

**MVLA  
2019-20  
COURSE INFORMATION SHEET**

**Course Title:** Acting 1

**School:** Mountain View High School

**UC/CSU requirement:** Yes

**Textbook and/or other learning resources:** Plays and scripts will be provided by the teacher.

**Student Learning Outcomes:**

As a result of instruction, students will be able to:

- **Standard 1 – Artistic Perception**  
*Process, analyze, and respond to sensory information through the language and skills unique to theatre.*
- **Standard 2 – Creative Expression**  
*Create, perform, and participate in theatre. Make acting choices, using script analysis, character research, reflection, and revision through the rehearsal process. Write dialogues and scenes, applying basic dramatic structure: exposition, complication, conflict, crises, climax, and resolution. Analyze and perform scenes or plays from a variety of theatrical periods and styles.*
- **Standard 3 - Historical and Cultural Context**  
*Analyze the role and development of theatre in past and present cultures throughout the world.*
- **Standard 4 - Aesthetic Valuing**  
*Critique and derive meaning from works of theatre and theatrical artists on the basis of aesthetic qualities.*

**Course Description:**

In this class, students will learn the techniques of stage production including pantomime and movement, voice, improvisation, character, writing, stage combat, and performance. This class will analyze and perform Dramatic Repertoire in a variety of genres from different periods in history. Students will work on staging, script analysis, and elements of theatre production. This class is open to all students without audition and is appropriate for multiple levels of acting experience.

**Assessment and Grading ([BP 5121](#) / [AR 5121](#)):** To ensure that every student has an equal opportunity to demonstrate their learning, the course instructors implement aligned grading practices and common assessments with the same frequency.

1. Grading categories and their percentage weights:
  - a. Performances, Projects, Tests – 40%
  - b. Daily Participation and Class Work – 50%
  - c. Aesthetic Valuing (Play Performance Critiques) – 10%
2. Grading scales:  
Grading scale: 100 - 90% = A, 89.99 - 80% = B, 79.99 - 70% = C, 69.99% - 60% = D, 59.99% & Below = Incomplete  
**Note:** Dropping this course mid-season may result in a Withdrawal (W)
3. Homework/outside of class practices ([AR 6154](#)):  
*Students are expected to work on memorization of their monologues and scenes, and rehearse an appropriate amount outside of class to be comfortable to perform in front of the class. In addition, students are expected to attend at least ONE performance of a live play or musical outside of MVHS and report reactions each semester. Students are also expected to attend all official MVHS productions (Fall Play, Spring Musical, Acting 2/3 Class Play) and will receive a free ticket to each. Exceptions given for students who are part of the production, either onstage or backstage.*
4. Excused absence make up practices ([Education Code 48205\(b\)](#)):  
*Students with an excused absence will have the opportunity to make up a missed work. They must schedule an appointment during tutorial or after school to make up a performance.*
5. Academic integrity violation practices ([MVHS Academic Integrity Policy](#)):

There are no course-specific guidelines for academic integrity violation. Please see the MVHS Academic Integrity Policy: *Honesty, trust and integrity are vital components of the education process. The Governing Board believes that academic honesty and personal integrity are fundamental components of a student's education and character development. The Board expects that students will not cheat, lie, plagiarize or commit other acts of academic dishonesty. There are three categories for violations of academic integrity based on the severity of the offense (Categories A, B, and C). Examples of academic integrity violations include, but are not limited to, copying homework, allowing someone else to copy your work, plagiarism (taking or passing off another's ideas as one's own, including using Internet sources without documentation), copying from another's exam, improperly obtaining and/or using tests, and using unauthorized notes/materials. Check with your teachers if you are unsure of their expectations.*

6. Late work practices:

*Our department believes that all work must be of an excellent quality which means that constant improvement is a necessity. Students are expected to practice until they master their part. Late or missing assignments will be marked as 'Incomplete' until requirements have been satisfied.*

7. Revision practices:

*See number six above. Specifically, students will have the opportunity to perform again to achieve proficiency.*

8. Extra credit practices:

*Extra credit will be given for any extra play performance critiques submitted on Google Classroom.*

9. Additional grading practices:

*Acting 1 is largely a participation based course. Repeated absences may have an adverse effect on a student's grade. Students are expected to come to class prepared and ready to participate.*

**Instructor's email address and resources:**

Emily Peña Thornber - [emilia.thornber@mvla.net](mailto:emilia.thornber@mvla.net)

Website: [www.theatremvhs.com](http://www.theatremvhs.com)

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/mvhsitheatredepartment/>

Instagram: <https://www.instagram.com/mvthespians/>

**Additional information:**

**Performing Arts Department Expectations:**

**Attendance:** *It is important that students attend all rehearsals and performances. This is in alignment with the 'Creative Expression' Standard.*

**Outside Performances:** *"Students will observe performances of suitable genres that they are not actively participating in." Quantity and follow-up will be determined by individual teachers.*

**Performance Proficiency Assessments:** *"Students will be given multiple opportunities to achieve A-Level work." For performance-based assessments, students will achieve A-Level work or be given the opportunity to retest.*

**Digital Device Policy:**

*Devices can only be used in class at the teacher's discretion and should use them in line with the MVLA Digital Device and Behavior Policies. If distraction becomes an issue, the teachers will manage the situation as they would with any other distraction and in line with the relevant policies.*