



St. Maarten Academy

Academic

2026-2027 COURSE OUTLINE for Theater Arts, FORM 4&5

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COURSE DESCRIPTION

The Theatre Arts area of study encompasses all three domains of learning, namely, cognitive, affective, and psychomotor. The pedagogy of the subject covers such topics as the theory and Caribbean cultural forms, elements of theatre, text analysis, performance techniques, elements of production, and practical skills in acting, directing, and stagecraft.

Through Theatre Arts, students will develop as ideal Caribbean persons who have an informed respect of their cultural heritage which allows them to be independent, critical and divergent thinkers, steeped in a strong sense of Caribbean identity from which to communicate effectively with others. Theatre Arts, therefore, is of great relevance to students as it promotes learning, creativity, and problem-solving, evident in the interpretation and presentation of dramatic works as well as in the appreciation of the performances of others.

The subject offers students the opportunity to acquire a variety of experiences and skills in areas such as acting, playwriting, and directing. It also fosters interest and enjoyment in the creation, performance, and appreciation of theatre and seeks to develop informed citizens while raising students' cultural awareness and appreciation of the performing arts.

COURSE OBJECTIVES

CXC Standard:

Students should develop an understanding of the history, characteristics, processes and elements of Theatre Arts within the Caribbean.

Target Behaviors:

Students should be able to identify and use a variety of theatrical techniques and performance methods.

Students should be able to observe and interpret human behaviour, situations, and characters for performance.

Students can create engaging and aesthetically effective dramatic presentations based on given themes or scenarios.

Students have a relevant working vocabulary in theatre arts and dramatic performance.

COURSE UNITS OF LEARNING (Textbook and CXC Syllabus)

(This does not state the order of learning---just the most logical progression)

4TH FORM - TERM 1					
UNIT 1: CARIBBEAN DRAMA					
- History of Caribbean Drama					
- Evolution of drama in the region					
- Caribbean playwrights					
Assessment: "Living Museum" - Students create a short, non-performing presentation (e.g., a digital storyboard or podcast) on a chosen Caribbean theatre					
UNIT 2 : THEATRE SAFETY					
- Safety practices in the theatre					
- Performance safety					
- Stage safety					
- Technical/craft safety					
<u>TERM 2</u>					
<u>UNIT 3 : IMPROVISATION</u>					
<i>Warm-ups</i>					
- Warm-ups (Importance and purpose of warm-up exercises					
- Conducting warm-up sessions					
<i>Voice</i>					
- Use pitch, pace, projections, and tone to convey character and emotion. Vocal clarity and articulation under pressure.					
<i>Physicality</i>					
- Use of gesture, posture, and gait to create character instantly.					
- The concept of status communicated through body.					
<i>Use of Space</i>					
- Utilizing stage level and areas to shower power and focus					
- Proxemics to define relationship intensity					
- Creating the environment through mime					
<i>Elements of Improv.</i>					
- Purpose and rules of improvisation					
<i>Thematic Concerns</i>					
- Identify and explore theme, conflict, and stakes instantly					
- Use improv to respond to social and cultural issues					
<i>Improv Scenes</i>					
- Basic structure of a scene.					
- Interpreting the stimulus (properties, proverbs, quotes, situations)					
<i>Self-Discovery</i>					
- Develop self-awareness and self confidence through performance					
- Building trust and collaboration w/in the ensemble					
- The concept of 'letting go' of judgement					

	UNIT 4: CRITIQUE WRITING					
	(SBA #1)	- Define Critique				
		- Elements of a critique (details of the production, analysis of performance, technical elements, and production concepts.				
TERM 3						
	UNIT 5: Cultural Forms					
	Introduction of Cultural Forms					
		- Define Cultural Art Form				
		- Their role in Caribbean society				
		- Overview of core forms				
	Storytelling	- Origin				
		- Function/meaning (preservation of culture, moral teaching)				
		- Performance modes				
		- Theatrical elements				
	Kumina	- Origin				
		- Function/meaning (religious ritual, communication w/ ancestors)				
		- Performance modes				
		- Theatrical elements				
	Ring Games	- Origin				
		- Function/meaning				
		- Performance modes				
		- Theatrical elements				
	Comparison	- Compare theatrical elements of the three detailed forms				
		- Discuss similarities and differences in function (secular vs. sacred) and performance space.				
5TH FORM - TERM 1						
	UNIT 1: TEXT ANALYSIS					
	Script/Text Analysis	- Analyze the play for production potential				
		- Understand genre and style				
		- Character analysis (protagonist & antagonist motivation, objective, given circumstances)				
		- Scenery/mood/tone/time period				
		- Thematic analysis and social/historical context of the text				
	Dramatic Techniques and Conventions	- Define and discuss key dramatic techniques and conventions				

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ASSESSMENT AND GRADING SYSTEM						
Practical assignments will be graded in 4 parts.						
1 Comprehension	(Demonstrate understanding of theatre concepts, terminology, instructions and assigned performance tasks)				25 %	
2 Technique	(Shows ability to actor's tool: body and voice)				25 %	
3 Creativity & Originality	(Demonstrate imagination, originality, creativity and the ability to make interesting performance choices)				25 %	
4 Presentation & Performance	Demonstrates preparation, confidence, commitment, stage presence, teamwork and appropriate performance etiquette				25 %	
Maximum Mark of 100, counts for 100%						
Weighted value of Activities:						
· Assignments 1x	o Class Participation and/or Class work				50 %	
	o Homework					
	o Projects/Production					
· Tests 1x	o Quizzes				50 %	
	o Exams					
RESOURCES:						
Online:						
Books:	· <i>Carlong Caribbean Drama</i>					
	· <i>Theatre Arts for Caribbean Schools (Bk 1-3)</i>					
	· <i>Theatre Arts for CSEC w/ SBAs, Study Guide and Exercises</i>					