Theatrical Content and Forms

Content Area: **Fine Arts**
Course(s):
Time Period: **Marking Period 1**
Length: **1 Quarter**
Status: **Published**

Brief Summary of Unit

In this unit, students will study the non-performance elements of theater such as design, playwriting, and script analysis.

Revised: June 2023

Essential Questions

- What are the elements of theatrical design?
- How do designers approach their craft?
- What are the elements of a script?
- What information can theater artists gain from a script?

Standards

ELD standards:https://docs.google.com/document/d/1wdmsiGOdCHlrjU-WPvAtENnEgi0EStZXo0uiFYv1Nu4/edit

The identified standards reflect a developmental progression across grades/ levels and make interdisciplinary connections across content areas including social sciences, technology, career readiness, cultural awareness and global citizenship. The standards that follow are relevant to this course in addition to the associated content-based standards listed below.

P.3	Consider the environmental, social and economic impacts of decisions.
P.4	Demonstrate creativity and innovation.
P.5	Utilize critical thinking to make sense of problems and persevere in solving them.

1.4.8.Cr1b	Identify, imagine and practice solving multiple design/technical challenges of a performance space in a theatrical work.
P.9	Work productively in teams while using cultural/global competence.
1.4.8.Cr3b	Implement and refine a planned technical design using simple technology during the rehearsal process for devised or scripted theatre work.
1.4.8.Pr4b	Use a variety of technical elements to create a design for a rehearsal or theatre production.
1.4.8.Re7a	Describe and record personal reactions to artistic choices in a theatrical work.
1.4.8.Re7b	Compare recorded personal and peer reactions to artistic choices in a theatrical work.
1.4.8.Re8b	Justify the aesthetic choices created through the use of production elements in a theatrical work.
LA.W.8.7	Conduct short research projects to answer a question (including a self-generated question), drawing on several sources and generating additional related, focused questions that allow for multiple avenues of exploration.
1.4.8.Re9a	Analyze how personal experiences affect artistic choices in a theatrical work.
1.4.8.Re9b	Identify and interpret how different cultural perspectives influence the evaluation of theatrical work.
LA.SL.8.1.A	Come to discussions prepared, having read or researched material under study; explicitly draw on that preparation by referring to evidence on the topic, text, or issue to probe and reflect on ideas under discussion.
LA.SL.8.1.B	Follow rules for collegial discussions and decision-making, track progress toward specific goals and deadlines, and define individual roles as needed.
LA.SL.8.1.C	Pose questions that connect the ideas of several speakers and respond to others' questions and comments with relevant evidence, observations, and ideas.
LA.SL.8.1.D	Acknowledge new information expressed by others, and, when warranted, qualify or justify their own views in light of the evidence presented.
1.4.8.Cn11b	Identify and examine artifacts from a time period and geographic location to better understand performance and design choices in a theatrical work.

Enduring Understandings

- There are many realms of theatrical design such as scenic, lighting, costume, sound, and projections
- The design process begins with rough sketches and concept drawings and culminates in the creation of the actual items to be used
- Scripts have characters, dialogue, stage directions and punctuation specific to the stage
- Actors, designers, directors, and dramaturgs can all glean different information from the same text

Students Will Know/ Students Will be Skilled At

Students will know:

- The structure of a theatrical production team
- The design process
- Playwriting structure
- What dramaturgy is and what role a dramaturg plays

Students will be skilled at:

- Creating rudimentary designs of different elements of a production
- Analyzing scripts for historical context, production value, budget limitations, and design concepts
- Writing scripts utilizing proper format that any theater artist could easily understand

Learning Plan

- Discuss essential questions
- Discuss elements of design
- Experience examples of design in media such as film and television
- Bring in examples of design the students find interesting or simply like
- Discuss the design process
- Create a design concept in collaboration with a small group for The Wizard of Oz
- Discuss scripts and their formatting
- Review written text and analyze it from a different perspective or production team job
- Present notes from the text from these different perspectives/jobs
- Adapt a short scene from a novel to the stage using proper formatting

Evidence/ Performance Tasks

Fine and Performing Arts students demonstrate differentiated proficiency according to their ability to answer the essential questions through formative and summative assessments. Evidence of progression may be demonstrated in divergent ways through the Artistic Processes of Creating, Performing/ Presenting/ Producing, Connecting, and Responding.

- Discussion of essential questions
- Observation of understanding through discussion and process
- Discussion and demonstration of design concepts through presentations
- Presentation of designs the students find interesting
- Presentation of information gleaned from a text from a particular position
- Accuracy of the format of the adapted play
- Turn and talk
- Self-assessment
- Student explanation of thought process
- Independence assessed by grade level

Materials

The materials used in this course allow for integration of a variety of instructional, supplemental, and intervention materials that support student learners at all levels in the school and home environments. Associated web content and media sources are infused into the unit as applicable and available

- Journal
- Plot and character overview for The Wizard of Oz
- Book assigned from ELA

Suggested Modifications

This link includes content specific accommodations and modifications for all populations:

Performing Arts Accommodations & Modifications