

## IB Literature & Performance

Teacher: David Block  
Contact: (907) 742 – 2500  
Room: 68

Block\_David@asdk12.org

### CLASS DESCRIPTION

An interdisciplinary course combining elements of theatre and language arts. Coursework will include objectives and assignments from the IB Literature and Performance Guide.

### CLASS OBJECTIVES

1. To familiarize the student with the theatre as part of the western cultural tradition.
2. To provide a conventional literary background with emphasis on close reading and critical writing
3. To provide the student with an awareness of great works of literature and drama
4. To familiarize the student with symbolic and aesthetic elements of theatre
5. To enable the student to transform a literary piece into a performance
6. To develop intellect, imagination and creativity through reading, discussion and performance.

### CLASS TOPICS

1. Textual analysis
2. Critical writing
3. Theatrical works and history
4. Poetry
5. Theatrical commentary
6. Performance

Note: During the class we will take part in readings, discussions, performances and other activities. Your involvement in these activities will determine your class participation grade.

Extra Credit: Extra credit is available to students on the class webpage located at <http://www.blocksclass.com>. Other options for extra credit will be available to students on a periodic basis as provided by the teacher. Extra Credit will NOT be available to students for extra work at the end of the semester, etc. Students should avail themselves of extra credit when it is provided as it may not be an option later on.

Community Service: Students are required to complete **10 hours of community service** during the semester

Performance Reviews: Students are required to attend **two performances and write reviews** of these performances during the semester. Each of these reviews should follow the provided format. Students may attend school performances or may choose to attend performances in the community. Students may do two additional reviews before the second-to-last week of the class for extra credit. Reviews are due within one week of the attended performance. Reviews **MUST** be typed.

### **REVIEWS AND SERVICE HOURS ARE REQUIRED TO PASS THE CLASS**

Grades: Grading is based on a 4 point grading scale similar to GPA

<b>A</b>	<b>3.50-4.00</b>
<b>B</b>	<b>2.80-3.49</b>
<b>C</b>	<b>1.80-2.79</b>
<b>D</b>	<b>0.80-1.79</b>
<b>F</b>	<b>0.00-0.79</b>

Late Work: **Reviews will not be accepted late.** ALL OTHER Late work will result in a reduced grade. Late Presentations must be arranged with the teacher. Work will be accepted late up on a case by case basis.

## PERFORMANCE REVIEW INSTRUCTIONS

Each student must complete **two (2) performance reviews** for class. You may optionally do two additional reviews for extra credit. Each review must be done using the following format.

1. Go to a theatrical, dance, music or poetry performance. If you are unsure whether a performance qualifies for this assignment, ask Mr. Block. School plays may be used.
2. Watch the performance with a critical eye. You may decide to take written notes during the performance. Please be aware of others in the venue as you do this. Do NOT make your note taking a distraction for others who are enjoying the performance.
3. After you have finished watching the performance you should write your review. Do so as soon as possible so your memory of the event is fresh in your mind.
4. Reviews are **due within one week** of the performance.
5. In your review, please be sure to supply the following information:
  - Title of the performance
  - Time, Date and Location of the performance
  - Author
  - Director's name if appropriate
  - Names of Performers
  - A synopsis of the presentation
  - Description of set, lights, costumes and other technical aspects of the performance
  - Critical Analysis of the performance content
  - Review of the quality of the play overall
  - Whether or not you would recommend the performance for others
  - Your response to these items should be in complete sentences and paragraphs. Higher marks will be given to those students who use an essay format.
6. Your review must be typed. Use 1" margins, normal size fonts and please double space. Your name should be in the upper right hand corner.
7. Attach your ticket stub or a program to the finished review.

ALL REVIEWS ARE **DUE WITHIN A WEEK** OF THE PERFORMANCE AND NO LATER THAN:

First Semester: **Dec 2**  
Second Semester: **May 5**

PLAN AHEAD FOR THESE DUE DATES.  
DON'T WAIT UNTIL THE LAST MINUTE!!