



## **Technical Theatre II-IV Syllabus Burbank High School 2024–2025**

**Instructor: Ms. Wisniewski**  
**Department: Fine Arts**

**Course # 6462,6463,6464**  
**Conference Period: 6th**

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### **Course Description**

This course will help you gain knowledge of theatrical design and the production process involved in putting on a play. This includes lighting, sound, set construction and design, costume, make-up, stage management, and backstage work.

### **Expectations**

I have three guidelines for my classroom:

- 1. Follow directions**
- 2. Do your work**
- 3. Be nice**

We will determine together what these rules look like in our classroom.

### **Coursework and Grades**

The breakdown is as follows:

**40% - Assessments**  
**60% - Assignments**

You will receive rubrics for every major assignment and performance ahead of time. Since some of you are 10<sup>th</sup> graders, you will also receive IB MYP grades based on the Luther Burbank IB World High School Assessment Policy.

### **Assignments**

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#### **Warm-ups/Journal Work**

There will be a daily warm-up activity. It could be a journal reflection, a small project, or a questionnaire. Completing these will count towards your weekly participation grade. Also, your note-taking in your journal will count as a participation grade.

### **Script Analysis**

You will be reading plays and scenes in this class. Since you will be creating props and sets for plays, you will need to know what they are about. This will be done in class and any unfinished work will be homework. **Any plagiarism will result in a zero, parent contact, and potentially further administrative action in accordance with the Luther Burbank IB World High School Academic Honesty Policy.**

### **Performance Review**

You will be asked to watch and review one theatrical or dance performance per semester. Burbank will hopefully have at least two performances that you will be able to attend. You may also see shows at other schools, churches, local theatres.

This review will be a written paper, at least one page long, that may follow a specific format I will provide you.

If you do not attend a live show, you will have an opportunity to read a play and present a report to the class on the play as an alternative activity. I have a large library of plays available for this.

### **Design Assignments**

You will be spending part of the first semester learning about design and the second semester designing a show. Throughout the year, there will be individual design assignments to complete. The components leading up to the final design project will count as daily and weekly assignments. Sometimes just participating will be all you need to do. Sometimes, you will need to turn in classwork. I will let you know and will always provide a rubric to show how you are being graded,

### **Correct Use of Tools/Materials**

You will be graded on identifying tools and their correct usage and storage in class. Safety is my top concern and passing a safety test will be required to use tools in class.

### **Reading Assignments**

At the beginning of a unit you may have reading assignments to complete. All the reading you are given will be tested and it is your responsibility to make sure that you are clear on the material.

## Assessments

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### **Design Projects**

You will be working on designing props, set pieces and costumes for shows during this class. You will be working on these projects for a week or two at a time. While you will get grades on small parts of the projects, the final, completed product will be graded as one, or multiple, test grade(s).

### **Quizzes/Tests**

There will be quizzes and tests in this class at the very least every four weeks. The tests and quizzes will cover information I have given you in class, scripts we have read and can also be practical tests where you must demonstrate correct procedures for operating equipment. You will complete 4-week tests, 8-week tests, and semester exams for this class.

### **Policy Information**

#### **Tardy Policy/Passes/Food/Restrooms**

Please arrive on time and in compliance with the dress code. If the door is closed, you will be marked tardy upon your arrival and will need to sign in on the tardy log located by the door.

Passes will only be issued after the first 10 minutes of class and until the last 10 minutes of class.

You may bring a tightly closed water bottle into class but absolutely **NO FOOD**. Eat before the bell rings and before you come into class. Food found in class will be confiscated.

#### **Phones/Technology**

Phones will be collected as you enter class. Students may occasionally need their Chromebooks, but the majority of the written work in this class will be done in an interactive journal.

#### **Tutoring**

My tutoring hours are Mondays and Wednesdays from 8:00 – 8:30 a.m. in room 3217 or by appointment. Please see me for a pass before you attend. My email address is **[mwisniewski1@saisd.net](mailto:mwisniewski1@saisd.net)** and I am more than happy to look at assignments or answer questions through electronic media.

Students may also attend a one-hour after-school rehearsal to make up class work or missed classes. Rehearsals start at 4:45 pm on Mondays, Wednesdays, or Thursdays and at 2:30 pm on certain Fridays.

#### **Mandatory Supplies**

- Composition book
- Pens AND Pencils
- Imagination ☺
- Ruler
- Scripts (when applicable)
- Closed-toed shoes (when in the shop)

## **Classroom Expectations**

The students and I have come up with classroom expectations and a respect agreement. The students will be held accountable to these standards within the classroom.

Lastly, safety will be the most important consideration in this class. Students need to know how to use equipment and always be aware of what they and their fellow students are doing at all times.

**Students will need to pass a safety exam before being able to participate in class activities using tools.**

## **MYP Unit Plans (Subject to adjustment throughout the year)**

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First Semester:

Unit One – Building a scale model/Sketch-Up

Unit Two – UIL Design Contest

Unit Three – Lighting

Second Semester:

Unit Four – Sound Design

Unit Five – Using the SoundBoard

Unit Six – Makeup Design

Unit Seven – Shop Safety

## **Resources**

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Students will have access to our Canvas classroom where the course materials will be stored online.

If students are interested in working on the haunted house or participating in any of the school plays, please join the **Burbank Thespians Remind** by using this class code: **@73agb2**.

You may also contact me via my district email with any questions or concerns:

**[mwisniewski1@saisd.net](mailto:mwisniewski1@saisd.net)**

**TECHNICAL THEATRE II-IV SYLLABUS ACKNOWLEDGMENT FORM**

By signing this form, I acknowledge that I have reviewed the syllabus for Tech Theatre I and understand the requirements and procedures associated with this course including:

- Phones will be secured for the duration of class time
- Students are required to review a play each semester.
- Class participation is part of a student's grade.
- A safety test will need to be passed to use tools.
- Plagiarism will result in a zero on that assignment.

A digital copy of this syllabus will also be available online on Canvas and Ms. Wisniewski's teacher website, which is accessible through the Burbank homepage.

Thank you for your time and help in ensuring your student has a successful year.

Sincerely,

Michele Wisniewski

Please return this acknowledgment by August 21, 2024.

**Student Name:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Parent/Guardian Name:**

**Parent/Guardian Signature:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Parent/Guardian Phone #:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Parent/Guardian Email:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Preferred Method of Contact (Please circle one.):**      Email                  Phone                  Text

**Best time to contact:**

Before school      During the school day      After school      Other: \_\_\_\_\_

**Date:** \_\_\_\_\_