



## FT111 – Theater Arts I Syllabus – Collierville High School 2009-2010

Instructor: Mrs. Susan DeCarlo

Location: Room 157

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**Course Goals:** Theater Arts I emphasizes skills in oral communication including articulation, enunciation, and organization of ideas. These are taught through units in public speaking, voice and diction, group discussion and debate. Stress is placed on the acquisition of strong interpersonal communication skills.

### Assessment:

- **Daily Grades:** Quizzes and other graded daily activities.
- **Class participation:** Class activities, homework.
- **Major Grades:** Tests, projects, speeches.

**Grade Distribution:** Quarterly grades will be computed as follows:

- Daily grades will account for **25%** of the average.
- Class participation will account for **25%** of the average.
- Major grades will account for **50%** for the average.
- Students and parents may view grades via PowerSchool at any time. Access the Collierville High School website or my website for links.

### Required text:

- *Speech for Effective Communication, revised edition*

### Additional required materials:

- Blue or black pen & #2 pencil
- Loose-leaf paper (no ragged edged paper accepted)
- 3-ring binder (1 inch is sufficient)
- Dividers with tabs
- Paper clips and/or stapler

### Class policies:

- You are responsible for reading and following the policies in the CHS student handbook and the Shelby County handbook. I will enforce all policies.
- You are responsible for reading CHS's **honor code** and may sign an honor pledge.

- Place all assignments in the designated location **before class begins**. Multiple pages **must** be secured with a paper clip or staple at home. Some homework assignments will be exceptions.
- **I will not accept late work/projects** without prior approval. I rarely give approval and may require a written request and explanation. Printer malfunctions or lack of ink are not valid excuses. If you have a printer problem, submit neatly handwritten documents (in ink, double-spaced, and on one side of the paper) instead.
- Unless otherwise instructed, I prefer (but do not require) that out-of-class assignments be typewritten. You will use the standard **MLA manuscript format** (adopted by the CHS English Department) to “head” and “set-up” all papers.
- If you have questions before class, write them and put them in the designated location or ask them after bell work. I need the first few minutes of class to submit the attendance and prepare, but will answer questions before class begins.
- You will always have an assigned desk.

### **Class Assignments:**

- When you arrive each day, **bell work** will be on the board or overhead. You will begin the work as soon as you sit.
- I will provide you with a **calendar** of assignments through my website. You must record specific assignments and due dates in your **CHS agenda book**.
- **If you are absent**, you have 1 day after returning to complete the assignments. It is your responsibility to get and complete the assignments. Test make-ups will be in my room on Tuesdays at 2:15 pm.
- **Tests** evaluating your understanding of principles of communication and speech are part of the curriculum.
- **Speaking assignments** of varying length and formality are part of the curriculum. Expect to be audio and/or videotaped!
- Examples of topics you will study:
  - General communication principles
  - Intrapersonal communication
  - Interpersonal communication
  - Small group communication
  - Oral interpretation
  - Interviewing
  - Public speaking
  - Debate
  - Drama
  - Mass media

### **Class Guidelines:**

These are general, but cover many specific situations. We will discuss many of those situations in class.

- Be prepared.
- Be respectful.
- Be positive.

Get ready for a great year!