



# Chandler Unified School District

DRA700 Drama  
SY 2023-24



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## Course Overview

### Course Description

This is the beginning course for students interested in acting and the theatre. It is designed to accommodate a student who has no experience in theater and/or one who may have previously been involved in drama. Activities and projects will introduce the concepts of theater games, improvisation, character building, pantomime, voice production, scene work, and costume and set design.

### AP/IB/Dual Enrollment

No

### Prerequisite/Fee(s)

None

### Course Materials

- Pen and/or pencil
- Charged Chromebook (for any notes, assignments, and copies of digital scripts/lyrics)
- Highlighter
- Individual pencil sharpener or lead (only if using a pencil)
- Notebook for Drama Portfolio

### Adopted Resource(s)

Teacher Provided

A website link will be provided for students for the duo/group scenes.

*\*An asterisk will indicate a resource containing sexually explicit materials per legislative definitions. CUSD has determined that all resources listed above are of exceptional educational value.*

## Site and Faculty Information

### School name and address:

Payne Junior High School, 7655 S Higley Rd, Queen Creek, AZ 85142

### Building principal:

Lisa Palella

palella.lisa@cUSD80.com

### Teacher:

Mr. Westlake Associate in Arts, BA - English

westlake.david@cUSD80.com

**Office hours:** M-F: 8:30am-4:30pm, Tutoring: Wednesday and Thursday (4-5pm) or by appointment

## Course Access

This course is taught in-person at Payne Junior High School. Students will have access to the curriculum and instruction in the classroom. Google Classroom is the primary location for students to access material when absent from classes taught in person.

## Help

### Academic Support

- Contact the teacher to schedule an appointment during office hours
- [Ed Tech](https://www.cUSD80.com/Page/45109) support for students, parents/guardians, and community link ([cUSD80.com/Page/45109](https://www.cUSD80.com/Page/45109))

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## **Mental Health Support**

- CUSD mental health support [cusd80.com/Domain/10528](http://cusd80.com/Domain/10528) or 480-573-8808 (talk or text)
- Suicide & Crisis Lifeline: 9-8-8 hotline
- 24-hour Crisis Line Talk: 602-222-9444, Text: 741-741

## **Student Conduct, Success, and Responsibilities**

### **Student Handbook**

Students must follow the policies and procedures established in the Student Handbook. Copies of the handbook can be found at [cusd80.com/handbooks](http://cusd80.com/handbooks). Printed copies will be provided upon request.

### **Student Responsibilities**

In your student handbook, it mentions that students not in their seats when the bell rings are tardy, and my classroom is similar. Students should be seated and ready for class at the final bell. If you need to use the restroom before class, don't wait to ask me; use your passing time wisely. This agenda includes assignments/readings and any quizzes or tests for the week.

I have the class slides up with directions. Make sure you listen to what I say and look at the screen before asking me.

There is to be no talking while I or another student is talking. This needs to be a fun yet respectful class environment.

Can I eat in Mr. Westlake's class?

No eating in my class and you can only have water. Snacks and drinks should be put away when the bell rings or they are liable to be confiscated until the end of the hour. A referral may be written if this misbehavior happens. However, if you wish to bring treats to celebrate a birthday or special occasion, please let me know in advance and bring enough for the whole class.

Students are expected to stay focused on their elective work first and be courteous to neighboring classes during work time.

When the lesson is over and the class is about to end, students clean up around them and stay in their seats. Once I say good-bye, you may get up and head to your next class without pushing or shoving.

Phones are to be in your backpacks and only taken out if I say so. You get one warning and then after that, your phone will be confiscated until the end of the day.

### **Late work**

Students are responsible to get new copies on their own by printing them out via Google Classroom if they get lost. Late and missing work will be organized based on if the assignment was due that week or a week before. After 2 days without communicating with me about the situation, students will be at risk to lose 5 points every day the assignment is late. If you're absent that day, you will have time to make it up when you get back with a 1 day extension. Just note that I mark assignments missing when I grade them and they're not there either by absence or for another reason. If you are re-submitting in Google Classroom, you need to tell me through e-mail first and then in-person the next day when I am not giving instruction.

PLEASE NOTE: Unless due to certain circumstances, grades will not be changed once they close. Showcase grades can be made up by showcasing to me and can receive 50% rather than a 0% unless parents have notified me of the absence in advance.

## **Assessments and Assignments**

Students will complete assessments during each unit of study to assess their understanding. Students will complete the CUSD Common Final at the end of the first and second semesters. The Common Final will count for 20% of the student's final semester grade in grades 9-12 and 10% in grades 7-8 (some

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exceptions may apply at the Junior High level). Common finals will be in ELA, Math, Science, Social Science, and World Language.

Final exams will be given during the CUSD Jr High/High School Early Dismissal days in December and May, as identified on the [District Calendar](#).

If students are requested to participate in a survey, the survey questions will be provided to parents/guardians seven days before student contact.

## Grading

### Grade Percentage

|            |           |           |           |      |
|------------|-----------|-----------|-----------|------|
| A          | B         | C         | D         | F    |
| 90% - 100% | 80% - 89% | 70% - 79% | 60% - 69% | <60% |

### Quarter grades

The only homework in this class will be memorizing lines, practicing your performances and any unfinished reflections/class activities. Projects will be done in an extended period of time in class, but do not rely on that class time only. How you spend your time in class is on you. For example, if I hand out a worksheet in class, and I give you time to work on it, but you didn't finish it or you haven't finished the reading, I expect you to have it done and turned in by the deadline. Deadlines will be on the class slides and grading goes as follows with assignments:

90-100% A  
80-89% B  
70-79% C  
60-69% D  
< 60% F

Assignments can be checked on deadlines in two different ways: in Google Classroom or in your Drama Portfolio. It's important that you have one for each semester that you take this elective.

### Showcases

Showcases are going to be part of a project grade each quarter. The second quarter and fourth quarter showcases will count toward your final exam grade for the semester. They are a performance to demonstrate the skills taught and rehearsed in that quarter.

### Semester grades

Semester grades are calculated using 45/45/10: Each quarter accounts for 45% of the semester grade and the final exam accounts for the remaining 10%.

## Units of study

### Units for DRA700 Drama

Introduction to Theatre/Drama (including Terminology and Characterization)  
Lip-Syncing  
Introduction to Stagecraft  
Duo or Group Scenes

*\*An asterisk will indicate a unit of study containing sexually explicit materials per legislative definitions.*



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**Site:** Payne Junior High School

**Building Principal:** Lisa Palella, palella.lisa@cusd80.com

**Teacher:** Mr. Westlake, westlake.david@cusd80.com

## Parent/Guardian

### Acknowledgment

Parents/Guardians should indicate if they "Acknowledge" or have a "Potential Conflict" with their student's participation in the following units by checking the appropriate box for each unit of study listed. Students cannot opt out of a standards-based unit. Marking "Potential Conflict" will prompt the teacher to make contact regarding assignment alternatives.

| Unit of study  | Acknowledge              | Potential Conflict       |
|--|--------------------------|--------------------------|
| Introduction to Theatre/Drama (including Terminology and Characterization) | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Lip-Syncing  | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Introduction to Stagecraft   | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Duo or Group Scenes  | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |

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**By signing and returning this form**, the parent/guardian acknowledges they have reviewed the resources and units of the study included in the syllabus.

- As the parent/guardian, I understand that I may contact the teacher if I have questions about the resources, content, or units of study.
- As the parent/guardian, I understand I can check my student's grades in Infinite Campus anytime during the school year.

Student name (printed)

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Student signature

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Parent/Guardian name (printed)

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Parent Signature

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Date

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***Please return this page to your student's teacher.***