FIVE MAIN EXPECTATIONS** of the class, which are:

* **Attendance**
* **Participation**
* **Written Work**
* **Role Fulfillment**
* **Promotion**

These expectations will be described in detail in this handbook, as will the consequences of neglecting these expectations.

**EXPECTATION #1: ATTENDANCE**

When a class is primarily hands-on/participation and teamwork-driven, it does not make sense to miss class on a regular basis and expect a solid grade. You must earn through doing, and you must depend on your classmates (and vice-versa). Therefore, it is expected that you attend class each day—ESPECIALLY ON PERFORMANCE DAYS/REHEARSALS.

That said, we all know life steps in, and sometimes we have to miss class for various reasons. This is completely valid, as long as it is kept under control.

1. DURING REHEARSAL PERIOD, STUDENTS ARE ALLOWED 2 UNEXCUSED ABSENCES WITHOUT A GRADE PENALTY. This is true whether you are playing the lead role or helping backstage. FOR EACH DAY MISSED, YOU MUST COMPLETE A MAKE-UP ASSIGNMENT. Options for make-up assignments can be found at the end of the handbook.

IF YOU MISS MORE THAN 2 DAYS (UNEXCUSED), you will still be required to complete one make-up assignment per day you missed. However, you AUTOMATICALLY LOSE 5 participation points per day missed. If you do not complete the make-up assignment, you lose 10 points for the week. (Again, this is ONLY during REHEARSAL period)

1. MISSING PERFORMANCES IS NOT ALLOWED. PERIOD.

Performances are graded as follows (note: this does not include participation points or written assignments):

1. Assigned Monologue: 5%
2. Film project: 5%
3. PLAY PERFORMANCE: 15%
4. Final Project: 10%

If you miss any of these, the respective percentage will be deducted from your grade.

This is a class with AFTER-SCHOOL EXPECTATIONS. Therefore, performances are treated as part of the class—NOT EXTRA.

**EXPECTATION #2: PARTICIPATION**

You will receive a total of 25 participation points per week—5 per day. While you are not required to complete makeup work for missing a NON-performance day, it is your responsibility to make up what you missed. AGAIN, YOU ONLY COMPLETE ALTERNATIVE ASSIGNMENTS FOR REHEARSAL DAYS).

You may lose at least 2 participation points for any of the following offenses:

* Using a cell-phone while instructor is talking, or while we are engaged in an activity
* Outright refusing to participate in an activity
* Inappropriate participation (i.e. breaking school codes, using profanity, etc.)
* Participating with an overtly negative attitude
* Talking out of turn and/or not paying attention to or following instructions
* Causing distractions
* Ridiculing a classmate
* Chewing gum onstage
* Other behaviors deemed appropriate by the teacher, which can include a combination of any of these other offenses listed

In some cases, you may be able to earn points back by correcting the behavior.

**EXPECTATION #3: WRITTEN WORK**

While the emphasis in this class remains on participation (acting, directing, exploring, discussing, etc.), there are still SOME written assignments, including:

* Play analysis
* Discussion notes
* Original creative/theatrical pieces

Please do not neglect this aspect of the class, as it is worth 15-20% of your grade.

**EXPECTATION #4: ROLE FULFILLMENT**

Theatre is more than acting (although acting is a huge component). It is producing, directing, creating, observing, etc. Not everyone can be the lead. Not everyone can stage manage. Each person has a role to play in bringing the products of this class to life.

1. Actors: Many of you will be performing as characters in our productions. You are expected to
* Attend regularly
* Memorize your lines and blocking
* Provide your costume (unless I have one for you)
* Keep energy up (Be your best!).
* Take direction and adjust accordingly
1. Crew: Some of you will have various backstage roles, including those of director and stage manager. You are expected to
* Attend regularly
* Fulfill responsibilities
* Communicate
* Experiment
* Keep energy up (Be your best!).
1. Student: This is all of you! You are expected to fulfill the roles outlined in this handbook!

**EXPECTATION #5: PROMOTION**

You are expected to take ownership of this program, and that includes keeping it alive. You will occasionally be asked to participate in fundraisers, advertise productions, improve conditions, and recruit for future years. The program only survives if you, the students, maintain it. Take pride in what you are doing for this school (and for yourself).

**Syllabus/Handbook Acknowledgement**

**Student:** I have read and understand the contents of the course syllabus AND handbook, and am aware of my expectations in terms of participation in this class

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

**Parent:** I have read and understand the contents of the course syllabus AND handbook, and I know what is expected of my child. I am aware that I may contact the teacher at the listed times for questions or concerns.

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

List below any questions you have concerning anything in the syllabus OR handbook:

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**Theatre 2018**

**EXPECTATION HANDBOOK**

 

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