

Milford High School

PLAY PRODUCTION

Instructor: Megan Weeks
Contact: 248.684.8091 (MHS Main Office)
megan.weeks@hvs.org
Location: Milford High School, Room 704 / Little Theatre



Course Overview

In this one-semester (.5 credit) advanced drama course, students will develop critical thinking and reading skills while studying the structure and purpose of dramatic literature. Students will be required to read and analyze dramatic literature both in a conceptual way and for an actual full-length production. Students will work within several aspects of the theatre: acting and directing, improvisation, auditioning, scene building, character development, and theatrical design. Students will be expected to perform in a full length production and serve in at least one design/technical area for that production. **After school time will be required in late April and early to mid-May.** Students will also be required to view and critique others. Memorization and analysis are highly emphasized in this course and a strong work ethic is required.

Special Features of Play Production

- Qualifies for .5 of the Visual Performing Applied Arts graduation requirement
- Work based learning opportunities through the Michigan Educational Theater Association (META) and the Internationals Thespian Society (ITS) will be provided to students, as well as mentorship through the United States Institute of Technical Theater
- Students are invited to participate in the Milford High School Thespian Club - a local after-school student organization of the International Thespian Society
- Students will be required to pass a laboratory safety test before they can participate in the shop/laboratory experience. This safety test is given to ensure that every student is aware of the safety rules and regulations in this classroom.
- Many CTE programs at Milford are covered by articulation arrangements with local colleges and universities. "Articulation" is the process allowing students to earn college credit for demonstrating skills and competencies in their Milford High School coursework. Currently, we are working with Davenport University for articulated credit for the Theater Arts program - see me for details!
- We are working to offer USITT (Association for Performing Arts & Entertainment Professionals) industry certifications through the eSET/Essential Skills for Entertainment Technicians exams in one or more of the following areas:
 - *Basic Terms & Safety, Rigging, Lighting & Electrics, Costuming and/or Wardrobe Technician*

Units of Study

Stage Management

Lighting & Sound Design & Management

Employability/Communications (includes auditioning techniques & preparation)

Advanced Set Design/Construction

Principles of Advanced Technical Theater

Resources

All text, software, tools and other materials or equipment will be provided by Milford High School.

Opportunities to purchase personal tools will be available to interested students.

Main Texts: Script Analysis Project Script & *Production Script TBD*

Performance Requirements:

Performance days will be scheduled in advance. It is extremely important you are present not only on performance days but daily (as much as possible). An unexcused absence will result in a 0 for the day and/or performance. Excused absences will be dealt with on a case-by-case basis.

You **MUST** be able to commit to the following schedule in order to continue in this course. If you cannot, another class must be found for you. If you are absent during any of the below dates (excused or not) you will suffer a significant loss of points and will probably fail, at the very least, the 6th marking period and/or the final exam.

Show Week

Monday, May 1	2-6:00 pm
Tuesday, May 2	2-6:00 pm
Wednesday, May 3	2-6:00 pm
Thursday, May 4	2-5:00 pm (Final Dress Rehearsal)
Friday, May 5	5:00-9:30 pm (Show in evening)
Saturday, May 6	12:00-9:30

Grading:

This course has a point-based grading system. Each assignment will be assigned a maximum point value. When applicable, rubrics breaking down the points will be available. Participation points are given daily based on how well you utilize your time in class during the production.

Participation	varies depending on activities (usually 10-30 points per day)
Prod. Deadlines	50-100 points (assignment in design/memorization areas)
Monologues	200 points
Final Production	200 points & Partial Final Exam
Design Work	Final Exam

There are not many grades in this course. Your marking periods may only contain 3-5 posted grades so missing deadlines will be devastating to your grade. The final exam (the final production itself and your design work) is 25% of your semester grade.