

**Ewing High School
English Department
Proficiency Statement
Drama**

Drama enables students to study the history of drama, discuss technique, and examine procedures related to the craft. Students will be required to transact both in speech and physical performance. Grades will be based on written assignments, participation, class work, group work, partnered work, and so on. The beginning of the course is primarily based on the Engelsman and Engelsman book *Theatre Arts: Student Handbook*. In addition, the course emphasizes the development of skills in critical reading of both imaginative and discursive literature (contemporary and classical), skills in writing about literature and related themes, and skills in orally presenting research, ideas, and scripts. By the end of the course, students should have a heightened sense of self-awareness, a greater ability to speak in public, a general understanding of the history of theater, a better grasp on group dynamics, and a comprehension of theater terms and practices.

To be proficient a student must satisfactorily complete the following:

Assessment:

1. Participate in large and small group discussions
2. Perform individually, with partners, within a small group, and within an ensemble
3. Deliver oral presentations
4. Respond to objective test items
5. Complete various forms of writing assignments
6. Complete projects as assigned by the teacher
7. Research various topics
8. React creatively and spontaneously

Literature

1. Read, analyze, and complete assignments for units on the history of theater, improvisation, sound and motion, oral interpretation, interpretative actions, and blocking a scene
2. Recognize and analyze various literary patterns as they are presented in plays and other works related to drama
3. Develop the ability to compare different versions of particular works and evaluate them in terms of their literary value
4. Respond to open-ended questions about various pieces of literature

Writing:

1. Create formal pieces of writing which appropriately analyze and reflect upon literature
2. Write original plays which apply key concepts and themes presented in the course of study
3. Complete between 2 and 4 creative writing assignments each marking period
4. Research and write a formal presentation on a selected theater time period and its drama
5. Use appropriate conventions of mechanics and usage

Speaking:

1. Participate in group oral presentations on a selected theater time period
2. State and support opinions during class discussions
3. Demonstrate one or more of the various purposes of speaking (to inform, persuade, entertain/and or inspire) when addressing a classroom audience
4. Use visual aids and appropriate non-verbal expression to reinforce meaning during a group or individual presentation

Listening:

1. Locate and analyze information from videos, music, or other electronic media
2. Take concise notes from class lectures or media presentations
3. Listen selectively, critically, attentively, and courteously to a variety of speakers
4. Listen and critique peer performances

Viewing:

1. Use a variety of technological and information resources (i.e. databases, computer networks, videos) to gather, synthesize, create and communicate information
2. Recognize and understand that visual creations can operate on several levels simultaneously (i.e. literal, allegorical, and symbolic).
3. Compare and contrast video adaptations of certain dramatic pieces we have read in class