

Jaguar Theatre Student Handbook
2024-2025



Johnson High School
Theatre Department

Welcome to the JHS Jaguar Theatre!

I am excited that you have chosen to be a part of the JHS Theatre Program. I cannot wait to get started working with you on our productions for this year, but in order for us to have an amazing experience in Theatre we must first take a look at the JHS Theatre Handbook. The handbook will consist of expectations and guidelines of the Theatre Production 1-4, Technical Theatre 1-4, Theatre Arts 1, Theatre Arts 2-4, and the JHS Thespian Troupe 10033 students. To be a part of the JHS Theatre Program comes with great expectations and responsibilities. Remember that you are always representing JHS and Hays CISD. How you conduct yourselves in and outside of the Theatre Program can heavily impact your peers and have an effect on your participation in the program and your peers. Please read through the handbook in its entirety. Let's make it a spectacular year! Go Jags!

Sincerely,

**Ms. Jessica Fleming
JHS Theatre Director**

Ms. Jessica Fleming

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johnsonhstheatre



Johnson High School Theatre Boosters

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Courses Descriptions:

Theatre Arts I

Course Number: T001.MY

Grade Placement: 9-12

Prerequisite: None

Credit: 1

PEIMS#: 03250100

Theatre Arts I is a course in which students will explore the world of theatre including history, acting, technical production elements and playwriting. Students will be working on many projects in groups and attendance and participation are critical for classroom success. Students will also have the opportunity to audition for shows. This course may include a small number of rehearsals and performances outside the school day.

Theatre Arts II, III, IV

Course Number: T002.MY, T003.MY, T004.MY

Grade Placement: 9-12

Prerequisite: Theatre Arts 1

Credit: 1

PEIMS#: 03250200, 03250300, 03250400

Theatre II, III, IV are courses in which students will continue their study of the world of theatre including history, acting, technical production elements and playwriting. These theatre arts courses are the culmination of work from Theatre Arts 1 with an emphasis on production. Students will conceptualize, plan, design, and produce a play each semester. Attendance and participation are critical for classroom success. Students will also have the opportunity to audition for shows and will perform in a class play. Activities include more in-depth study of monologues, audition techniques, scene work, movement, and improvisation. This course may include rehearsals and performances outside the school day.

Technical Theatre I, II, III, IV

Course Number: T101.MY, T102.MY, T103.MY, T104.MY

Grade Placement: 9-12

Prerequisite: Theatre Arts I

Credit: 1

PEIMS#: 03250500, 03250600, 03251100, 03251200

Technical Theatre concentrates on all aspects of production outside of acting. Students will discuss all aspects of production in detail as well as supplement work of all school productions through construction of props, set pieces, make-up, lights, and sound. Students will be working on many projects in groups and attendance and participation are critical for classroom success. Students will also have the opportunity to audition for shows as well as participate in the UIL Theatrical Design Competition. This course will include rehearsals and performances outside the school day.

Theatre Production I, II, III, IV

Course Number: T201.MY, T202.MY, T203.MY, T204.MY

Grade Placement: 9-12

Prerequisite: Theatre Arts I and Approval Required by Instructor through Audition.

Credit: 1

PEIMS#: 03250700, 03250800, 03250900, 03251000

Theatre Production is a course in which students will explore both the acting and technical aspects of theatrical productions by producing plays for public performance. Attendance and participation are critical for success. Students will also have the opportunity to perform for middle school and elementary students as well as the public. Seniors will have an opportunity to direct a play outside of class supported through work in the classroom. Some afternoon and evening rehearsals and performances are required. Students need to maintain academic eligibility in order to participate in public performances. Involvement in school productions is required. As students progress through this course, they will have the opportunity to compete in the UIL One Act Play Contest. This course will include rehearsals and performances outside the school day.

Theatre Arts I-IV & Theatre Production I-IV Courses Supplies Needed:

- Folder with Pockets & Brads
- Notebook Paper
- Pencils
- Highlighters
- Boxes of Kleenex (Optional)
- Hand Sanitizer (Optional)
- Disinfecting Wipes (Optional)

Technical Theatre I-IV Courses Supplies Needed:

- Spiral Notebook or Composition Book
- Pencils
- Highlighters
- Boxes of Kleenex (Optional)
- Hand Sanitizer (Optional)
- Disinfecting Wipes (Optional)

Schoology: Make sure you view Schoology each class day. You will utilize your Schoology for certain lessons, assignments, projects, quizzes, & tests. Assignments will be posted in Schoology. If you are absent a class day, assignments will be posted on Schoology the day that you are absent in hopes of helping you get caught up on what you have missed on the day that you were absent.

Grading Policy:

Hays CISD expects students to give their best effort the first time an assignment is made or a project or test is given. To ensure this quality of work, the following rules apply:

1. Teachers are required to record a minimum of one minor grade per week and a minimum of three major grades per grading period for each content area.
2. Minor grades will count for 40% and major grades will count for 60% of the overall grade for a nine-weeks grading period. All semester exam grades will count as 1/7 of the semester grade.
75.
 - 60% Daily Grades: Participation (based on rubrics), Tech/Theatre Warm-ups, Written Assignments, Tech/Actor Etiquette, Group Activities, Script Work, & Etc.
 - 40% Tests Grades: Projects & Portfolios (based on rubrics), Unit Tests/Quizzes, Group Presentations, & Performances
3. Teacher discretion may be used to determine what assignments constitute a minor or major grade, except for district-required Curriculum Based Assessments which are to be recorded as a major grade and eligible for reassessment.
4. Students have five school days from the time an assignment or test is returned to the student to receive re-teaching and to re-do assignments or take re-tests. The re-teaching, re-submitting, and re-testing within the five school days is scheduled at the discretion of the teacher
5. Corrections made to an assessment do not constitute a reassessment. Students must participate in re-teaching prior to any assessment.
6. Students may re-submit assignments and re-test only one time per assignment. The following assignments are not eligible for resubmission: major projects and midterm, final, and benchmark assessments. Grades on benchmark assessments will be derived from material that has only been previously taught.
7. Students have two class meetings from the time a missing grade is posted in the grade book to make up the missing work.
8. Students may receive a maximum grade of 75 on all missing or re-submitted assignments and tests. When a re-test or re-assessment occurs, grades should be assigned in the following manner:
 - If a student scores a grade of 75-100; a grade of 75 should be entered in the gradebook
 - If a student scores a grade of 0-74; the higher of the two scores (original grade or retest) should be recorded in the gradebook.

Technical Theatre I-IV Special Assignments:

- All students will be required to be a part of the technical crew for at least two shows during the school year and help construct all sets produced at the high school.
- Tests and long-range projects are due for all students on the date scheduled, even those who are absent on the day prior to the due date. Please do not procrastinate on long range assignments.

Theatre Arts I-IV & Theatre Production I-IV Special Assignments:

- Performances are due for all students on the first day scheduled. Students are given performance dates at least a week in advance.
- If you are absent on the day prior to a performance, you will still be expected to perform on the assigned due date.
- Students will not be allowed to “take a zero” by not performing.
- Tests and long-range projects are due for all students on the date scheduled, even those who are absent on the day prior to the due date. Please do not procrastinate on long range assignments.

Class Rules:

1. Be on **TIME**, on **TASK**, and **PREPARED** to learn!
2. **NO EATING! NO GUM! NO FOOD! NO DRINKS!** (Only bottled water and breath mints are allowed **ONLY** in the classroom area!)
3. **RESPECT** the teacher, the theatre space, and other students! Keep your hands, feet, and objects to yourself. Do not use inappropriate language!
4. **LISTEN** the first time directions are given. Do not talk while the teacher or appointed speaker(s) is speaking to the class.
5. **NO CELL PHONES!** Cell phones must be on silent and stored in your backpack, purse, or bag. Laptops & Chromebooks are for educational purposes **ONLY!**
6. **DO NOT LEAVE THE CLASSROOM/THEATRE SPACE WITHOUT THE TEACHER’S PERMISSION!**

Consequences for Rule Breakers:

- 1st Offense: Warning & Parent Contact!
- 2nd Offense: Detention & Parent Contact!
- 3rd Offense: Disciplinary Referral!

Extreme Offense: (For use of profanity, fighting, damage to school or someone else's property, or disrespectful behavior.) Disciplinary Referral & Parent Contact!

Class Expectations:

- Bring your scripts with you everyday to class.
- Participate in warm-ups, rehearsals, activities, & discussions.
- Clean up after yourself!
- Have a positive attitude.
- Meet the deadlines that are set in place for projects & performance.
- Ask questions if you don't understand the instructions, lessons, discussions or activities.

(In addition to these rules and expectations, students are expected to follow all school district policies, exercise reasonable judgment, & common sense.)

UIL Theatrical Design Contest:

The UIL Theatrical Design Contest is open to all JHS Technical Theatre & Theatre Students. UIL Theatrical Design Students compete in the Contest either in a group or individually by designing Costume/Make-up, Marketing Plan, or Set Design for a selected Play or Musical. Any student participating in the UIL Theatrical Design will need to maintain academic eligibility throughout the entire contest.

UIL One Act Play Contest:

Auditions are held for JHS Theatre Production students who are interested in auditioning for the UIL One Act Play. If cast, the students compete in the UIL One Act Play Contest through performing a 40-minute One Act Play at various levels. UIL One Act Play Students will be required to attend after-school and Saturday Rehearsals as well as One Act Play Clinics and public performances. Any student participating in the UIL One Act Play will need to maintain academic eligibility throughout the entire contest.

UIL OAP Audition Requirements:

- In order to participate in the UIL One Act Play you must be **PASSING ALL OF YOUR CLASSES**. Please, show your Progress Report of the 9 weeks that is currently in Musical Season or UIL OAP Season to Ms. Fleming at auditions.
- Fill out the “*JHS UIL OAP Audition Packet*” and turn it in to Ms. Fleming at auditions.
- You will need to have a one minute Dramatic Monologue from a published play prepared for your UIL OAP Audition.
- You can't have a copy of the monologue in your hand when auditioning.
- Make sure your monologue is school appropriate. Sexually explicit or socially offensive material isn't allowed in auditions.
- Bring a printed copy of the monologue that you will be performing to the Audition and give to Ms. Fleming when it is your turn to Audition.
- Make sure that you have all of your lines memorized word for word of the script.
- Ms. Fleming is looking for Characterization, Memorization, Projection of Voice, Pitch, & Movement in your audition.
- State your Slate before beginning your monologue. (Introduce yourself by stating your first & last name, state the name of your character that you will be playing, & the name of the play that the monologue comes from.)

UIL OAP Requirements if Casted:

- You must attend all the after-school and Saturday rehearsals! If you are late to an after-school rehearsal you will be moved to an alternate position.
- If a family emergency happens or you're sick, you must notify Ms. Fleming ASAP so you will not be counted as a no show! If you miss 3 or more after school rehearsals due to being sick, you will be moved to an alternate position.
- You must attend all Performances and Clinics! If you miss a performance or clinic, you will be moved to alternate, and an understudy will take on your character role.
- You must have all your lines memorized word for word from the script by the dates that is set by Ms. Fleming. Failure to do so will cause you to be moved to alternate and an understudy will take on your character role.
- You must maintain a 70 or higher grade in all your class for all Progress Reports & Report Cards during **UIL ONE ACT PLAY SEASON!!!!** (Ms. Fleming will do frequent grade checks!)
- Respect all the Cast, Crew, Directors!
- **ABSOLUTELY NO CELL PHONES OUT DURING REHEARSALS, CLINICS, PERFORMANCES, & CONTESTS!!!**
- **NO GUM IN YOUR MOUTH OR FOOD DURING REHEARSALS, CLINICS, PERFORMANCES, & CONTESTS!**
- Handle Props, Costumes, & Set Pieces with care!
- **ALL AFTER-SCHOOL REHEARSALS ARE CLOSED REHEARSALS!!! FRIENDS ARE NOT ALLOWED TO SIT IN ON REHEARSALS!**

JHS Theatre Musical Audition Requirements:

- The JHS Theatre Musical is open to all JHS Students to audition.
- In order to participate in the JHS Musical you must be **PASSING ALL OF YOUR CLASSES**. Please, show your Progress Report of the 9 weeks that is currently in Musical Season to Ms. Fleming at auditions.
- Fill out the “*JHS Theatre Musical Audition Packet*” and turn it in to Ms. Fleming at auditions.
- You will audition with the provided selections of songs that will be available to students prior to the audition date.
- You can’t have a copy of the lyrics of a song in your hand when auditioning.
- Make sure that you have your lyrics memorized word for word of the song for your audition. Ms. Fleming is looking for Characterization, Memorization, Projection of Voice, Pitch, Harmony, & Movement in your audition.
- State your Slate before beginning your song. (Introduce yourself by stating your first & last name and state the name of the song.)

JHS Theatre Musical Participants Requirements if Casted:

- You must attend all the after-school rehearsals! (**AFTER SCHOOL REHEARSAL NO SHOWS!!!!**) If you do not show up to after school rehearsal you will be moved to an alternate position.
- If you are late to an after-school rehearsal you will be moved to an alternate position.
- If a family emergency happens or you're sick, you must notify Ms. Fleming **ASAP** so you will not be counted as a no show! If you miss 3 or more after school rehearsals due to being sick, you will be moved to an alternate position.
- You must attend all Performances and Clinics! If you miss a performance or clinic, you will be moved to alternate, and an understudy will take on your character role.
- You must have all your lines memorized word for word from the script by the date that is set by Ms. Fleming. Failure to do so will cause you to be moved to alternate and an understudy will take on your character role.
- You must maintain a 70 or higher grade in all your class for all Progress Reports & Report Cards during **JHS MUSICAL SEASON!!!!** (Ms. Fleming will do frequent grade checks!)
- Respect all the Cast, Crew, Directors!
- **ABSOLUTELY NO CELL PHONES OUT DURING REHEARSALS OR PERFORMANCES!!!**
- **NO GUM IN YOUR MOUTH OR FOOD DURING REHEARSALS & PERFORMANCES!**
- Handle Props, Costumes, & Set Pieces with care!
- **ALL AFTER-SCHOOL REHEARSALS ARE CLOSED REHEARSALS!!! YOUR FRIENDS ARE NOT ALLOWED TO SIT IN ON REHEARSALS!**

Thespians International Society (Troupe #8069)

The International Thespian Society is a subset of the theatre program. It is a student honor society where membership is earned. It is designed to acknowledge outstanding students' achievement in theatre as well as students' contributions to the Theatre Program. ITS Students compete in group or individual acting, musical, or tech events at the Texas Thespians State Festival and the International Thespians Society Festival.

ITS Troupe 10033 Officers:

Students may apply at the end of each school year to serve as an officer for the next school year. Officers are responsible for planning ALL theatre events such as the Haunted Drive Thru Fundraisers, Jag Jamboree, ITS Induction Ceremony, and the Theatre Banquet and End of the Year Awards. Officers meet after-school on Schedule ITS Meetings to plan and discuss upcoming theatre events and are responsible for show promotion.

Theatre Trips & Events:

Trips and events for theatre are a time for students to enjoy each other's company in a more relaxed setting and to also compete in festivals and competitions. Students must follow the Hays CISD code of conduct for all theatre trips. Each year, the JHS Theatre prepares a one-act play for UIL competition. The show travels to various schools throughout the district and state as part of the competition. Higher levels of competition require overnight trips, but all costs associated with these trips are paid by Hays CISD. Each year, the JHS ITS Troupe 1003 attends the Texas Thespians State Festival in which ITS students compete in Tech/Acting events, College Auditions, and attend Theatre/Tech Workshops. This year all ITS Troupe students that plan on attending the Texas Thespians State Festival in Corpus Christi on November 15th-18th, will take an overnight trip in which parents & students will be required to cover expenses for the State Festival. Parents of the ITS Troupe students that plan on attending are allowed to attend the Texas Thespians State Festival, but will have to cover the expenses for themselves as well. Parents must take their own transportation to and from the Festival.

Theatre Booster

The Theatre Boosters are very important to the Theatre Program. Theatre Boosters sponsor events throughout the year to help students raise money for trips and other events, including the theatre banquet held each year. Parents are encouraged to join the booster club and help with events and fund-raising so that the theatre program can thrive and grow. Parents are also invited to participate in the construction of shows for the theatre season.

Expectations of all members of the AHHS Theatre Department:

RESPECT yourself, your Peers, your Director, & our Facility! As a member of the AHHS Theatre Program (Theatre, Thespians Troupe 10033, & Technical Theatre), you are expected to follow Johnson Jag Players Theatre Guidelines.

Johnson Jag Players Theatre Guidelines:

1. You set the example for the department. Students from all levels of theatre will be watching you and looking up to you. Set an example of Excellence.
2. You are to be a member of the ITS Troupe and support its endeavors since it is the department honor society. In other words, you are expected to attend and help with Thespian Society events such as all Theatre Fundraising Events, ITS Meetings, Christmas Party, & etc.
3. UIL One-Act's success is dependent on the entire department. Whether you are in the one-act cast and crew or not, you will attend performances, competitions and help where asked and needed.
4. Communication is Key! This department thrives in open and honest communication between actors, the director and ensemble members.

5. If there is an emergency that prevents you from attending rehearsal or a performance, call! It is imperative that you keep those that depend on you informed.
6. Your academic standing on campus plays a huge role in your success on the stage. If you are consistently missing assignments or failing classes this will jeopardize your chances to be a role in the productions and could result in removal from the class.
7. You are responsible for rehearsal clothes and shoes. Keep them in good condition.
8. The Dressing rooms, Prop Room, Scene Shop, & Blackbox may begin to seem like a second home. Which means: YOU are responsible for their cleanliness and orderly upkeep.
9. The stage, tech, audience area, and the Theatre Space in general should be important to you and thus, it is your responsibility to make sure others treat it as such.
10. We are all equal. Kindness and respect are paramount. On stage, at home, in the classroom - be a good human.

Extracurricular Code of Conduct Guidelines:

Theatre Arts I-IV, Technical Theatre I-IV, Theatre Production I-IV, International Thespians Society Troupe 10033, & JHS Theatre Musical students must abide by Hays CISD Extracurricular Code of Conduct Guidelines and Policies.

Parent & Student Acknowledgement:

My child and I have read through the JHS Theatre Department Student Handbook 2024-2025. My child and I understand the rules, expectations, and requirements of the Theatre Arts I-IV, Technical Theatre I-IV, & Theatre Production I-IV Courses.

Parent Print Name: _____

Parent Signature: _____

Student Print Name: _____

Student Signature: _____

Date: _____