**THEATRE III & IV**

**Performing Shakespeare-advanced skills & Ensemble Training**

**Mrs. Justine Mackey**

**Class meets- Even Days 6th block**

**Email: JMackey@rockingham.k12.va.us**​



**Room 24 ­ “The Drama Room” ­ “The Blackbox”**

**SPOTSWOOD HIGH SCHOOL 540-289­3100**

**www.spotswoodtheatre.weebly.com**

**Planning Period (best time to reach me): Odd days 3rd block & even days 4th block**

**Overview:**

Students will learn an early modern company model that seeks advanced skills through collaboration, this course will stage a 60 min cut of William Shakespeare’s *Much Ado About Nothing* in the Blackbox at the end of the semester. In preparation for rehearsal students will learn about early modern staging conditions including; cue scripts, embeded stage directions, audience contact on a thrust style stage and more. Students will also work throughout the year on learning the Rhetorical devices Shakespeare uses as well as paraphrasing the text for further in-depth investigation of language in performance and character development. Simultaneously, you will engage in physical training, ensemble building, and devising work based on your play. Rehearsals will begin mid-way through the semester. In addition to performing, students will each be on a committee, completing work as part of a production team (see below). Students will also get the chance to create a resume, build a portfolio, create an audition video and even have mock auditions.

**Course Objectives:**

❏ Students will gain collaborative skills required to work within an ensemble style company

❏ Students will identify and engage with metrical and rhetorical tropes and early modern staging conditions

❏ Students will show a basic understanding of Viewpoints

❏ Students will further develop production skills though committee work

❏ Students will learn basic acting skills that serve early modern texts.

P**rojects and Activities, we will do this year:** ​

❏ Cue Scripts, Embeded stage directions, Audience contact

❏ Shakespeare’s Rhetorical devices of our characters

❏ Stage combat and or dance choreography

❏ Committee work

❏ Ensemble collaboration

❏ Audition preparation- creating a bank of monologues

**Student Material List:**

❏ 3 Ringed Binder filled with loose-leaf lined paper.

❏ 1 Notebook

❏ Pencils and Pens

❏ Highlighters

❏ A pack of index cards

❏ A separate pocket folder with clasps

**Auditions:**

Auditions will be held on the third week of classes and will consist of monologues and cold partner readings that we will prep in the weeks leading up to auditions. Scenes will be available the first week of school.

**Journal:**

A Journal is a Mandatory part of this course. Students document their process to help focus as well as grow from the documentation. Journal entries can also be a record of the following as they apply to performance:

* Preparation/Research (what you bring to the rehearsal): cuts/edits, paraphrasing, scansion, punctuation, figures of speech/rhetoric, textual comparisons, thoughts about plot and character.
* Rehearsal process and what you took away from the process. What did you learn about the plot, character, staging, personal habits, the creative process and artistic relationships.
* What is something you would do differently next production.

**Rehearsal and Performance:**

During the year your work in rehearsal and for the end performance will be assessed on the quality of your contributions to the artistic process, such as:

\*Be off- book after the first blocking rehearsal (Second Semester)

\*Complete homework that is text work for your characters, so you are prepared at rehearsals

\*Apply Viewpoints training to character development and staging practices

\*Record blocking and notes during rehearsals

\*Engage the audience from opening line to strike

\*Participate full and professionally

\*Contact me for a mid-term meeting.

**Committee Groups:**

Students will apply for their top 3 committee groups. The Committee groups are as follows and are subject to change should we find more necessary.

**Costumes**

**Props**

**Publicity and Marketing**

**Stage Management**

**Music?**

**Dramaturgy**

**Fundraising?**

**set**

**Student Assessment:**

❏ Class participation, and ability to collaboratively fulfill the production duties detailed in the production checklists and all rehearsal responsibilities.

**Grades** will be determined through the evaluation of the following types of work​ and assessments. Grades will be tallied on a total points system for each assignment.

❏ **Classwork\***

❏ **Participation\***

❏ **Projects\* ­ memorizations, presentations, homework**

***Year End Grades average the 2 Semesters together.***

**Classwork**: ​ The class centers around “doing” and “producing” and “bringing things to life.” Many times, we will learn and study a topic before actively applying it.

**Participation**: ​ Drama is about being involved in a focused manner. Participation involves volunteering, getting up and doing something, voicing opinions, cleaning up, writing, reading, thinking and reflecting.

**Competition:** Each Student will choose and prepare a monologue to work on and present as part of the regional speaking Shakespeare competition. The first round will be in December and each winner will move on to compete in the regional competitions.

**Late Work**: ​ Late assignments or presentations will lose 10% each class period it is not turned in. If you are absent, it is your responsibility to speak to the teacher to find out what work was missed and turn it in the next class period.

**Make Up Work**: ​ You are responsible for making up all work. Please coordinate with the teacher to make­up work. Anytime I am here will normally work.

**Student Expectations: (What is expected of you)**

❏ Listen, take part and be positive

❏ Be on time and prepared

❏ Follow the student Code of Conduct

❏ No eating or drinking during the class (bottled water is acceptable)

❏ Class begins and ends with the bell

**Classroom Rules:**

❏ Listen and follow directions.

❏ Keep your hands to yourself and away from another’s property.

❏ Respect your classmates, your teacher and yourself.

**Classroom Consequences:**

❏ Warning

❏ Conference between student and teacher; Phone call home

❏ Referral (D­Slip)

❏ Conference with Parent and Administrator

**Cell Phones:**

Turn off, mute and conceal your phone during class. Cell phones are not to be used during class ­ they work against everything we try to accomplish in the theatre classroom. If your phone is out, you will be told to put it away, if it remains out it will be **confiscated**​. ​

**Tardy Policy:**

Be on time. I take attendance immediately, if you are not here before the bell rings, you will be marked absent or tardy. The school enforces its own tardy policy which may result in detention or even suspension.

**Bathroom Policy:**

Do not interrupt lecture or instruction time. Be sensible and diligent to catch up on what was missed. Do not go during paired, group work, or presentations. Like cell phone usage there is a courtesy to others.

**“Remind”**: ​

Remind, formerly Remind101, is a communication tool that helps teachers reach students and parents where they are without directly messaging a student through an app. It can be used to “remind” students of quizzes, tests, appointments, practices and rehearsals. I have never used it before and would like to try it out this year. More to come.

***Student & Parent Signature Portion – Due Next Class – 8/25***

*I have read the syllabus and understand the course of study and expectations of this class*. \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ (student signature)

*I have looked over the syllabus and understand the expectations of my child and will do my best to support their efforts in the classroom.*

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**WEEKLY SCHEDULE:**

**Wednesday 8/22-**

Introduction-Go over Syllabus

**Friday 8/24-**

Shakespeare’s Staging Conditions

**Tuesday 8/28-**

Play read through

**Thursday 8/30-**

Finish Play read through

**Tuesday 9/4-**

Iambic bodies

**Thursday 9/6-**

Cue Scripts

**Monday 9/10-**

Embeded Stage directions

**Wednesday 9/12-**

Rhetorical figures -Audition Sign ups

**Friday 9/14**

Auditions- Cast list will be emailed and posted by 8 am Monday morning.

Tuesday 9/18-

Guest Lecturer Much Ado

Thursday 9/20-

Create our world questions for homework

**Monday 9/24-**

Choose committee groups

**Wednesday 9/26-**

Viewpoints introduction

**Friday 9/28-**

Viewpoints introduction

**Tuesday 10/2-**

Viewpoints introduction

**Thursday 10/4-**

Viewpoints introduction

**Monday 10/8-**

Rhetoric Review with our own script

**Wednesday 10/10-**

Embeded stage direction review with our own script

**Friday 10/12-**

Text work

**Tuesday 10/16-**

Scanning your text

**Thursday 10/18-**

Scanning your text

**Monday 10/22-**

Viewpoints Training

**Wednesday 10/24-**

Viewpoints Training

**Monday 10/29-**

Viewpoints Training

**Wednesday 10/31-**

Viewpoints Training

**Friday 11/2-**

Viewpoints Training

**Thursday 11/8-**

Viewpoints Training

**Monday 11/12-**

Viewpoints Training

**Wednesday 11/14-**

Viewpoints Training

**Friday 11/16-**

Viewpoints Training

**Tuesday 11/20-**

Viewpoints Training-Pick Secret Sonnet

**Tuesday 11/27-**

Viewpoints Training

**Thursday 11/29-**

Viewpoints Training

**Monday 12/3-**

Frantic Assembly

**Wednesday 12/5-**

Frantic Assembly

**Friday 12/7-**

Frantic Assembly

**Tuesday 12/11-**

Frantic Assembly

**Thursday 12/13-**

Frantic Assembly

**Monday 12/17-**

Frantic Assembly

**Wednesday 12/19-**

Frantic Assembly

**Friday 12/21-**

Secret Sonnets Party

**Friday 1/4-**

Viewpoints Training

**Tuesday 1/8-**

Rehearsal

**Thursday 1/10-**

Rehearsal

**Monday 1/14-**

Rehearsal

**Wednesday 1/16-**

Rehearsal

**Friday 1/18-**

Rehearsal

**Wednesday 1/23-**

Rehearsal

**Friday 1/25-**

Rehearsal

**Tuesday 1/29-**

Rehearsal

**Thursday 1/31-**

Rehearsal

**Monday 2/4-**

Rehearsal

**Wednesday 2/6-**

Rehearsal

**Monday 2/11-**

Rehearsal

**Wednesday 2/13-**

Rehearsal

**Friday 2/15-**

Rehearsal

**Tuesday 2/19-**

Rehearsal

**Thursday 2/21-**

Rehearsal

**Monday 2/25-**

Rehearsal

**Wednesday 2/27-**

Rehearsal

**Friday 3/1-**

Rehearsal

**Tuesday 3/5-**

Rehearsal

**Tuesday 3/7-**

Rehearsal

**Monday 3/11-**

Rehearsal

**Wednesday 3/13-**

Rehearsal

**Friday 3/15-**

Rehearsal

**Tuesday 3/19-**

Rehearsal

**Thursday 3/21-**

Rehearsal

**Monday 4/1- (Off Book)**

Rehearsal

**Wednesday 4/3-**

Rehearsal

**Friday 4/5-**

Rehearsal

**Tuesday 4/9-**

Rehearsal

**Thursday 4/11-**

Rehearsal

**Monday 4/15-** (No more Calling Line)

Rehearsal

**Wednesday 4/17-**

Rehearsal

**Tuesday 4/23**-

Rehearsal

**Thursday 4/25-**

Rehearsal

**Monday 4/29-**

Rehearsal

**Wednesday 5/1-**

Rehearsal

**Friday 5/3-**

Rehearsal

**Tuesday 5/7-**

Rehearsal

**Thursday 5/9-**

Rehearsal

**Monday 5/13-**

Run Show

**Wednesday 5/15-**

Run Show

**Friday 5/17-**

Dress Rehearsal

**Tuesday 5/21-**

Dress Rehearsal

**Thursday 5/23-**

Final Dress Rehearsal

Perform tonight and tomorrow?

**Tuesday 5/28-**

Show Post Mortem

**Thursday 5/30-**

Final Review

**Monday 6/3-**

Final Review

**Thursday 6/5-**

Final