

**Theater: Acting I (Stanislavski)**

**Fall 2019**

**2019-2020 School Year**

**Course Code: CRSD1QQB- 11**

**Instructor: S. Manas**

Learning Standards:

*Course Objective:*

Students will create a characterization, both in writing and performance, through text analysis and use of Constantin Stanislavski's method of acting (also known as "Method Acting"). Students will cite evidence from the text to support their character analysis and work collaboratively with their peers to create fully realized scenes.

*New York State Learning Standards for the Arts*

**TH:Cr1** Students will generate and conceptualize artistic ideas and work.

**TH:Cr2** Students will organize and develop artistic ideas and work.

**TH:Cr3** Students will refine and complete artistic work.

**TH:Re9** Students will apply criteria to evaluate artistic work,

**TH:Cn11** Investigate ways that artistic work is influenced by societal, cultural, and historical context and, in turn, how artistic ideas shape cultures past, present, and future.

*Common Core Standards:*

**CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.RL.9-10.3**

Analyze how complex characters (e.g., those with multiple or conflicting motivations) develop over the course of a text, interact with other characters, and advance the plot or develop the theme.

**CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.SL.9-10.2**

Integrate multiple sources of information presented in diverse media or formats (e.g., visually, quantitatively, orally) evaluating the credibility and accuracy of each source.

**CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.SL.9-10.6**

Adapt speech to a variety of contexts and tasks, demonstrating command of formal English when

indicated or appropriate. (See grades 9-10 Language standards 1 and 3 [here](#) for specific expectations.)

**Course Description:**

Constantin Stanislavski is one of the most influential figures in theater. In Acting I: Stanislavski, students will go through the process of analyzing a character and text through Stanislavski's famous method. They will create a full analysis of this character through several steps in the method through a combination of writing assignments and acting exercises: given circumstances, imagination, tempo/rhythm, emotional memory, superobjective, and through line of action. Students will then rehearse and perform scenes together using Stanislavski's method to guide them.

**Calendar\*\*:**

Class Number	Classwork	Homework
1	Introduction to Theater Class, watch clips of method actors, and class discussion.	
2	Introduction to the Stanislavski System part 1	Read "Stanislavski and His System" from <i>The Stanislavski System</i> and answer questions. Due class #4
3	Introduction to the Stanislavski System part 2	
4	Components of the Stanislavski System	Read "Elements of an Action" from <i>The Stanislavski System</i> and answer questions. Due Class #6.
5	Given Circumstances Introduction	
6	Assign characters and scenes. Begin working on given circumstances for assigned characters	

7	Continue to work on given circumstances for assigned character	
8	Continue to work on given circumstances for assigned character	
9	Continue to work on given circumstances for assigned character	
10	Continue to work on given circumstances for assigned character	
11	Continue to work on given circumstances for assigned character	
12	Introduction to imagination component.	
13	Write imagination component for assigned character.	
14	Write imagination component for assigned character.	
15	Introduction to tempo/rhythm	
16	Develop and perform tempo/rhythm for assigned character.	
17	Introduction to emotional memory.	Read "Super-Objective and Through-Line of Action" from <i>The Stanislavski System</i> and answer questions. Due class #19
18	Write emotional memory component for assigned character	

19	Introduction to Superobjective and Through-line of action.	
20	Write Superobjective and Through-line of Action for assigned character.	
21	Finish super-objective and through line of action for assigned character.	
22	Introduction to and begin rehearsal	
23	Rehearsal	
24	Rehearsal	
25	Rehearsal	Prepare for performance
26	Rehearsal	Prepare for performance
27	Rehearsal	Prepare for performance
28	Rehearsal	Prepare for performance
29	Performance	Make up work
30	Performance	Make up work
31	Make up Work	

*\*\*subject to change based on student needs\*\**

Materials and Texts:

- *The Stanislavski System* by Sonia Moore
- *Our Town* by Thornton Wilder
- *Oz* by Don Zolidis

- *No Exit* by Jean-Paul Sartre
- *The Strangest Kind of Romance* by Tennessee Williams
- *Antigone Now* by Melissa Cooper
- Pencils
- Paper

### Grading Policy:

#### Projects -35%

Students will be assigned at least one project every semester. Some will have written components, some a performance/practical component, and some both. Students will be provided a rubric that the teacher will go over to assist them in completing the project to the best of their ability. Students are encouraged to frequently refer back to the rubric when completing projects.

#### Classwork – 15%

Students will first practice the various components of Stanislavski's method in small groups using the same script. Students are encouraged to refer to the rubrics when completing these assignments.

#### Homework – 10%

For homework, you will either receive a 100% for having completed it with clear effort or a 0 for having not completed it. Homework must show an effort has been made to be considered complete.

#### Attendance – 20%

You must come to class and you must be on time. You will receive 2 points (100%) for being present and on time, 1 point (50%) for being late, and zero points (0%) for an unexcused absence or cut.

#### Participation – 20%

When you are in class please participate. This is an easy way to boost your grade.

### Classroom Procedures:

Students are expected to be in class, on time, and ready to work. There is a bathroom in the classroom that students may use. If a student needs the nurse, the Dean, the unit coordinator, or to go to the main office, they will be allowed to go and provided a pass at the teacher and para's discretion.

Students will come into the classroom and complete a theater exercise unless otherwise directed. The students will then participate in the lesson. As the period comes to a close, the teacher will go over their behavioral points with the students, asking them first what they think they earned and then telling them what they actually earned. The rules and point policies are detailed in the next section.

### Class Rules and Behavior:

#### *School Rules:*

Students may not wear hats or bandanas in school. They may not bring weapons, drugs, alcohol, or any illegal paraphernalia into the school building. Students must attend school and be on time. Cell phones and other non-approved technology must be turned off and away while in class unless otherwise instructed.

#### *Classroom Rules:*

Rules are clearly posted in the classroom and are as follows:

1. Listen to your teachers and paras.
2. Keep your hands (and all other body parts) to yourself.
3. Be respectful of your peers and teachers.
4. Avoid side conversation.

#### *Behavioral System:*

For every period a student is in class they are eligible to receive up to 4 behavioral points, one for each rule they follow. These points will be recorded on a monthly behavioral points sheet. At the end of the month, if they have received an average of 3.5 points for the month, they will receive a reward to enjoy while they work or at a later time.