Kennesaw Mountain High School

**Fundamentals I**

Instructor - Mr. Brandon Morris

**Course Description**

This course will help students to develop and apply introductory performance skills. Theatre etiquette, stage movement, vocal strategies, and character development will become the focus. The semester cumulates with a monologue performance with a character analysis as a final project.

**This course centers on the Georgia Theatre Standards which includes:**

Stage Terms & Conventions Improvisation

Script Writing Script Analysis

Physical and Vocal Aspects of Acting Theatre History

Basic Tech and Design Elements Beginning Directing & Stage Composition

Theatre Research Integration of Other Art Forms

Business Aspects of Theatre Constructive Criticism

Theatre Etiquette

**Assessment**

Students will be evaluated on their participation, acting, directing, and writing skills, improvement, and their ability to follow directions. Students will be tested over lectures, textbook assignments, handouts, and class demonstrations.

Daily grades will include participation, quizzes, writing assignments, individual and group projects, rehearsals, homework assignments, and being prepared for class. Students are required to keep a notebook with organized notes, journals, designs, scripts, and handouts. Students’ notebooks should serve as a portfolio at the end of the course that reflects their work and accomplishments.

**Grade Breakdown**

Performance Evaluations - 40%

Test Grades - 20%

Daily Grades - 10% (includes notebook checks)

Homework/Quizzes - 10%

State Mandated Student Learning Objective Test - 10%

Final Exam - 10%

**Tests**

I will go over each test with the class after it is graded allowing students to review their test and ask questions, but tests may not leave the classroom. I will keep the test on file if parents would like to review their child’s test. Test will not be given back to students to keep, but may make necessary notes into their notebooks after each test.

**Materials Needed**

(a) A 3-ring binder which will contain your copy of your performance script, policy

 sheet, handouts, etc… BRING IT TO CLASS EVERYDAY!!!

(b) Loose-leaf paper

(c) Pencil and a Blue or Black ink pen

(d) Five dividers

**Class Expectations**

(a) Regular attendance is VERY IMPORTANT to this class. The majority of the

 objectives for this course are designed for student interaction. Students may be removed from

 a scene altogether if absences become a problem.

(b) Students need to be in their assigned seat ready for class when the tardy bell begins to

 ring. Students will be dismissed to dress out after class has begun if needed.

(c) Each student should come to class prepared. This includes appropriate clothes/shoes, script,

 paper, pencil, and any homework assignment.

(d) Participation is encouraged and expected.

(e) Listening is critical (not only to the teacher, but also to other students speaking).

(f) NO GUM, FOOD, OR DRINKS ARE ALLOWED IN THE Fine Arts Building. Any

 violation of this rule will result in up to 20 points off the performance grade.

(g) Cell phones are not to be out during class time without permission and should be kept on

 silent during school hours.

(h) Students will be dismissed by the teacher, not by the bell.

(i) Long hair must be pulled back out of your face while in class. Students who violate this rule

 will be deducted 30 points off on their grade for that activity.

(j) No Inappropriate material will be permitted. Students who violate this rule will be given a

 grade of “zero”. Please consider and respect your audience.

**Assignments**

Makeup work is YOUR responsibility. Work missed due to an **EXCUSED** absence may be made up by following the school policy in the student handbook. Make any arrangements to do makeup work before/ after school. Students that are absent on days projects or presentations are due will be expected to present the assignment on the day the student returns. **NO presentations will be accepted late!**

**Absences**

*Students are expected to communicate with the teacher when they are absent due during the rehearsal process. Students may call or email. The student needs to do this as soon as he or she realizes they are going to be absent.*

**Office Hours**

I will be available to talk with students after class and after school on most days. Other times can be arranged by making an appointment. My office is located in room 915. Should you need to reach me, you may use the following:

Phone: 678.594.8190 ext. 280

E-mail: brandon.morris@cobbk12.org

Blog: [www.kmhsdrama.com](http://www.kmhsdrama.com)