

EASTERN SCHOOL DISTRICT
Course Descriptor
Effective September 2006

Subject Area	Theatre Arts
Course:	Theatre Arts 3220
Level of Instruction:	Level III
References:	Course Description (1994)

Program Description/Guiding Principles:

Theatre Arts 3220 course is designed to build on the objectives and content of Theatre Arts 2200. It offers students an opportunity to extend their knowledge and skills in this area as well as specialize an aspect of theatre of particular interest to them. The course continues the focus of Theatre Arts 2200 on the development and exploration of each student's personal resources. In addition, it introduces students to the more formal elements of traditional theatrical production. Through increasingly complex and difficult activities, students are encouraged to further explore and extend their personal limitations. The primary focus of Theatre Arts 3220 will be the development and extension of important life skills: public speaking, communication skills, social and group dynamic skills, increased self-confidence/assurance, and divergent thinking. This course differs from Theatre Arts 2200 in the level of attainment of communication skills expected and in the knowledge and experience of the elements of traditional theatrical performance.

The topics and activities that comprise the minimum program include: speech (voice and diction); movement; improvisation/acting; aspects of production; theatre history. Topics for further study may include the following: directing; writing/ creating/adapting plays; mask exploration (acting specialization); exploration of Theatre in media (radio, TV, film); and, musical theatre.

Note: It is expected that students will have completed 2200, **before** entering 3220. However, a student may apply to have his/her previous theatre experience accepted in lieu of pre-requisites. It is at the discretion of the teacher to require an interview, portfolio and/or audition to evaluate the student's experience. Students enrolled in Theatre Arts 3220 will be expected to participate in all areas of the course and also specialize in one particular acting or technical area.

Weighting of Evaluation Components:

The evaluation of Theatre Arts 3220 will employ as many criteria as possible, use the widest possible variety of methods, and test as many different skills and values as possible, thereby addressing the objectives of the course as listed in the local **Course Description**, 1994. Every effort will be made to incorporate the various sources of data for student evaluation as outlined in the Department of Education's Guide, **The Evaluation of Students in the Classroom** (1990).

Evaluation will be continuous, sensitive, open, inclusive, and communicated clearly to students and appropriate others. It will also give students the opportunity to evaluate their own interests and abilities, and to make judgements about their own work.

Theatre Arts 3220 will not require students to write a formal midterm or final examination. A comprehensive cross-section of the following will be used for evaluation purposes:

observation	photographs
checklists	lighting plans
rating scales	narratives
anecdotal reports	sound plans
journals	descriptions
interviews	teacher-made test
conferences	demonstrating
	seminars
	oral explanations
	exhibitions
	stage models
	reports
	sketch books
	performance

log books

portfolio

projects

prompt book

video-tapes

production book

tape-recordings

reviews

self-evaluation

The bulk of the evaluation for the course will be based on the teacher's analysis of the daily transactional exchange that takes place between the teacher and students, and among the students themselves. All students will be expected to complete a minimum amount of work in both the acting and the technical areas. However, flexibility will be exercised in order to permit students to concentrate in their particular area of interest/skill.

By the end of the course, students will have a portfolio including a theatrical resume, samples of scripts and other work performed (e.g., video, still photo, reviews, awards, other sources found in the list above). All students will be asked to maintain such a portfolio.

Three areas in acting and three areas in technical are core and must be completed by all students and evaluated by teachers. Then there are opportunities for students to move to the specialization level in either the acting or the technical areas. The weighting of evaluation components will provide for both the general and specialized focus.

A: Basic Core40%

All students must complete activities designed to meet specific objectives and content for speech, movement and acting/improvisation. As well, students specializing in either acting or technical production must complete specific activities designed to meet the objectives and content as specified Section B of the *Course Description*.

B: Area of Specialization30%

Students specializing in the acting stream must undertake the extended course content as listed under Section C of the acting component in the *Course Description*.

Students specializing in the technical stream must undertake the extended course content as listed under Section C of the technical component in the *Course Description*.

C: Writing Component20%

All students will be expected to produce a representative sample of the following for their portfolios:

- character descriptions
- journal entries
- critiques
- reviews
- interviews
- play analyses
- background research

D: Self Evaluation10%

When students learn to evaluate their own work, they develop critical skills and share in the responsibility for their own growth. All students will be given an opportunity throughout the course to evaluate their growth, particularly in their area of specialization. Their self-evaluation will then become part of the summative "mark" students will receive.

Summary:

For calculation of the midyear grade, the following percentages will apply:

Work in Basic Core.....	40%
Work in Area of Specialization.....	30%
Written Work.....	20%
Self Evaluation.....	10%

For calculation of the final grade, the following percentages will apply:

Work in Basic Core.....	40%
Work in Area of Specialization.....	30%
Written Work.....	20%
Self Evaluation.....	10%