

MONTE VISTA CHRISTIAN SCHOOL  
VIPA 4629 Theatre Arts III/IV  
Course Syllabus

Course Description:

A comprehensive exploration of theatrical performance with a specific focus on technique, method and application. This fast-paced course will challenge students through experience in multiple areas of the theatre arts. Students will be required to act in both major Studio MV productions and one class production. In addition, the students will gain hands-on experience developing and delivering educational presentations with the goal of preparing students to utilize their developed artistic skills beyond the classroom. This full-year course addresses National Core and California State Standards for theatre arts - grades nine through twelve through a Biblical lens. This course requires after-school/evening rehearsals and performances.

Curricular Mapping:

This class builds on the foundational skills learned in Theatre Arts I and Theatre Arts II by providing practical experience in stage performance, advanced improvisation, production analysis, resume and portfolio creation, and the development of professional presentation skills while placing an emphasis on respect and accountability through peer service activities. This class aims to provide an understanding of the importance of professionalism and teamwork and prepare students for the performance expectations found in both academic and career pursuits.

Course Objectives:

Upon the successful completion of this course the student will be able to:

1. Select and prepare appropriate monologues for theatre auditions.
2. Demonstrate proficiency as an actor through preparation, performance and improvisation.
3. Use grade level appropriate vocabulary to discuss aspects of theatre.
4. Distinguish between and demonstrate techniques from foundational acting methods and styles.
5. Demonstrate accountability to the team process.
6. Demonstrate an ability to utilize theatrical skill in a non-theatrical setting.

Texts:

Your necessary digital texts for this class will be part of a “Required Course Materials Fee” thru the EdTech bookstore. This is a bundle purchase of digital texts for your full schedule of classes and will be available for purchase after 7/18/16. For further instructions please visit the [16-17 School Year](#) icon on the MVCS homepage. Please note: some courses may require additional purchases outside of the course materials fee.

The following application is **recommended**

Drama PropBox



In addition to the above mentioned application, the purchase of one to two low-cost iPad applications may be required. The total for all additional application purchases will not exceed \$25.

Prerequisites:

Successful completion of or concurrent enrollment in VIPA 3629 (TA II), a minimum GPA of 2.0 and approval from the instructor. Exceptions may be made on a case by case basis and are at the discretion of the instructor.

Course Outline and Requirements:

This course is an advanced level Theatre Arts class. The course will focus on providing rounded experience for theatrical work. It will include advanced practice in improvisation through various in-class exercises and activities, professional training for the audition process in preparation for college auditions, theatre appreciation and in-depth analysis of theatrical works, training in multiple theatre techniques, discussion and experience with publicity and costume design, experience as an actor in theatrical productions and practical application of theatrical skills beyond the classroom. Professionalism, teamwork and accountability will be emphasized.

Due to the participatory nature of the class, a daily participation grade will apply. In addition to participation, students will be required to complete the following assignments:

1. Develop an “open” audition that includes 2 contrasting monologues and a portfolio with headshot and resume.
2. Perform as an actor in 3 productions.
3. Demonstrate competence in multiple acting methods and techniques
4. Design and deliver an interpretive presentation

Grading:

| <u>Grade Book Categories</u> |     | <u>Semester Weighted Grading Configuration</u> |     |
|------------------------------|-----|------------------------------------------------|-----|
| Productions                  | 50% | Quarter                                        | 40% |
| Assignments                  | 35% | Quarter                                        | 60% |
| Participation                | 15% |                                                |     |

Explanation of Grade Book Categories:

1. **Productions** = 50%

**Call Times:** The **call time** is the time of required arrival for cast and crew members involved in a rehearsal or performance. Prompt arrival is extremely important, as it allows the student to prepare adequately for the performance. Students who arrive late for a specified call will have their performance grade lowered by 5 points for every 5 minutes of infraction. This can add up quickly, so please arrive on time.

2. **Assignments** = 35%

3. **Participation** = 15 %

- a. 5 points per day
- b. Participation points can be made up for excused/extended absences. An additional assignment will be given upon request on a case by case basis.
- c. Extended absences must be pre-approved through a signed Advance Absence Request form (available in Student Services) to qualify for makeup work.

4. **Late Work** – This class requires group participation. Most assignments affect additional students. For this reason, late work may be assessed a penalty of 10% per day for major assignments and a flat 50% for minor assignments. Late penalties will be assessed at the discretion of the instructor.

5. **On Task Work** – When time is given in-class to work on assignments, the student is expected to be on-task. When students are off-task (e.g. playing games, messaging, working on other courses, etc.), the instructor has the discretion to deduct points from the assignment's total point value, up to 50%.

6. **Homework Expectations** – This is an advanced level class and will require an outside of class commitment in the following areas:

- a. Rehearsals = dependent on the role. This can range anywhere from 2-10 hours per week during preliminary rehearsals and up to 16-25 hours per week immediately prior to and during the performances. Roles are auditioned for by the student.
- b. Memorization of lines = dependent on the student. In most cases, at least one to two weeks are allowed for small roles and up to one month is allowed for large roles.
- c. Small projects = up to two hours.
- d. Theatre Appreciation Paper = up to two hours over a period of one to two weeks.
- e. Interpretive Presentation = 5-10 hours. For this project, a minimum of two to three weeks is allowed for creation. Some work is done in class.

### High School Standard Grading Policy:

Please refer to the policy and procedures posted online in our Student Handbook.

### Class Policies:

**Attendance** – In-class participation on a daily basis is crucial in acting. Not only does absence affect the individual student, it affects the class as a whole. Therefore, this class includes a daily participation grade.

**Tardiness** – Tardiness slows down the progress of the class as a whole and puts the tardy student at a disadvantage. Students must be in class and ready to work when the bell rings. Tardies will be tallied and reported according to Monte Vista policy.

### **Additional Guidelines**

1. Beverages must be in a closed container.
2. Students are expected to be respectful to faculty, staff, and fellow students at all times.
3. Students are not allowed in the Theatre Arts storage shed, tool room, or technical booth unless specifically assigned to a duty in one of the aforementioned areas.
4. Students are not allowed in the office area without permission from the instructor.
5. Failure to follow the aforementioned guidelines will result in disciplinary action.

### School Policies:

Students are subject to all academic policies of the school as found in the Parent-Student Handbook. Furthermore, it is each student's responsibility to read and follow all academic policies of Monte Vista Christian School. In addition to addressing each ESLR every year, we target a specific ESLR each academic year for particular focus.

### Tips for the Students and Expected Student Learning Results (ESLRs):

1. **“There are no small parts, only small actors.”** Milan Kundera
2. Communicate with the instructor. Advance notification of absences and other issues is the best way to assure your work will receive full credit.
3. Be willing to participate and try new things. Acting is more fun when you are not worried about what people think.

### Miscellaneous:

1. All Studio MV students are encouraged to attend the California State Thespian Festival.
2. Please see attached class schedule for specific dates and times of rehearsals, performances, events and activities.

MONTE VISTA CHRISTIAN SCHOOL

VIPA 4619, Theatre Arts III/IV (Workshop)

2016-2017 Performance & Activity Schedule

**Semester 1 – *The events listed below are subject to change***

**Fall Production:**

Auditions – August 17 – 19, 2016

After school rehearsals – TBA (dependent on role)

Evening Rehearsals – TBA (dependent on role)

Tech/Dress Rehearsals – October 17 – 26, 2016

Performances – October 27 – 29, October 31 (day performance) & November 3 – 5, 2016

**Class Showcase:** TBA

**Spring Production:** Auditions – December 5 – 7, 2016

**Semester 2 – *The events listed below are subject to change***

**Spring Production:**

Auditions – December 5 – 7, 2016

After school rehearsals – TBA (dependent on role – begin in January)

Evening Rehearsals – TBA (dependent on role)

Tech/Dress Rehearsals – February 13 – 22, 2017

Performances – February 23 – 25 & March 2 – 4, 2017

**Call Times:** The **call time** is the time of required arrival for cast and crew members involved in a rehearsal or performance. Prompt arrival is extremely important, as it allows the student to prepare adequately for the performance. Students who arrive late for a specified call will have their **performance grade lowered by 10 points for every 5 minutes of infraction**. This can add up quickly, so please arrive on time.