Course: ELL Drama

Instructor: Mr. Arias
Room: 811
Duration: August to December 2026

Course Description:
Welcome to ELL Drama! This course is designed to immerse English Language Learners in the exciting world of drama while enhancing their language skills. Through engaging activities, improvisations, and performances, students will build confidence in their English speaking and listening abilities, improve their vocabulary, and develop an appreciation for the arts. By participating in drama, students will gain practical experience in using English in various contexts, from scripted dialogues to spontaneous conversations.

Course Objectives:
Language Development: Expand vocabulary and improve grammar through interactive and expressive activities.
Communication Skills: Enhance speaking, listening, and non-verbal communication skills in a supportive environment.
Cultural Understanding: Explore and appreciate diverse cultural expressions and storytelling traditions.
Confidence Building: Increase self-assurance in using English through performance and collaborative projects.
Creative Expression: Foster creativity and imagination through improvisation and scripted performances.

Course Structure:
Warm-Up Activities: Start each class with exercises to relax and prepare for creative work, focusing on physical and vocal warm-ups.

Language Practice: Engage in activities designed to practice new vocabulary and phrases within the context of drama.
Improvisation: Participate in improvisational games and exercises to encourage spontaneous language use and creative thinking.
Grading

Grading will be categorized in three main areas: engagement, minor work, and major work

Daily Work – 15%
1. An absence is the loss of 5 points.
2. Non-participation in class discussion or group work will result in the loss of up to 4 points per day.
3. Misbehavior and disrespect will result in the loss of up to 4 points per day
4. Leaving necessary materials, laptop, or books at home, in a car or a locker will result in the loss of up to 4 points per day. Lanyards should be around the neck when the student enters the room.
5. No gum or candy in the mouth during class.
6. After an absence, points can be made up by reading a short play, performing an improvisation, or performing "extra"scene or monologue work.

Minor Work/ Homework –35%
Assignments include homework, vocabulary work, class notes, including those on reading, play production or scene work, reflective and response writing, and an occasional quiz. Students should keep all papers – handouts, notes, and graded work – until the end of the semester.Students are required to attend either the fall one-act or a UNK theater production and write a
critique about the performance and experience.

Major Work/ Performance/ Presentations–50%
Unit or final tests will have writing segments. Essays, critiques, and presentations such as memorized monologues and scene work also fall into this category. Assigned project work, either by individual or by group, will be graded and may include memorized scene work. There will be a final exam at the end of the semester (December 19-20)so plan ahead.

"Semester Test" Grade (will count 10% per semester)
– Q1 Grades + Q2 Grades = 90% of the First Semester Grade; Semester Test = 10%
– Q3 Grades + Q4 Grades = 90% of the Second Semester Grade; Semester Test = 10%

Contact Information
Parents may contact me by calling the high school and having the office leave a message. I will return calls as soon as possible. This year we will also be using Talking Points to communicate with parents.

Mr. Daniel Arias
Lexington High School Room 811 - Phone 324-4691
Email: daniel.arias@lexschools.org

Materials Needed:
Notebook and pen/pencil for notes and reflections.
Comfortable clothing suitable for movement and performance.
An open mind and willingness to experiment with new ideas!

Class Expectations:
Respect: Show respect for yourself, your peers, and the materials used in class.
Participation: Be actively involved in all activities and contribute to a positive learning environment.
Preparation: Come to class ready to engage, with all necessary materials and a readiness to learn.
Support: Offer encouragement to classmates and be open to giving and receiving constructive feedback.
Additional Notes:
Attendance: Regular attendance is crucial for continuous language development and performance preparation.
Office Hours: Available for additional support and one-on-one feedback. [Insert office hours or contact information if applicable.]
Let's embark on this creative journey together and make the most of every opportunity to grow in both language and drama!

Ipads & Hardware:

This year we will be using Ipads to type and do a lot of our school work. You are responsible for following instructions given by the instructor in regards to your device: Specifically enabling the bluetooth connectivity and allowing the instructor to use the *JAMF* app to share information (homework, class activities). This app will also be used to monitor progress and accountability (staying on task). You will receive three warnings if you are not following these directions: Next you may be sent to administration for further consequences.

Additionally, we will have a classroom set of keyboards that will be used in class and checked out on an overnight basis (checked out after school and returned before school the next day). Late fees may be given or you may be referred to administration if device is not returned or returned broken.

These pieces of technology are here for you: to make your educational experience more wholesome. Don't forget.

Google Classroom

Students will be expected to complete online assignments on this platform. They will be given a class code for the specific section/class period that they are in. They are expected to follow the school guidelines for online behavior. Most (if not all) class work will be accessible in google classroom.

ZOOM

In the event that class moves to remote learning, we will be using the ZOOm platform. Students will be expected to attend the zoom meetings at the assigned time slots. Expectations will be very similar to the above mentioned.

----------(CUT HERE)----------

Student Name (printed)_____

Student Signature_____

Parent Name (Printed)_____

Parent Signature_____

Date_____

The above signatures validate that my son/daughter shared this syllabus with me and we spoke about English 2 and the expectations.

Las firmas anteriores validan que mi hijo / hija compartió este programa de estudios conmigo y hablamos sobre la clase de Ingles 2 y las expectativas.