

**Curriculum Map: Advanced Theatre**  
**Meadville Area Senior High School**  
**English Department**

Course Description: This course is an expanded study of the elements of theatre which include various playwrights, acting, staging, design and construction, direction and stage management. Students will create and maintain a portfolio of theatre information and research. The students will read and analyze different types of plays and prepare and perform scenes, as well as a final one-act production.

(Grades 11-12) 1/2 credit non-ranked (only offered in school years ending in an even numbered year)

ELECTIVE CREDIT ONLY - NOT AN ENGLISH CREDIT

**Unit Title:** Stage presence; vocal production; audition practice

**Suggested time frame:** 1 - 2 weeks

**Standards:** **9.1.12.B** Recognize, know, use and demonstrate a variety of appropriate arts elements and principles to produce, review and revise original works in the arts.

**9.1.12.C** Integrate and apply advanced vocabulary to the arts forms.

**9.1.12.F** Analyze works of arts influenced by experiences or historical and cultural events through production, performance or exhibition.

**Essential Questions:** What are the types and uses of audition formats?  
How can I improve stage presence and audition performance?  
What are the aspects of voice production and stage presence?  
What methods are useful to provide sufficient warm up and relaxation for stage performance?

<b>Competency</b>	<b>Vocabulary</b>	<b>Strategy</b>	<b>Resource</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>· Present good stage presence and auditioning technique</li><li>· Develop methods to improve voice production and vocal skills</li><li>· Practice warm up exercises and relaxation techniques</li></ul>	Cold reading, memorized monologue, projection, articulation, inflection, weak stage positions, auditors, open/ closed stage positions	Lecture, note taking, cold reading audition practice and performances, physical and vocal warm up exercises, self and teacher evaluation, video recording of performances	Instructor's notes Various online sources Various scene cutting resources <i>Drama Projects</i>

- Unit Title:** Production and Technical Theatre
- Suggested time frame:** 1 - 2 weeks
- Standards:**
- 9.1.12.B** Recognize, know, use and demonstrate a variety of appropriate arts elements and principles to produce, review and revise original works in the arts.
  - 9.1.12.C** Integrate and apply advanced vocabulary to the arts forms.
  - 9.1.12.F** Analyze works of arts influenced by experiences or historical and cultural events through production, performance or exhibition.
  - 9.1.12.J** Analyze and evaluate the use of traditional and contemporary technologies for producing, performing and exhibiting works in the arts or the works of others.
  - 9.1.12.G** Analyze the effect of rehearsal and practice sessions.
- Essential Questions:**
- What are the roles and responsibilities of a theatre production staff?
  - What are commonly used technical theatre terms?
  - What are the types and purposes of rehearsals?

Competency	Vocabulary	Strategy	Resource
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>· Identify the roles within and responsibilities of production staff</li> <li>· Explain and identify the types and purposes of stage rehearsals</li> <li>· Define and use terminology common</li> </ul>	Design fields, call board, strike, props, stage makeup, promptbook, blocking, business. Reading, blocking, polishing, dress, run-through, brush up rehearsals, line	Lecture, note taking, practice in directing and stage managing, self and teacher evaluation	Instructor's notes Various online sources <i>Drama Projects</i>

in technical theatre	check, costume parade, preview performance		
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**Unit Title:** Memorized Scene Production and Performance

**Suggested time frame:** 3 - 4 weeks

**Standards:**

**9.1.12.A** Know and use the elements and principles of each art form to create works in the arts and humanities.

**9.1.12.B** Recognize, know, use and demonstrate a variety of appropriate arts elements and principles to produce, review and revise original works in the arts.

**9.1.12.C** Integrate and apply advanced vocabulary to the arts forms.

**9.1.12.F** Analyze works of arts influenced by experiences or historical and cultural events through production, performance or exhibition.

**Essential Questions:**

What scenes and roles are appropriate for student actors?

How can I develop characters and memorize dialogue effectively?

What are the aspects of voice production and stage presence?

What methods are useful to provide sufficient warm up and relaxation for stage performance?

Competency	Vocabulary	Strategy	Resource
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>· Present good stage presence and vocal production</li> <li>· Develop methods to develop</li> </ul>	Upstage, downstage, stage right/ left/ center, project, articulate, tone, props	Select, plan, execute memorized performances, physical and vocal warm up	Teacher knowledge Various online sources Various scene cutting

character and memorize dialogue · Plan and execute scene blocking and business and props and setting · Work cooperatively and collaboratively with scene partners		exercises, self and teacher evaluation, video recording of performances	resources <i>Drama Projects</i>
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**Unit Title:** Director's preparation

**Suggested time frame:** 2 weeks

**Standards:** **9.1.12.A** Know and use the elements and principles of each art form to create works in the arts and humanities.

**9.1.12.C** Integrate and apply advanced vocabulary to the arts forms.

**9.1.12.F** Analyze works of arts influenced by experiences or historical and cultural events through production, performance or exhibition.

**Essential Questions:**  
 What is the shorthand for recording stage movement?  
 How is a stage floor plan drawn?  
 What are the aspects of physical characterization on stage?

Competency	Vocabulary	Strategy	Resource
· Identify and use shorthand to record stage movements · Draw a stage floor plan	Pantomime, floor plan, physical characterization, to upstage, elevation, cross, counter cross, curved cross,	Lecture, note taking, draw floor plans, create stage pictures using elevation	Instructor's notes Various setting descriptions Various online sources

· Display characterization through physical expression, no vocals	above/ below, cheat, stage picture	and up/downstage, practice physical characterization, perform a short story in pantomime	2002 PA Governor's Institute for Arts Educators standards based plan <i>Drama Projects</i>
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**Unit Title:**

Portfolio

**Suggested time frame:**

18 weeks (ongoing throughout semester)

**Standards:**

- 9.1.12.A** Know and use the elements and principles of each art form to create works in the arts and humanities.
- 9.1.12.B** Recognize, know, use and demonstrate a variety of appropriate arts elements and principles to produce, review and revise original works in the arts.
- 9.1.12.C** Integrate and apply advanced vocabulary to the arts forms.
- 9.1.12.D** Demonstrate specific styles in combination through the production or performance of a unique work of art
- 9.1.12.E** Delineate a unifying theme through the production of a work of art that reflects skills in  
media processes and techniques.
- 9.1.12.F** Analyze works of arts influenced by experiences or historical and cultural events through production, performance or exhibition.
- 9.1.12.G** Analyze the effect of rehearsal and practice sessions.
- 9.1.12.H** Incorporate the effective and safe use of materials, equipment and tools into the production of works in the arts at work and performance spaces.
- 9.1.12.I** Distinguish among a variety of regional arts events and resources and analyze methods of selection and admission.
- 9.1.12.J** Analyze and evaluate the use of traditional and contemporary technologies for producing, performing and exhibiting works in the arts or the works of others.

**9.1.12.K** Analyze and evaluate the use of traditional and contemporary technologies in furthering knowledge and understanding in the humanities.

**9.2.12.A** Explain the historical, cultural and social context of an individual work in the arts.

**9.2.12.C** Relate works in the arts to varying styles and genre and to the periods in which they were created

**9.2.12.D** Analyze a work of art from its historical and cultural perspective.

**9.2.12.E** Analyze how historical events and culture impact forms, techniques and purposes of works in the arts

**9.2.12.H** Identify, describe and analyze the work of Pennsylvania Artists in dance, music, theatre and visual arts.

**9.2.12.I** Identify, explain and analyze philosophical beliefs as they relate to works in the arts

**9.2.12.J** Identify, explain and analyze historical and cultural differences as they relate to works in the arts

**9.2.12.K** Identify, explain and analyze traditions as they relate to works in the arts

**9.2.12.L** Identify, explain and analyze common themes, forms and techniques from works in the arts

**9.3.12.A** Explain and apply the critical examination processes of works in the arts and humanities.

**9.3.12.C** Apply systems of classification for interpreting works in the arts and forming a critical response.

**9.3.12.E** Examine and evaluate various types of critical analysis of works in the arts and humanities.

**9.3.12.F** Analyze the processes of criticism used to compare the meanings of a work in the arts in both its own and present time.

**9.3.12.G** Analyze works in the arts by referencing the judgments advanced by arts critics as well as one's own analysis and critique.

**9.4.12.B** Describe and analyze the effects that works in the arts have on groups, individuals and the culture

**Essential Questions:**

How to critically and aesthetically evaluate a production from an audience's point of view?  
What are some significant playwrights and their contributions to drama?  
How to critically and aesthetically evaluate a play from reading the text?  
What aspect or aspects of theatre performance and production are most appealing and interesting?

<b>Competency</b>	<b>Vocabulary</b>	<b>Strategy</b>	<b>Resource</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>· Attend and evaluate live stage productions from an audience member's perspective</li><li>· Identify and study significant playwrights and their personal and professional lives</li><li>· Read and critically evaluate scripts and published plays</li><li>· Focusing on one or two aspects of theatre production of the student's choosing and thoroughly study and investigate the elements</li></ul>	Plot, character, setting, direction, language/ dialogue, technical theatre, audience, talent pool, space capabilities, resources available, visualization, floor plan, drafting, scenic rendering, light plot and schedule	Student created and maintained portfolio including: playgoing logs, playwright biographies, play reading list, resource section, class/ exercise notes Student presentations of portfolio materials in class	Instructor's notes Instructor's forms and instructions Student binders with dividers



**Unit Title:**

Final Production

**Suggested time frame:**

4 - 6 weeks

**Standards:**

**9.1.12.A** Know and use the elements and principles of each art form to create works in the arts and humanities.

**9.1.12.B** Recognize, know, use and demonstrate a variety of appropriate arts elements and principles to produce, review and revise original works in the arts.

**9.1.12.C** Integrate and apply advanced vocabulary to the arts forms.

**9.1.12.D** Demonstrate specific styles in combination through the production or performance of a unique work of art

**9.1.12.F** Analyze works of arts influenced by experiences or historical and cultural events through production, performance or exhibition.

**9.1.12.G** Analyze the effect of rehearsal and practice sessions.

**9.1.12.H** Incorporate the effective and safe use of materials, equipment and tools into the production of works in the arts at work and performance spaces.

**9.1.12.K** Analyze and evaluate the use of traditional and contemporary technologies in furthering knowledge and understanding in the humanities.

**9.2.12.D** Analyze a work of art from its historical and cultural perspective.

**9.2.12.L** Identify, explain and analyze common themes, forms and techniques from works in the arts

**9.3.12.G** Analyze works in the arts by referencing the judgments advanced by arts critics as well as one's own analysis and critique.

**Essential Questions:**

How do directors select appropriate scripts for production?

What aspects and limitations of production need to be considered to produce a drama?

What are the duties and responsibilities of various roles in producing a stage production?

What criteria are used to critically evaluate a production?

<b>Competency</b>	<b>Vocabulary</b>	<b>Strategy</b>	<b>Resource</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>· Select a published one act play appropriate for a class production</li><li>· Assign roles and duties for production of play</li><li>· Rehearse and prepare for performance</li><li>· Perform published, non royalty, one act play</li><li>· Evaluate/ critique final production</li></ul>	Drama, comedy, tragedy, farce, royalty/ non royalty plays, production rights	Working collaboratively, produce a published play, Director,, stage manager, props crew, costume crew and actors should exercise their responsibilities from selection of play through final performance ; rehearse and prepare production; perform for an invited audience; view and critique video recording of production	Teacher knowledge Non royalty one act plays Student contributions Props and costumes