Kennesaw Mountain High School

**Fundamentals II**

Mr. Brandon Morris

***ALL STUDENTS SHOULD HAVE TAKEN AND MADE A SATISFACTORY GRADE IN FUNDAMENTALS OF THEATRE I PRIOR TO TAKING THIS COURSE.***

**Course Description**

This class will enhance a student’s introductory skills through the utilization of scene study and higher-level improvisations with a focus on techniques for actors working together. Listening and response, stage combat, tempo strategies, ensemble work, and character development will become the focus. The semester cumulates into a scene study with a script analysis as a final project.

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

Stage Terms and Conventions Improvisation

Script Writing Script Analysis

Physical and Vocal Aspects of Acting Basic Tech and Design Elements

Beginning Directing & Stage Composition Theatre Research

Integration of Other Art Forms Theatre History

Theatre Business Aspects Constructive Criticism

Theatre Etiquette

**Assessment**

Students will be evaluated on their participation, acting, directing, designing, 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/performances, 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.

Students must write a formal critique on a stage performance seen outside of class that the students are not involved with. Details will be provided at a later date and the critique must be turned in no later than ***November 20th.*** Students may turn the paper in earlier for an opportunity to rewrite it for a higher grade if they choose.

**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) Blue or Black ink pen

(d) Pencil/Highlighter

**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.

**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 needed materials 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 THEATRE. 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.

**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.*

**Grade Breakdown**

Performance Evaluations- 30%

Test Grades- 30%

Daily Grades - 20% (includes notebook checks)

Play Critique- 10%

Final Exam- 10%

**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)

I’m looking forward to the semester with you and am excited to be a part of KMHS theatre. If you have any questions or problems, please come see me.