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Grade 12 College/University Preparation ADA4M1

DRAMA

Course Overview

This course requires students to experiment with forms and conventions in dramatic literature and to create/adapt and present dramatic works. Students will do research on dramatic forms, conventions, themes and theories of acting and directing from different historical periods, and apply their knowledge of these in analysing and interpreting dramatic literature, including works from various cultures in the twentieth century. Students will also examine the significance of dramatic arts in various cultures.

Units of Study

Unit 1: Company Building and Improvisation

- Building trust through various drama activities
- Rediscover the nature of play through competitive and cooperative games
- Group and individual reflection, both written and oral is an important element to develop a company of performers
- Explore the basics of improvisation including CROW (characterization, relationship, objective, and whereabouts), blocking gagging and achieving focus within a scene

Unit 2: The Nature of Theatre, Stagecraft and Theatre Review

- Hands-on experiences with various aspects of dramatic arts productions
- Insight into the technical side of a production
- An understanding of the different roles of responsibilities behind the scenes (director, producer, stagehands, stage manager, lighting crew, and stage crew)
- Developing a critical eye
- Writing your own theatre review

Unit 3: The History of Canadian Theatre

- Analysis of scenes and characters from Canadian plays
- Dennis Foon, Judith Thompson, George F. Walker etc.
- *Six Canadian Plays, East End Plays Part 1, Skin, Liars, Toronto at Dreamer's Rock*

Unit 4: Script and Character Analysis

- Fleshing out dialogue
- Developing context and framing scenes
- Deciphering objectives and overall motivation for actors within a role
- Rehearsal process and scene production and performance for peers
- Performance of a 2-person dialogue

Unit 5: Independent Study/Monologue Performance

- This unit will work in conjunction with Unit 3
- Research a Canadian Playwright
- Choose a play by that playwright and research the history of the play
- A textual analysis including sub-text and a character analysis
- Performance of a monologue by a character written by your assigned playwright
- Rehearsal and performance for peers
- Playwriting, **write a One Act play (3-4 scenes) that emulates the style of the playwright researched.**

Unit 6: One Act Play Production

- Culminating unit performance worth 20% of the final course mark
- Students will be asked to perform as well as take on a stagecraft role such as director
- One Act plays will be selected from the plays written by the Grade 12 Drama students
- Auditions will be conducted
- Rehearsal and performance for an audience

Unit 7: Final Exam Performance

- Worth 10% of the final course mark
- Students will research, rehearse and present a monologue in a private performance with the teacher, held during the exam period

Educational Resources

Ministry Guidelines
Course Profiles
Various World Plays
Improvisation