

Middle School Acting for Camera: 5th Period, 12:26 - 1:20

Teacher: Josh Heard

Email: jheard@paparts.org

Google Classroom: ueip45a

Classroom Materials

- **1 Spiral Bound Notebook (100+ pages)** for coursework exploration/reflection
- **1 Pocketed Folder or Three Ring Binder** to keep track of assignments and projects
- **Pencils** (pencil required for all design work; pen optional for other writing assignments)

NOT REQUIRED BUT HELPFUL

- A computer with webcam and access to internet, OR
 - A cellphone with video camera and access to internet.
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Course Description

Students will learn how to behave as an audience member, the basics of acting, the differences between performing for stage and screen, audition techniques for film, standard on-set practices, basic film theory and terminology, and about the various crew members that make up a film set.

Goals and Objectives

The goal of this class is for students to be able to employ the tools we learn in class to craft believable performances for the screen. By the end of the year, students should understand how to perform and have a better understanding of the process of making a film.

Teaching Style

Students can expect to be introduced to a new topic at the beginning of each week, to complete daily and weekly assignments to demonstrate the students understanding of the topic, and to apply their new knowledge to creative group and independent projects.

Google Classroom / PowerSchool

Code to Join: **ueip45a**

All course material, assignments, projects, and test will be administered through our Google Classroom page. Grades will be posted to PowerSchool promptly.

Parents/Guardians can help their student by regularly having their child log in to Google Classroom to assist in monitoring coursework completion/progress and to regularly check PowerSchool to monitor grades.

Office Hours

I will be available to students during the school day. After the school day ends it is unlikely that I will check email or take work related calls, but I will reply promptly the next school day.

LATE WORK POLICY *(I follow the excused absence policy in the student handbook)*

Late work will be accepted for half-credit up to two weeks after the due date. After two weeks, the grade will be a zero. Student's may request extra time to complete an assignment without penalty on a case-by-case basis, but the student must communicate the need for more time before the due date. Late work will only be graded after the student has communicated directly with the teacher via email (jheard@paparts.org) to inform the teacher that the assignment has been turned in. The student's email must include the name of the assignment being turned in.

Late work will be graded as quickly as possible, but no later than before the end of the grading period. If a student is concerned that an assignment has not been graded, they are encouraged to send a followup email or to talk to the teacher during the class period.

Course Outline

The first several weeks will establish expectations on attendance, participation, behavior, and coursework as we learn how to use classroom resources and build a safe performance atmosphere.

Throughout the year students will progress through course units. Students will learn audience behavior, basic acting and performance skills, the differences between performing for stage and screen, standard on-set practices, and basic film theory and terminology.

Students will access course assignments through Google Classroom. At the beginning of each week there will be a post on the class stream called "WEEK-AT-A-GLANCE". This will give students an idea of what we will be working on throughout the week. It will also provide links to assignments.

Grading

Daily/Weekly Assignments - 60% of Quarterly Grade

Daily/Weekly Assignments will be graded based on the rubric for that particular assignment. Students can expect to complete a minimum of one assignment each week. Assignments generally support or build up to projects and quizzes.

Projects and Quizzes - 40% of Quarterly Grade

Throughout the semester students will work on independent and group projects that will be graded based on the rubric for the project.

Students can also expect to take quizzes at the end of each unit of instruction to assess their understanding of the topics covered.

Semester Final Evaluations - 20% of Semester Grade

At the end of each semester students will take a Final Exam that reviews knowledge gained over the course of the entire semester.

Other Information

Classroom Rules and Discipline Policy

1) Be respectful to adults and peers. 2) Use technology appropriately. 3) Be respectful of each other's health. 4) Be respectful of each other's right to learn. 5) Be on time and prepared for class.

Students are expected to behave properly at all times. Failure to do so may result in a verbal warning, parent phone call and or conference, or referral to the administration.

Cell Phone Policy:

Students should not have their cell phones when they are doing any school work unless the instructor specifically invites students to use them. Students are expected put their cell phones away before entering the class, and to only use them for work on assignments and projects when they are given permission. Otherwise, the phone needs to be off or on silent. Any cell phones that are out at inappropriate times will be taken away and returned at end of class. If this happens more than once, parents will be contacted, the administration will be notified, and the student's phone will be turned into the front office for the parent to pick up. If a parent or guardian needs to contact a student during the school day, it should be through the front office.

Supplies:

If you cannot get specific supplies for this class, please inform me and I will be happy to help.

Powerschool:

Parents and students should regularly log in to check their grades on Powerschool.