

# DRAMA II & III: Introduction to Directing

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Office Hours: By Appointment Only (will vary based on rehearsal schedule)

## Course Description:

This course introduces the Harold Clurman and Anne Margaret approach to directing theater. Students will discover how to develop concepts through the dramatic material. The students will direct a one act play for their exam, running and documenting all aspects of the process: pre-production, auditions and rehearsal. The research portion of this class is self-study.

RESOURCES: (provided by Ms. Chesley): Harold Clurman's *On Directing* & Ann Bogart's *A Director Prepares* in addition to the chosen dramatic material for production.

## Benchmarks & Performance Standards:

*A student who completes Introduction to Directing will be able to:*

- Use the vocabulary of theater, such as genre, style, acting values, theme and design, to describe theatrical experiences. (1.1)
- Research, analyze, or serve as the dramaturge for a play in collaboration with the director, designer, or playwright. (1.2)
- Identify the use of metaphor, subtext, and symbolic elements in scripts or theatrical productions. (1.2)
- Make directing choices and guide actors to acting choices, using script analysis, character research, reflection, and revision to create characters from classical, contemporary, realistic and nonrealistic dramatic texts. (2.1)
- Improvise or write dialogues and scenes, applying basic dramatic structure (exposition, complication, crisis, climax & resolution) and including complex characters with unique dialogue that motivates the action. (2.2)
- Work collaboratively with actors to meet directorial goals in scenes and plays from a variety of contemporary and classical playwrights. (2.3)
- Analyze the impact of traditional and nontraditional theater, film, television, and electronic media on society. (3.2)
- Perform, design or direct theater pieces in specific theatrical styles. (3.3)
- Compare and contrast specific styles and forms of world theater. (3.4)
- Use complex evaluation criteria and terminology to compare and contrast a variety of genres of dramatic literature. (4.1)
- Draw conclusions about the effectiveness of informal and formal productions, films/videos, or electronic media on the basis of intent, structure, and quality of work. (4.2)
- Report on how a specific actor used drama to convey meaning in his or her performance. (4.3)

- Develop a thesis based on research as to why people create theater (4.4)
- Create projects in other school courses or places of employment, using tools, techniques, and processes from the study and practice of theatre, film/video, and electronic media. (5.1)
- Demonstrate the ability to create rehearsal schedules, set deadlines, organize priorities, and identify needs and resources when participating in the production of a play or a scene. (5.2)
- Communicate creative, design, and directorial choices to ensemble members, using leadership skills, aesthetic judgment, or problem-solving skills (5.3)
- Develop advanced or entry-level competencies for a career in an artistic or technical field in theatrical arts. (5.4)

## Grading:

### Quarterly Grades:

Text Evaluation= 40% of Grade

Rehearsal Process= 40 % of Grade

Class Participation= 20% of Grade

### Semester Grade:

1<sup>st</sup>& 2<sup>nd</sup> Quarter= 80%

Final Performance Exam= 20%

All lesson evaluations are designed and completed by the teacher so that the students are tested on in-class research and self study. Students are expected to work on text analysis and design within in the class period. Students must structure a casting and rehearsal process as well and create all aspects of design and production for the final performance piece. Students are tested on their willingness to take risks, complete assigned tasks and their ability to communicate about the work they have completed.. Written projects, exams and class work will be submitted by students to evaluate overall understanding of material in class.

### Projects:

- TEXT ANALYSIS
- CASTING & REHEARSAL PROCESS
- STUDENT ONE ACT PERFORMANCE

\*\*\*THE FINAL PERFORMANCE EXAM FOR THIS CLASS IS JANUARY 8<sup>th</sup> @ 7:00 p.m. Under no circumstances can students miss this exam or either of the rehearsals in preparation for it.\*\*\*