

# **TAMALPAIS UNION HIGH SCHOOL DISTRICT**

## **Larkspur, California**

### **Course of Study**

### **Drama 7-8 (Advanced)**

#### **I. INTRODUCTION**

Drama 7-8 is the fourth year in the sequential drama program and provides students with an opportunity to demonstrate competency at the highest levels, serving as role models and peer teachers to underclassmen. Students in Drama 7-8 will also have the opportunity to prepare for work in the theater community outside of high school which may include colleges and universities, community arts programs, conservatories, or the entertainment industries.

The course allows students to demonstrate their proficiency in and understanding of forms of theatre including structure of drama, varieties of drama, and history of drama. Individual and group activities center around self discipline, problem solving, group trust, personal trust in creative impulses, discovery of body and voice as the actor's tools, sensory and emotional awareness, rhythm and movement, and acting theory. Students in Drama 7-8 will participate in a rehearsal processes which culminate in public performances. Vocabulary introduced in Drama 1-6 is used in Drama 7-8, allowing each student to demonstrate their competency and their leadership in theatrical and creative work.

Drama 7-8 provides students with the opportunity to demonstrate the following student learning outcomes:

- #1 Communicate articulately, effectively, and persuasively when speaking and writing.
- #2 Read and analyze material in a variety of disciplines.
- #11 Interpret, experience, create, and perform artistic work.
- #12 Demonstrate school-to-work/post secondary transition skills and knowledge.

#### **II. STUDENT LEARNING OUTCOMES**

A. Within this course, students will perform the following outcomes at a higher standard than Drama 5-6 outcomes:

1. Communicate effectively with peers and adult mentors in the classroom and rehearsal settings. Drama 7-8 students will provide leadership in these situations.
2. Participate in in-depth creative projects in collaboration with guest artists, instructors, choreographers. Drama 7-8 students will provide leadership in these situations.
3. Analyze scripts.
4. Demonstrate rehearsal techniques such as teamwork, ensemble skills, staying on task, concentrating, independent practice of acting theory. Drama 7-8 students will provide leadership in these situations.

5. Continuing to develop awareness of behavior as applied to the analysis and creation of characters (character theory). Also participate in workshops augmenting specific elements of the actor training such as voice, movement, stage combat, advanced techniques and audition.
6. Advanced actor training work within small groups of drama students within a classroom setting under the guidance of the drama teacher or guest artist. Drama 7-8 students will provide leadership in these situations.
7. Work as a cast to create roles from original conception to its final public performance.
8. Critique his/her own work as an actor.
9. Critique and respond to the work of other Drama students and provide specific feedback about how to improve performance.
10. Students will provide self-reflection writings within a journal, including responses to specific writing prompts and entries that reflect the rehearsal process and their observations of others.
11. Develop through experience an introductory awareness of the broad range of theatrical styles and applications.

#### B. Student Assessment:

Students will be assessed through a public performance and written and interviewed self-evaluations. Rehearsals will be observed and evaluated by faculty and guest artist mentors.

Expectations and grading criteria will be explained at the beginning of the course.

#### C. Course Assessment

The course may be evaluated using student exit surveys, audience surveys, video archives, and evaluation by beginning/intermediate students.

### III. METHODS/MATERIALS

#### A. Activities:

1. Create the ensemble – group games and activities to bond the group together. Drama 7-8 students will provide leadership in these situations.
2. Rules and expectations: no private conversations, listening, warm-ups, evaluations. Drama 7-8 students will provide leadership in these situations.
3. Continue the practice and refinement of advanced actor training which may include Stanislavski and movement, relaxation, flexibility, awareness of body and brain connection, voice and diction, stage combat, dance, mask, improvisation, scene study, Shakespeare, audition, listening, observation.
4. Take primary leadership of performance of Winterstock productions. Prepare for and rehearse advanced drama productions.
5. Actor homework: scoring a text – beats, intentions, motivations.
6. Evaluation of projects - How did it go? Like you planned: How did you feel? Process – goals and objectives.
7. Evaluate semester-end project. Critical thinking skills such as formal writing or group discussions.

8. See and evaluate all school drama performances.
9. Students use a journal – record observations, reflect on process and learning, respond and critically self-reflect.
10. Students fulfill a 100 hour per semester requirement for time spent in rehearsal, performance, production and administrative support of a student-run theatre company.

**B. Materials:**

There is no single text, but many references and sources will be used including:

<u>An Actor Prepares,</u>	Constantin Stanislavski
<u>The Golden Key,</u>	William Bell
<u>The Student Handbook,</u>	<i>site specific</i>
Handouts and dramatic texts	
<u>Improvisation for the Theatre</u>	Viola Spolin
<u>Impro</u>	Keith Johnstone
Various scripts for performance	
Materials dictated by the needs of the projects.	

**IV. GENERAL INFORMATION**

Drama 7-8 is the final year of the Drama program. It is open to all students who have met the prerequisites . Students are required to enroll in Drama 7-8 and Workplace Learning; Drama.

**A. Prerequisites**

The prerequisite for Drama 7 is the successful completion of Drama 6 with a passing grade and/or instructor permission. Students must complete Drama 7 with a passing grade in order to continue with Drama 8.

**B. Requirements Met**

Drama 7 and 8 are one-semester, five unit elective courses, which can be used in partial fulfillment of the district's 220 unit requirement for graduation. Drama 7 and 8 are accepted as partial fulfillment of the CSU entrance requirement for 1 year of Fine Arts. Beginning in 2000-01, Drama 7-8 will also be accepted by UC towards its Fine Arts requirement.

Adopted:

Revised 8/01/02