



**Course Title:** Creating Theatre

**Course Description:** This class will guide students through the process of creating an original theatre work. Students will practice community building, storytelling, research interviewing, script writing, and performance skills. This course is for students of any theatre experience level. There is a requirement to be involved in the staged reading in December and the production in April/May as a performer, director, stage manager, or designer.

**FALL 2023**

Fall Unit 1: Community Building and Theatre Skills
Fall Unit 2: Script Writing and Playbuilding
Fall Unit 3: Script Writing and Performance

**SPRING 2024**

Spring Unit 4: Performance and rehearsal skills
Spring Unit 5: Rehearsal and Production
Spring Unit 6: Production, Performance, Reflection

**Unit One: Community Building and Theatre Skills**

Number of weeks: 5

**High School 9th-12th Grade:**  
*Objectives:*

- Students will establish a foundation of trust with instructors and peers
- Students will understand, shape, and set up expectations for theatre using class values of presence, joy, love, respect, support
- Students will build community using theatre exercises
- Students will learn story structure and practice personal narrative storytelling formats



*Learning Activities:*

- Theatre games to establish trust and introduce embodied learning structures
- Building classroom rituals
- Personal narrative storytelling, story circles
- Improvisation
- Character building
- Theme building

*Assessments:*

- Completed classroom expectations and agreements reflection
- Facilitate a classroom ritual (game, check-in, closing)
- Completed personal narrative story
- Selection of theme

*Arizona State Education Standards:*

Artistic Process: Creating

Anchor Standard #2 - Organize and develop artistic ideas and work

TH.CR.2.HS2b b. Cooperate as a creative team to make interpretive choices for a theatrical work.

Artistic Process: Connecting

Anchor Standard #10 - Synthesize and relate knowledge and personal experiences to make art

TH.CN.10.HS1a a. Investigate how cultural perspectives, community ideas and personal beliefs impact a theatrical work.

**Unit Two: Script Writing and Playbuilding**

Number of weeks: 5

**High School 9th-12th Grade:**

*Objectives:*

- Students will use theatre exercises to support the research process
- Students will write a script using their own experiences and research



*Learning Activities:*

- Exploring and selecting playbuilding tools which could include writing, interview, improvisation, outlining, story circle, games and performance
- Writing complete draft of script

*Assessments:*

- Completed script outline

*Arizona State Education Standards:*

Artistic Process: Creating

Anchor Standard #1 - Generate and conceptualize artistic ideas and work

TH.CR.1.HS2a

b. Explore how cultural, global, and historic belief systems affect creative choices in a theatrical work.

Artistic Process: Creating

Anchor Standard #11 - Relate artistic ideas and works with societal, cultural, and historical context to deepen understanding

TH.CN.11.HS1b

b. Use basic theatre research methods to better understand the social and cultural background of a theatrical work.

**Unit Three: Script Writing and Performance**

Number of weeks: 5

**High School 9th-12th Grade:**

*Objectives:*

- Students will complete the script writing process, finishing a first draft
- Students will rehearse and perform a staged reading of the script draft

*Learning Activities:*

- Students will build a complete script
- Students will assign roles for the performance
- Students will give each other feedback on their collaborative process & performance



*Assessments:*

- Completed script draft
- Participation in staged reading performance of script

*Arizona State Education Standards:*

Artistic Process: Performing  
Anchor Standard #6 - Convey meaning through the presentation of artistic work  
TH.PR.6.HS2  
Present a theatrical work using creative processes that shape the production for a specific audience.

**Unit Four: Performance and rehearsal skills**

Number of weeks: 5

**High School 9th-12th Grade:**

*Objectives:*

- Students will practice the rehearsal process
- Students will choose and practice production roles
- Students will explore and engage in the design process

*Learning Activities:*

- Completed revised script draft
- Performance skills workshops
- Characterization
- Rehearsal sessions

*Assessments:*

- Fully cast production
- Half of the show is rehearsed

*Arizona State Education Standards:*

Artistic Process: Creating



Anchor Standard #2 - Organize and develop artistic ideas and work  
TH.CR.2.HS2b b. Cooperate as a creative team to make interpretive choices for a theatrical work.

Artistic Process: Connecting  
Anchor Standard #10 - Synthesize and relate knowledge and personal experiences to make art  
TH.CN.10.HS1a a. Investigate how cultural perspectives, community ideas and personal beliefs impact a theatrical work.

## Unit Five: Rehearsal and Production

Number of weeks: 5

### High School 9th-12th Grade:

#### *Objectives:*

- Students will practice the rehearsal process
- Students will choose and practice production roles
- Students will explore and engage in the design process

#### *Learning Activities:*

- Rehearsal sessions
- Design process sessions

#### *Assessments:*

- Full show rehearsed on its feet
- Design process is complete

#### *Arizona State Education Standards:*

Artistic Process: Creating  
Anchor Standard #1 - Generate and conceptualize artistic ideas and work  
TH.CR.1.HS2a  
b. Explore how cultural, global, and historic belief systems affect creative choices in a theatrical work.



Artistic Process: Creating

Anchor Standard #11 - Relate artistic ideas and works with societal, cultural, and historical context to deepen understanding  
TH.CN.11.HS1b

b. Use basic theatre research methods to better understand the social and cultural background of a theatrical work.

## Unit Six: Production, Performance, Reflection

Number of weeks: 5

### High School 9th-12th Grade:

#### *Objectives:*

- Students will practice the rehearsal process
- Students will choose and practice production roles
- Students will explore and engage in the design process

#### *Learning Activities:*

- Rehearsal sessions, tech week and performance
- Building designs to complete set, props, costumes, sound
- Final performance of full production

#### *Assessments:*

- Completed performance of full production
- Completed group and individual reflection

#### *Arizona State Education Standards:*

Artistic Process: Performing

Anchor Standard #6 - Convey meaning through the presentation of artistic work  
TH.PR.6.HS2

Present a theatrical work using creative processes that shape the production for a specific audience.