

PERFORMING ARTS DEPARTMENT

INTRODUCTION TO TECHNICAL THEATRE: COURSE #887

Contact Information

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The Department's Educational Philosophy

Education in the Arts plays a major role in three general areas of educational impact: societal, instructional and individual. Societally, students gain knowledge of the events and historical movements that shaped society. Instructionally, the arts may help to develop critical and creative thinking skills. Individually, the arts can provide the means for communicating thoughts, emotions, and ideas that cannot otherwise be expressed.

Guiding Principles

For those students interested in developing skills in vocal, instrumental, and drama performance, the Performing Arts Department offers courses and activities of considerable variety. Performance material is selected to meet the varied needs and skill levels of the students, provide cultural enrichment for the students, provide aesthetic value for the students, make provision for technical growth of the students, provide for school and community service, and create interdisciplinary relationships.

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Course Frequency: Alternate Days

Credits Offered: 2.5 Credits

Prerequisites: None

Background to the Curriculum

ABRHS has a successful, award-winning drama program. To compliment such a program, an equally strong technical theatre curriculum is critical for productions to have a professional appearance. While many students find their place on the stage, others prefer to be involved in other ways. Technical Theatre is critical to behind the scenes operations of all dramatic productions. Developing proper vocabulary and skills off-stage is as essential to a production as its actors.

This course will introduce students to basic technical operation and design for the theatre. Students will work in both classroom and hands-on settings to gain an understanding in lighting, sound, and basic rigging principles. Projects, participation, and some evaluations contribute to grade. Students are encouraged to participate in Proscenium Circus productions for extra credit. Enrolled students are part of the ABRHS Technical Production Staff and are eligible for paid work opportunities throughout the year.

Core Topics / Questions / Concepts/ Skills

Technical Theatre

- Roles and responsibilities
- Analyze requirements
- Research of needs
- Understanding of relationship between technical aspects and on-stage performers
- Apply safety procedures

Critical Response

Students will describe and analyze their own technical theatre work and the work of others using appropriate theatre vocabulary. When appropriate, students will connect their analysis to interpretation and evaluation.

Course-end Learning Objectives

<u>Learning objectives</u>	<u>Corresponding state standards, where applicable</u>
<p data-bbox="180 349 420 381"><u>Technical Theatre</u></p> <ul data-bbox="241 389 1018 633" style="list-style-type: none">• Understand roles and responsibilities• Analyze requirements• Research needs• Understand relationship between technical aspects and on-stage performers• Apply safety procedures <p data-bbox="180 1031 420 1063"><u>Critical Response</u></p> <ul data-bbox="241 1071 1018 1258" style="list-style-type: none">• Students will describe and analyze their own technical theatre work and the work of others using appropriate theatre vocabulary.• When appropriate, students will connect their analysis to interpretation and evaluation.	<p data-bbox="1054 381 1913 495">4.3 Recognize and understand the roles and responsibilities of various technical personnel in creating and producing a theatrical performance. Read and analyze a play for its technical requirements, identifying points in the script that require the addition of a technical element.</p> <p data-bbox="1054 617 1913 982">4.12 Conduct research to inform the design of sets, costumes, sound, and lighting for a dramatic production. <i>For example, students select a play from a particular historical period, genre, or style and conduct research using reference materials such as books, periodicals, museum collections, and the Internet to find appropriate examples of hairstyles, furnishings, decorative accessories, and clothing.</i> Demonstrate an understanding of the interrelationship between the technical aspects of production and the on-stage performers. Apply technical knowledge of safety procedures and practices in the theatre environment.</p> <p data-bbox="1054 1071 1913 1209">5.12 Attend live performances of extended length and complexity, demonstrating an understanding of the protocols of audience behavior appropriate to the style of the performance.</p> <p data-bbox="1054 1226 1913 1291">5.13 Use group-generated criteria to assess their own work and the work of others.</p> <p data-bbox="1054 1307 1913 1372">5.14 Demonstrate objectivity in assessing their personal abilities and creative endeavors.</p> <p data-bbox="1054 1388 1913 1453">5.15 Demonstrate the ability to receive and act upon coaching, feedback, and constructive criticism.</p>

	<p>Devise specific methods for documenting and assessing one's own artistic development throughout participation in a theatre project.</p> <p>5.17 Document and reflect on their own work created over several years and identify successful approaches that could be applied in the development of future work.</p> <p>5.18 Research the ways in which other artists have used self-reflection to document and refine their work.</p>
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Assessment

Students will be assessed on the following:

- Growth over the length of the course.
- Attainment of pre-stated goals.
- Analysis/response to professional technical theatre work.
- Final project – designing a soundscape and lighting look.

Materials and Resources

Materials will include various lighting, sound, and rigging textbooks. Students will be expected to read plays from various time periods with an eye for visual needs. Standard art and theatre reference materials will be used when completing projects, and the Internet will play a major role in providing information.