



# Maria Montessori Academy Junior High

## Theatre Syllabus

Mrs. Lisa

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**Course Description:** Theatre is a semester-long introductory, exploratory course. Students will be exposed to body movement, acting, script reading, and playwriting. This is a collaborative, performance-based class, and all students will be required to perform in front of the class as part of their grade.

**Course Expectations:** Students are expected to come to class on-time with a positive attitude and a willingness to try new things. This is an exploratory class, which means it is all about experiencing new things and giving it your best effort. I don't expect perfection, but I do expect your best effort. Since this is new experience, and very scary to many people, RESPECT is key in this classroom! Students are to be supportive and encouraging of each other. Peer feedback is meant to be encouraging and formative, suggesting helpful, realistic means of improvement. We celebrate each other's successes and support each other through struggles.

### Textbooks and Materials:

- Students will read the play *Sisters Matsumoto* in class (provided by the teacher)
- PENCIL, paper, and highlighter

### Grading Plan:

- MMA uses a Standards Based Grading System. Course standards can be found online at [www.uen.org](http://www.uen.org) and the course blog.

What the Student Knows	Score	Traditional Letter Grade
<b>Exceeds Proficiency:</b> In addition to Score 85, the student <u>uses inferences and applications that go beyond</u> what was explicitly taught in class.	95	A+
In addition to Score 85 performance, <u>partial success</u> at inferences and applications that go beyond what was directly explicitly in class.	90	A
<b>Meets Proficiency:</b> No major errors or omissions regarding any of the information and/or processes (simple or complex) that were explicitly taught.	85	B+
No major errors or omissions regarding the simpler details and process and partial knowledge of the more complex ideas and processes.	80	B
<b>Approaching Proficiency:</b> No major errors or omissions regarding the simpler details and processes but major errors or omissions regarding the more complex ideas and processes.	75	C+



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Partial knowledge of the simpler details and processes but major errors or omissions regarding the more complex ideas and procedures.	70	C
<b>Developing Proficiency:</b> With help, a partial understanding of some of the simpler details and processes and some of the more complex ideas and processes.	65	D+
With help, a partial understanding of some of the simpler details and processes but not the more complex ideas and processes.	60	D
Even with help, no understanding or skill demonstrated.	59	F

### Course Policies:

**Student Work:** Students must actively and positively participate in and contribute to all class activities. Students must be respectful, engaged audience members. Students are encouraged to work at their own pace, but with caution. Use time wisely, as performance dates are non-negotiable. Non-performance-based projects will have flexible due dates.

**Portfolio:** Students will keep a journal throughout the class. These journal entries may be used in your portfolio. Students are also encouraged to video-record themselves performing and include these recordings in your portfolio.

**Group Activities:** Theatre requires collaboration. Students are required to participate in group activities. Students are encouraged to work with many different classmates. Find peaceful resolutions to any conflicts.

**Homework Expectations:** All performances require MUCH rehearsal. While you will be given time in class for rehearsal, it is **STRONGLY** suggested that you rehearse outside of class as well. If students are not using class time wisely, they will be required to complete projects as homework.

**Absences:** Because theatre is so collaborative, absences not only hurt you, but they hurt your partners. If you know that you will be absent in advance, you will need to speak with the teacher and your group to create a plan to keep caught up. If there is no notice given for an absence, students are expected to communicate with the teacher and your group **IMMEDIATELY** upon your return to class to get caught up. It is suggested that you have the phone numbers of your group members so that you can call them if you miss class.

**Citizenship Grade:** The grace and courtesy you use toward your environment, classmates, and teachers will be factored into your citizenship grade.

**Class Rules:** Respect the environment and allow others to work. If the right to learn is being intruded upon, a verbal warning will be given so that the student is made aware of the behavior.



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If the behavior continues, the student will be asked to stay after class or after school in order to review the expectation. If more support is needed a letter will be sent home identifying the behavior in question, which will need to be signed by a parent and returned the next day. Unreturned letters will warrant a phone call home.

### **Class Materials:**

All students will need the following: PENCIL, paper, and highlighter

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**I have read and understand the rules for \_\_\_\_\_ class.**

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

Parent/Guardian's Email Address:\_\_\_\_\_ and/or \_\_\_\_\_

Student Signature:\_\_\_\_\_ Date:\_\_\_\_\_