# Drama Class

“All the World’s a Stage, and all the men and women merely players.

-William Shakespeare

**Communication is Key**

I am always trying to improve my communication with all of you.  If you have questions please let me know before they become frustrations.  If the question applies to more than one person I will post it on the website with the answer.

Sometimes it takes me time to think up solutions or talk to other drama teachers about what they do about the problem.  Please try to give me 24 hours if it is a difficult problem to allow me a chance to come up with a solution.

**WEBSITE: http://msclementsdrama.weebly.com/**

Ms. Clement’s E-mail: nichole.clement@nebo.edu

( I do not check my email after 5 pm.  I will get back to you in the morning.)

**WHAT IS REMIND**

Remind is a one-way text messaging and email system. With Remind, all personal information remains completely confidential. Teachers will never see your phone number, nor will you ever see theirs.  You can choose if you would prefer a text or an email.  I do not send out additional notes or reminders, so if you would like to receive reminders PLEASE sign up for remind.

**I will remind you of upcoming assignments, tests, performances and important dates if you sign up for remind.**

***T*o receive messages via text**

Text  the number 81010 with the message @drama-per(class #)   For example:

FIRST PERIOD text @drama-per1 SECOND PERIOD text @drama-per2 THIRD PERIOD text @drama-per3

FIFTH PERIOD text @drama-per5 SIXTH PERIOD text @drama-per6 SEVENTH  PER. text @drama-per7

**What do we do in this class?**

**Purpose of drama (Technically)**

This class will use the Utah State Theatre Arts Core. It is divided into standards which are broken down into objectives which will be used as a guideline for class instruction. Please refer to the following website to get a detailed description of the Utah State Theatre Arts Core standards and objectives. <http://www.uen.org/core/core.do?courseNum=1830>.

* Standard 1: Students will integrate unity, character, and plot in scripting dramatic presentations.
* Standard 2: Students will develop the basic techniques of acting.
* Standard 3: Students will use the basic elements of design.
* Standard 4: Students will develop critical thinking skills to construct meaning.

**Purpose of drama (Not So Technically)**

Of course you will be acting, but you will also learn that a great performance always takes great preparation as well. We will study the three basic elements of creating a stage character: Voice, Movement and Imagination.  We will also be focusing on Memorization and Creating Objectives. This might be intimidating now, but just wait. Don’t worry about having a hard time with it. We will work through it together as a class.

Don’t worry if you are a little bit nervous! Stage Fright is a normal part of performance.

It can even make you a better performer.

**What I expect of my Actors?**

* I expect every student to succeed in my class!
* Drama is fun and rewarding but it requires hard work and dedication.
* Students must understand that drama is not a spectator sport.
* It is also not an easy A.  You must show up, pay attention, work well with each other on your group work, hand in all your assignments, perform in front of people, and honestly critique your own and other peoples performances.
* **Respect yourself, peers, the classroom, and the teacher.**

**What material will the Actors need in class?**

Each student should bring their notebook and a pencil to class every day.  You will also need to bring your script everyday once you have one.

**How much out of class time do we need to invest in drama?**

That depends on you! If you sign up for a lead it can require hours and hours of memorizing. If you request a smaller part your out of work time will be drastically reduced.

In a performance class, your final performances are your final assessment. All of our preparation is geared towards that chance to be in front of an audience. This is what it’s all about! All students in the Theater Arts program are expected to attend and participate in all performances. Graded credit cannot be made up for missed performances. It’s impossible to bring back the audience. If you know you will have a conflict with a scheduled performance, let Ms. Clement know as soon as you can so that alternate arrangements can be made to protect the integrity of both the performance and your grade.

**Will I have to perform in front of an audience?**

* Drama is a performance based art so simply the answer is YES, several times.
* Drama requires one after school performance.  It is not required for the parents to come, but it is required that the student attends.  This is the final performance and is worth 250 points.  Not attending this performance will result in Failing the final test in drama unless arrangements have been made with Ms Clement at least one month in advance.  It really messes up the other students performances when one person misses the show.
* The dates of these performances are May 14th for Springville and May 15th for Mapleton.  I have included both dates because anyone can go to the other schools performance for extra credit.

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| A = 93% | B+ = 87% | B- = 80% | C = 73% | D+ = 67% | D- = 60% |
| A- = 90% | B = 83% | C+ = 77% | C- = 70% | D = 63% | I < 60% |

**How are we graded?**

Your grade will depend on four major categories that are split equally professionalism, written work, performing, and rehearsals.  Because each part in a play has different requirements my grading is based on percentages. For example if you are a lead and have 400 words to memorize if you forget 40 words you will still receive an A-. However, if you only have one line that consists of 5 words and you mess up on 2 of them you will receive a D.

**What are the rules of the class?**

* All School rules apply!  (No hats or backpacks)
* Be respectful of others!

This is a performance class which expects students to get up and perform. We do not laugh at or make rude comments about others or their performances.

* No gum when performing and rehearsing – it gets in the way of diction.

**Can I earn Extra Credit in Drama?**

Yes! There are many ways that you can be learning about Theater Arts. You can earn Extra Credit points by doing any of the activities listed below OUTSIDE of class, and writing a Performance or Play report.

* Attend a live play performance.
* Participate in the cast or crew of a live performance.
* Read a full-length play script.

**What do I do if I miss school?**

Go to the website and see what we did that day.  If there is a worksheet we have done it will be posted online.  You can either print it off and bring it to school done or wait and pick it up from me the next day.

**Special note:**

As a drama teacher I have to be able to correct the student’s physical movements (for example: tilt their head to the side, or show them how to point their toe).  If your student would prefer not to be corrected by touching their foot, (etc.) to make it point the right way please let me know.

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I understand the drama disclosure document and grading system.

You can sign the disclosure document by either signing and returning this document or by signing on to Remind.

**Students NAME\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Class Period\_\_\_\_\_\_**

**Parent Signature \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**