

Stagecraft – Course Outline

What is Stagecraft?

Stagecraft is a term encompassing all elements of technical theatre. Or, in other words, everything that has to happen “behind the scenes” in order to operate & maintain a theatre and put on theatrical productions.

Curriculum

Students will have the opportunity to work in the various fields of expertise within stagecraft such as lighting, sound, stage crew, stage management, theatre management, set design, set construction, set painting, script analysis, production, lighting design, properties management, costumes, front of house, sound effects, projection, etc. Some students may wish to “generalize” by learning and applying many or all of these areas. Other students may wish to specialize in one or two areas of interest. All students will be expected to demonstrate at least a basic working knowledge of all facets of the theatre.

In addition to these specific areas, the Stagecraft course is intended to instil a fundamental understanding of theatre management & production design through practical experience. This means students will be expected to help maintain the professionalism and functionality of a working theatre.

The Spectrum Theatre is highly utilized by the school, the district and the community and is widely praised as a top notch, professionally run facility with a hardworking, skilled, and personable crew...that would be you, the Stagecraft class!!! One of our goals as a class to take pride and ownership of this theatre.

Evaluation

Students in Stagecraft will be evaluated on:

- 1) **Attendance** and **Participation** in class and at school events
- 2) **Willingness to learn** and **get involved** in the various facets of theatre stagecraft...the best way to learn is by **doing!**
- 3) **Attitude** and ability to work as part of a team
- 4) **Initiative** in taking **ownership** of the theatre area and responsibilities
- 5) **Appropriateness** and **professionalism** with school and outside bookings
- 6) Demonstration of **basic skills** in a wide range of Technical Theatre areas as well as mastery of necessary skills for the areas in which the student has expressed a desire in working.

Meeting Times

Every course has a set number of hours that are required to be completed in order to receive credit for the course. Most courses fill these hours through one block a day, Monday through Friday, for one semester. Stagecraft is a unique course with slightly different expectations, but the minimum commitment of hours is still the same. The Stagecraft hours are met in two ways:

- 1) Part of the Stagecraft hours are filled in class time (Period 3) where we will learn about lighting, sound, set design/construction/painting, theatre etiquette & terminology, stage management, theatre management, equipment upgrades & training, crewing, etc. A schedule will be setup in which each student is expected to attend *three specific classes per week*. For example, one student's days may be Mon/Wed/Thurs while another's are Tues/Wed/Fri. During busy periods (such as the school musicals) we may meet every day.
- 2) The other portion of the Stagecraft time is completed by providing technical support for Spectrum School functions and events such as assemblies, musicals, dance shows, acting performances, Spectrum Idol, Stand 4 Peace, information nights, and special presentations. These events may occur at lunch, during other blocks in the timetable or occasionally evenings. The time put in by students & teacher for these events is in exchange for the blocks off in the timetable each week.

It is important that students enrolled in Stagecraft understand that teching these events is an essential part of the course as it is here that we get the practical experience of applying what we have learned in a real life theatre setting. While it is understood that students have other commitments and therefore will not be able to make every single event, a student who misses a significant number of these bookings will have a mark that reflects these absences (as if they had missed classes).