Course Title: Drama 3-6
Grade Level: 10 - 12
Length of Course: One year
Prerequisites: A "C" or better in Drama 1-2
Credit: 10 units per year (can be repeated for credit).

Course Description:
Students will utilize the basic theatre performance skills introduced in Drama 1-2. Students will be challenged to work at an advanced level of performance, analysis, research, technical design, playwriting and student directing. This course will emphasize performance, acting methods, extensive study of historical periods, preparation for college and professional theatre, and defining individual strengths and areas in which to improve. The commitment level needs to be high in this course and students should be prepared to work as a powerful and highly visible performance ensemble on campus and in the community. Students are encouraged to audition for the extracurricular productions and senior projects offered.

Goal Statements:
Students will:

- Prepare for further study in the theatre after graduation: in college, community theatre or in professional theatre.
- Emphasize "whole" theatre learning: technician, designer, actor, dancer, singer, choreographer, critic, director/playwright and dramaturge.

Units of Study:

- Theatre History: Greek Theatre, Commedia dell 'Arte, Restoration, Shakespeare, Absurdist/Abstract Theatre, Modern playwrights.
- Physical Training: Vocal diction, projection, tone; stage movement: blocking, physicality, choreography.
- Creative Expression: Playwriting, improvisation, pantomime, contrasting monologue work, stage direction, oral/written evaluation, analysis/discussion and critique, technical design, process piece, workshop scenes.
- Aesthetic Valuing: Evaluate and critique peer's stage work, professional theatre, professional playwrights/authors, student directing.
- Connections to Community: Students audition for between two and four productions per year. One mandatory performance is required of all 3-4 students during the spring semester. Senior projects are encouraged and are performed in the spring of senior year. A "conscience" play is written by the 3-4 students and performed every two years for the entire student body. Past themes have included: Peace, Gender, and Memorial 9/11. All performances are open to community. Lifelong skills are taught and career/college guidance is offered. Students are encouraged to audition and perform for high school theatre festivals: scenes, monologues and one-acts.

Student Outcomes for all Units of Instruction:
Students will:

- Have a better sense of career direction, performance strengths and weaknesses, and the confidence to audition for extracurricular productions and community/ college programs.

- Direct a one act play/scene.
  Write a one act play: contemporary, absurdist or abstract.
- Perform for the student body/community.
- Recognize and concentrate on the detail and theatrical specifics of various historical periods.
- Analyze, in great detail, plays, playwrights, live performance and technical design.
- Attend live theatre at ACT, MTC or Berkeley Rep with their class.
- Work as an individual and ensemble performer
- Be respectful and constructive in all critiques and daily rehearsals.
- Improve memorization, staging and makeup techniques.
- Study and perform different acting methods/styles.
- Design lighting, sets, costumes, props and sound for most class performances.

Skills to be Mastered:

- Vocal projection/diction
- Stage movement/blocking
- Character development
- Time management

Assessment Strategies:

- Students are graded daily on their class participation.
- Written and oral critiques, and evaluation by teacher and students in class.
- Students will be graded on each project and performance, based on specific criteria.
- Extra credit will be given to students who perform in extracurricular plays.
- May maintain a journal and notebook.

Instructional Strategies:

- Video
- Play reading and analysis
- Discussion and lecture
- Demonstration
- Guest speakers
- Field trips
- Individual/group direction
- Research
- Rehearsal/performance
- Critique

Instructional Materials"

- *Basic Drama Projects,* Tanner
- *Theatre Art in Action,* Taylor & Strickland
- Classroom theatre library
- Video
- Scripts, articles, technical manuals
- Live performance