**Daily Expectations**

* Be in your seat and ready to work *before* the late bell rings – check the opening task
* Come prepared with required materials (loose-leaf paper, blue/black pens, books, assignments)
* Work productively during independent work time; participate in clean up before the bell rings
* Conduct yourself according to class expectations and North Thurston High School’s expectations

**Hall Passes:** Each student has 4 hall passes per semester. Make an effort to visit the bathroom before/after class or during lunch.

You are required to sign in and out on the clipboard.

**Assigned Seats:** Attendance is taken based on an assigned seating chart. You must be in your assigned seat to be marked present. Remain seated until the dismissal bell rings – failure to do so will result in loss of daily points.

**Handouts:** Directions and expectations are given out for assignments, essays, and projects. Rubrics will be given for essays and projects when they are introduced. You are responsible for printing additional handouts if you lose the originals.

**Electronics:** Phones are to be kept silenced and in your bags where I do not see them. Headphones are not to be worn in class, regardless of if they are turned on/off. **Keep tech items turned off an in your bags, unless I specific that items can be used for a particular assignment. Avoid the following:**

Ringing phones, game playing, pictures, surfing the web, recording, photography etc.

**Cleaning:** Maintaining a clean class room (including the theatre) is expected. Expect daily/weekly chores. Wiping off desks, picking up scrap papers etc.

**Food/Drink:** Food is not permitted in the classroom. Beverages (water/juice) must be in a

sealed container (bottle with lid).

**Late Work:** I do not accept late work for credit. It is your responsibility to attend daily, and it is paramount that you attend on performance dates, as I cannot reschedule performance dates. In case of illness, I will try to work with you.

**Attendance & Tardies:** Daily attendance is necessary to achieve progress. Tardies disrupt the learning process, and will be dealt with in the following manner:

1st, 2nd, 3rd tardy = warning

4th tardy = lunch detention

5th tardy = referral to administrator

If you are late, enter the room quietly and do not attract attention. Simply take your seat, and join in the learning.

**Rules**

All of my classroom rules fall under North Thurston High School’s expectations for all students. Be mindful of the following at all times: **R-respect ourselves and others**, **A-act responsibly**, **M-model safety**, **S-strive for excellence**. In other words, be on time to class daily; be prepared for learning; be respectful; be appropriate; be responsible.

**You will learn a lot, and have an enjoyable time if you adhere to behavior expectations. Ultimately, as a community of learners, we will strive for optimal learning in optimal learning conditions.** Please respect the rights of the teacher, and fellow students. We are here to learn.

**Discipline**

The NTHS (see student handbook) discipline policies will be followed to maintain a positive classroom learning experience. The discipline matrix will be followed in case of inappropriate classroom behaviors. **No disrespect toward classmates will be tolerated.**

**Course description**

The objective of this course is to expose and engage the inexperienced student into the craft of theatre arts. Students will work to meet performance standards of the district in theatre, which include the following:

\*The student will know, understand and apply the vocabulary, concepts, skills and techniques of theatre.

\*The student will understand and apply the process to performing and technical theatre (design) for both in class work, and for the drama season.

\*The student will analyze, synthesize and evaluate their own performance, as well as the performance of others.

\*The student will communicate through theatre using dramatic structure and performance.

The course will operate as a workshop. An explanation or warm-up will precede work on the current performance/production project. Projects will require partnerships, small work groups, and full class work groups.

**Attendance**

It is extremely important that you attend class daily. Usually, the more you attend class, the more you can learn, and, as a result, the better your grade. If you are absent, it is your responsibility to collect your missing assignments before or after school (**do not interrupt class to demand work that you have missed).** You have the number of days you are absent to complete your work. If you are absent on a day that an **essay or project** is due, your assignment **MUST BE TURNED IN REGARDLESS OF YOUR ABSENCE.** Please have a parent or classmate drop off your work, or email your essay directly to me at [kdeneen@nthurston.k12.wa.us](mailto:kdeneen@nthurston.k12.wa.us).

I will only accept emailed work in the case of an absence. It is not my job to print your assignment for you. In an emergency situation, email me a copy, but it will be your responsibility to print your assignment off in the library or a computer lab, before you attend class (not during class when I am collecting essays from the entire class) NO **EXCEPTIONS.**

**Grading**

Grading is based on the percentage of points earned over the semester. The points possible depend on each assignment’s length and degree of difficulty. Assignments include writing exercises, drafts, peer review, final drafts, reading assignment, projects, study questions and presentations. Assignments must be turned in on the due date in order to earn full credit. Assignments will only be accepted with the following heading: First and last name, class period, and date. **Blue or black ink** must be used for your assignments, unless otherwise instructed. Illegible, messy or incomplete work will not be accepted.

The grade scale is as follows: 92-100 **A**; 90-91 **A-;** 88-89 **B+**; 82-87 **B**; 80-81 **B-**; 78-79 **C+**; 72-77 **C**; 70-71 **C-**; 68-69 **D+**; 62-67 **D**; 61 and below **F**

**Daily Participation:** The following behaviors contribute to your success: being on time, being prepared, being productive, using materials appropriately, and participating respectfully. Includes lab hours.

**Performances:** Includes vocal and character exercises, scenes, monologues, and improvisation.

**Portfolio:** Requires play reading cards, play viewing critiques, chapter readings, character analysis, design projects, script scoring and character analysis.

**Quizzes**: A chance to demonstrate understanding of concepts, vocabulary, and reading; given periodically (may also be given to check for understanding)

**Tests:** An opportunity to demonstrate your understanding of the content, concepts, vocabulary and reading.

**Required** **projects**: 10 outside lab hours (each hour is worth 25 points)

See 2 plays and write a play reading card for each of the plays.

An organized portfolio of class materials, handouts, evaluations and other work.

3 design projects (set, sound, costume, light etc). This will be a team assignment.

**North Thurston High School English policy for CHEATING:**

**DO NOT CHEAT.** The class policy for cheating is an automatic zero on the assignment with no chance to make up the points for the first event of cheating. The occurrence is written-up and turned over to the administration for discipline. If a second occurrence of cheating occurs, the **student will fail the course.** (Before being readmitted to the course for the next semester, a conference must be held including the student, parents, teacher and administration; a contract will be written and signed). **Cheating includes copying someone else’s work/test, allowing a student to copy your work/test, or plagiarism from books and the internet (When in doubt, cite your resources).** There is **ZERO TOLERANCE FOR CHEATING.**

**Progress reports**

Students will receive a quarterly progress report, as well as a semester report card. Please make sure that you have signed up for parent/student access on the district’s skyward program in order to view grades based on your desired frequency. **Parents and students are responsible for monitoring grades.** I will update grades weekly, but please understand that essay grades will be updated upon completion of grading (2-3 weeks).

**Office hours**

Please feel free to come in before or after school if you have additional questions regarding your assignments, or if you need additional help outside of class. I am available before school (7:00am-7:25am) and after school (2pm-2:15pm) unless I am called to a parent conference or faculty meeting. I direct the school’s theatre program and after 2:15pm, I will be working with drama students.

Thank you,

Kathrine Deneen

English/Theatre Arts

North Thurston High School