

Hello!

# Drama

Quick User Guide 2017-2018

A bunch of useful resources that will help make your relationship with my class so much better.

## Instructor



Mr. Robert Miller

[Robert-Miller@hphsjaguars.com](mailto:Robert-Miller@hphsjaguars.com)

916-395-5010 ext. 501205

Room B05

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# 1

## Stay Connected

School communication shouldn't be so hard.

Here's 4 simple ways to track what's going on in class.

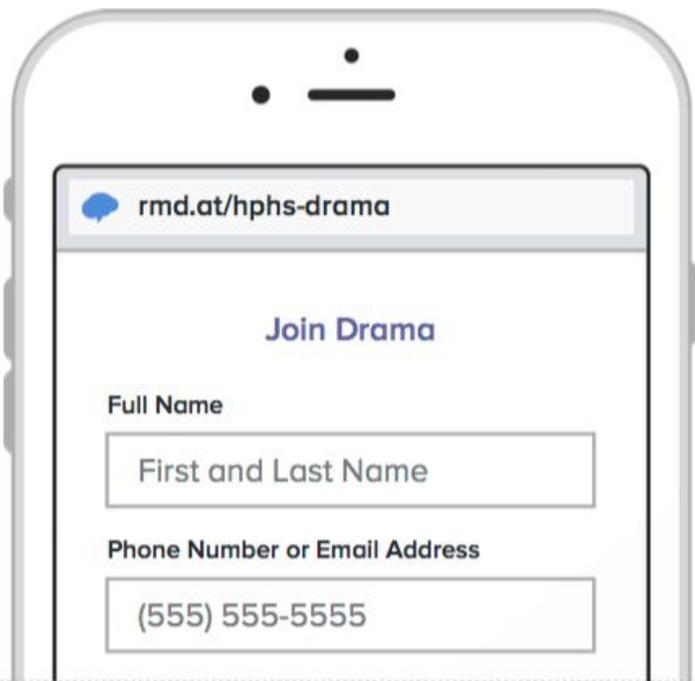
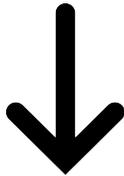
### 1

#### Text Me!

<http://remind.at/hphs-drama>

**Remind.com:** No more unread emails or missed phone calls. Get real-time text updates from Mr. Miller right on your cell phone – for free.

**Sign up:** If you have a smartphone, open the web browser, go to the link above, and follow the on-screen instructions. If you don't have a smartphone, text @hphs-drama to the number 81010.



### 2

#### Track Due Dates & Assignments

<http://classroom.google.com>

**Google Classroom:** This is mission control for academics. Here you will find all coursework, assignments, and due dates.

**Students:** Log in to Google Classroom from any internet-enabled device 24 hours a day/365 days a year.

**Parents & Guardians:** Receive email summaries showing student progress in Classroom. You can choose the frequency of the emails, either daily or weekly. You can also unsubscribe or remove yourself from Classroom at any time. Manage your involvement here:

<https://support.google.com/edu/classroom/answer/6388136>

### 3

#### Track Behavior in the Classroom

<https://www.classdojo.com/>

**ClassDojo.com:** This is a real-time behavior tracking system where students are awarded positive and negative points. Parents, guardians, and students can log in for access and track progress.

### 4

#### Instagram

<https://www.instagram.com/hphsjaguars/>

Follow our school on social media for photos and videos of class activities.

# What We Do

Welcome to the end of High School Drama as you know it.

1

## Anti-Theatre

Long ago, stage plays were the dominant form media. Today, it's digital content. The needs of contemporary artists and communicators are different from those in the past, so Drama has transformed into a digital media and filmmaking course where students will learn to use modern technology to communicate with a global audience. Drama will explore topics such as screenwriting, video production, video editing, acting, visual storytelling, and online publishing. Welcome to the end of High School Drama as you know it.

2

## Project-Based Learning

This is not a lecture course. Students will have a hands-on opportunity to create digital media content using inquiry-based projects. Each project is driven by the interests and questions that students bring to them, acknowledging that every student has different learning needs and aspirations.

3

## Maker Space

My classroom is loaded with creativity rocket-fuel. Students will have access to a wide range of construction tools and materials that allow them to transform ideas into reality. Students will learn to use different fabrication techniques and processes such as laser cutting, 3D scanning and printing, molding & casting, 3D modeling, as well as simple circuits and electronics. Students will have access to the tools and knowledge that allow them to "make almost anything" and share their creations with the world.

4

## Technology

If you're ready to grab hold of technology and make it start working for you, you've come to the right place. Drama will amplify student voices by giving them hands-on opportunities to create and publish their work using iPads, apps, videos, blogs, webpages, and online speeches. Student work will be shown, shared, discovered, and discussed using social media, supplementing traditional written or performance publication.

5

## Critical Thinking

Students will challenge the status quo across academic disciplines, addressing topics such as film theory and history, experimental narrative, advancing technology, and more.

6

## Storytelling

To get a point across, the world is shifting from bullet points to storytelling. Students will learn to craft attention-grabbing narratives, inspire others to follow their message or cause, and connect with worldwide audiences. This focus will help students develop presentation literacy: the ability to communicate effectively with any audience. The communication skills gained will empower students to attack whatever career path they end up strolling down.

# Coursework

Welcome to the end of High School Drama as you know it.

## 1

### Endless Video Project

**The Project:** Every week students will be assigned a Video Production Challenge– a set of criteria for producing a visual media product. Students will have a minimum of five class days to shoot, edit, and distribute the project, and ultimately end with a finished piece of purposeful communication. This is called “endless” because it lasts all year.

**The Process:**

- Pre-Production: Plan the video.
- Production: Shoot the video.
- Post-Production: Edit the video.
- Distribution: Publish the video.
- Repeat forever.

## 2

### Integrated Unit Project

**The Project:** Save a life by creating a health-themed video campaign that will prevent unhealthy behaviors, attitudes, or lifestyles. Students will learn how to declare allegiance or opposition to a cause by creating a flawless video-based argument that champions an agenda and supports a clear point-of-view. This project is assigned as an integrated unit across subject matter.

**The Process:**

- Fall in love with a cause.
- Pick a side in the fight.
- Make a video argument.
- Post the video to YouTube.

## 3

### Visual Analysis

**The Project:** Students will regularly analyze professional media products (such as paintings, photographs, and short films) to learn advanced techniques of visual communication.

**The Process:**

- Describe the image.
- Describe the sound.
- Describe the composition.
- Describe the mood.
- Explain the meaning.

## 4

### Film Analysis

**The Project:** Students will regularly analyze feature length films or screenplays, to learn advanced techniques of visual communication.

**The Process:**

- Describe the image.
- Describe the sound.
- Describe the composition.
- Describe the mood.
- Explain the meaning.

## 5

### Professionalism

**The Project:** Students will act professionally in the classroom environment to prepare them for life beyond High School.

**The Process:**

- Students will earn ClassDojo points for positive behaviors.
- Students will lose ClassDojo points for negative behaviors.

# FAQ

## Answers to frequently asked questions.

**1**

### Can I submit late work?

No. Late work is never accepted. Students who are absent must submit their work electronically through [Google Classroom](#) by the posted due date. I will never grant deadline extensions or make up work.

**2**

### Can I be late to class?

No. Early is on time. Students will be marked late if they are not in their seat and prepared before the bell rings.

**3**

### Can I eat in class?

No. Food is never allowed during class. Hydration, such as water, is allowed.

**4**

### Can I use my cell phone?

No. Cell phones are never allowed during class. All personal electronic devices must be packed away and inaccessible for the entirety of our class session.

**5**

### Can I use the restroom?

Yes. Every student is given two (2) restroom passes each semester. Use them for emergencies only.

**6**

### Can I put my bag on the desk?

No. Bags/backpacks are never allowed on the desktops. Your desktop is for creating beautiful work and needs to be clear of obstructions and distractions.

**7**

### Can I do work for other classes?

No. Work for other classes is never allowed.

**8**

### When am I excused?

The bell does not excuse students. Mr. Miller will say the words "you are excused" allowing students to exit the classroom.

**9**

### Can I take my final exam early?

No. Final exams will never be given early.

**10**

### Do you offer extra credit?

Yes. Extra credit is earned by exhibiting positive classroom behavior. Students can track their behavior points using [ClassDojo](#) to view progress.

# 5

## Grades

How final grades will be calculated.

1

### Grade Percentages



10%

### Professionalism

Daily professional behavior is logged in [ClassDojo](#). Additionally, professionalism can result in extra credit points every week.

50%

### Endless Video Project & Integrated Unit Project

The Endless Video Project and Integrated Unit Project are this portion of the grade.

20%

### Visual Analysis

All assignments that fall under the category of Visual Analysis are this portion of the grade.

20%

### Film Analysis

All assignments that fall under the category of Film Analysis are this portion of the grade.

2

### Track Final Grades

[https://campus.scusd.edu/campus/portal/sacramento\\_city.jsp](https://campus.scusd.edu/campus/portal/sacramento_city.jsp)

**Infinite Campus:** This is an online gradebook where final grades are posted. Parents, guardians, and students can log in for access and track progress.