

# Theatre Tech 1 \* Advanced Tech 2-4 \* Varsity Tech

## 2019-2020 Syllabus

Room 5303 \* 512-570-2076

Technical Director - Melissa Edwards [mel.edwards@leanderisd.org](mailto:mel.edwards@leanderisd.org)  
Assistant Director - Chrissy Flanigan [chrissy.flanigan@leanderisd.org](mailto:chrissy.flanigan@leanderisd.org)

Dear Students and Parents:

I would like to welcome you to the 2019–2020 Technical Theatre class.

I am excited about this year, and look forward to working with each of you. As you read over this syllabus with your student; please make note of any questions that you have concerning this information. I hope that when you have completed studying the syllabus, you will have a strong understanding of what will be required from the student, as well as what the student can expect from me. I want to personally invite each parent to take an active role in helping the student, and myself, have a productive and successful experience in class this year.

The last page of the syllabus is the individual student contract, which must be returned to me, signed by both the parent, and student. This gives me a written confirmation that both the parent and student have read the syllabus, understand procedures, rules, consequences, and will abide by them. So please read each page of the syllabus carefully before signing the contract. This contract will be kept in the student's personal information file.

In class we will also be using Remind. It is a free one way text messaging and email system. All personal information remains completely confidential. Teachers will never see a students phone number nor will students ever see theirs. I have attached instructions on how to sign up for Remind. I strongly encourage you to check out their website if you want to learn more about the system and you are more than welcome to sign up yourself and receive the same reminder as your child. I recommend saving the assigned phone number as REMIND in your contacts.

I would also like to take this time to invite you to our Spring Musical. This year we are performing *Les Misérables* and your child will working on the props, costumes and sets as part of the class. If you are not familiar with the musical, *Les Misérables* set in early 19th-century France, *Les Misérables* is the story of Jean Valjean, a French peasant, and his desire for redemption after serving nineteen years in jail for having stolen a loaf of bread for his sister's starving child. Valjean decides to break his parole and start his life anew after a bishop inspires him by a tremendous act of mercy, but he is relentlessly tracked down by a police inspector named Javert. Along the way, Valjean and a slew of characters are swept into a revolutionary period in France, where a group of young idealists attempt to overthrow the government at a street barricade. We have big plans for this years show and would love to have you and your child come out to see their hard work on stage.

*Les Misérables* will be performed in the RHS Performing Arts Center on January 30th - February 2nd, 2020. Please feel free to visit the theatre department website for details [rousetheatre.com](http://rousetheatre.com).

Once again let me welcome you to the class, it's going to be an exciting year!



Melissa Edwards  
Technical Director

## Course Description:

Technical Theatre class will introduce the first year technician to the areas of stagecraft and theatrical production. **You will climb ladders, lift things, build (with power tools), paint, work online, research, work with makeup, sew fabric and handle very expensive equipment in this class.**

The theatrical elements to which you will be introduced will include, but are not limited to:

- Scenic Elements
- Theatre Appreciation
- Hanging and Focusing Lights
- Lighting Design
- Stage Management
- Stage Properties (Props)
- Costume and Makeup Design
- Fly System/Safety
- Scene Design
- Costume Construction
- Sound Design
- Wig Making
- Millinery
- Model Making

## Supplies/Fees:

There is no fee for this Technical Theatre 1.

Varsity Tech has a fee of \$75 which goes towards the Renaissance Festival Contest Fee/Fall Show.

You must be prepared with your laptop EVERYDAY, charged and ready to go. Also, you will need to provide your own closed toed shoes and paint clothes during the musical build and other paint projects. I will send out a message on Remind to notify you when paint days are. It is your responsibility to make arrangements. Your lack of planning will not excuse you from the project.

## Rules:

- **Be Prepared.** The majority of your workload is hand-on projects in class and digital assignments. Assignments are uploaded to Google Classroom, therefore can be accessed anytime, anywhere. Please be prepared by reading the assignments carefully before you turn them in to make sure you have all the proper information on them.
- **Stay On Task.** Having a laptop is a privilege not a right. If you abuse this privilege and are found watching videos and playing games when you are supposed to be doing your assignments, the laptop will be taken away from you will have to pick up your laptop from your AP's office. This may or may not include a referral.
- **Be Polite And Helpful.** I will not tolerate rudeness in the class. Everyone is here to learn something and have a good time.
- **Be Safe.** Because we are using power tools it is very important that you listen and follow all instructions. A simple misuse of a drill or staple gun could mean an unpleasant trip to the nurse. Please follow directions at all times.
- **Be Clean!** This can become an ant problem. There is absolutely not eating or drinking in my class. No candy, even sugar free, is allowed in my class. Failure to follow this rule will result in a disciplinary referral. Only water in a closed container, such as a water bottle, is permitted.

- **IF IT'S NOT YOURS, DON'T TOUCH IT!** You could break a prop or tear a costume someone needs for their productions. These things cost money to replace or repair.
- **All Equipment And Personnel Are To Be Treated With Respect.** Negative and indifferent attitudes will not be allowed to touch ANYTHING in the theatre!!! As a result they will be given an alternative assignment which could include and 3-4 page essay, defining theatre related words or sorting through a large bucket of various sizes of screws.

## **Grades:**

### Participation/Daily Work (50%)

Includes: All required materials each day, classroom behavior, positive contribution to the classroom activities and environment, all work done in class that is not part of a presentation, major project or portfolio.

### Major Projects/Presentations (40%)

Includes: Work on multiple design and research projects through the year and presentations of their work to the class.

### Portfolios/Journals (10%)

Includes: Maintaining an online portfolio and reflecting on all of their Technical Theatre work.

## **Missed Assignments:**

### **Retakes & Re-dos of Assignments**

Students will be allowed to redo an assignment or retake an examination for which the student originally made a failing grade up to five days after the grade has been posted.

### **Make-Up Work due to Absences**

Students will receive the number of days the student was absent to complete and submit make-up work.

All project descriptions, assignments and deadlines can be found on Google Classroom.

If a student is absent they should check Google Classroom first for current assignment deadlines and for new assignments posted while they were gone. This will allow them to become familiar with the assignment and prepare questions for the teacher when they return.

Google Classroom can be accessed through the app or the web browser.

## Discipline Hierarchy:

1st Offense: Verbal Warning

2nd Offense: Parent notified for the first time. Behavior Notice Form emailed/sent to parent and/or a phone call. Possible loss of privileges.

3rd Offense: Parent notified a second time. Phone call is also placed to the student's AP. Possible Referral and loss of privileges.

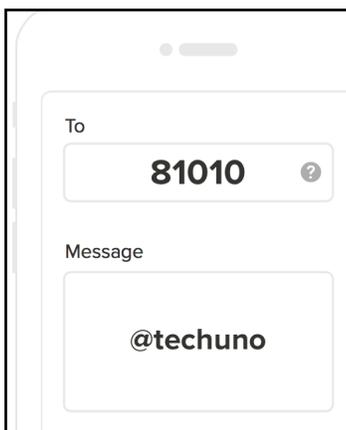
4th Offense: Discipline referral

## How to do Well in Theatre Tech class:

- Attend class and be willing to get involved. If you attend class but are habitually ill prepared to participate in the discussions or are lethargic and lazy towards your work, it will adversely affect your grade. This class is all about being a team and making an effort. If you are missing (whether physically or mentally) our team cannot function properly.
- Show off. It's not enough that the light goes on in your brain; you have to demonstrate your knowledge, skills, and ideas. Demand perfection from yourself and don't settle for less. The Rouse High School theatre department prides itself on our productions and our technical elements. You are now a vital part of this department.

## Remind Sign Up:

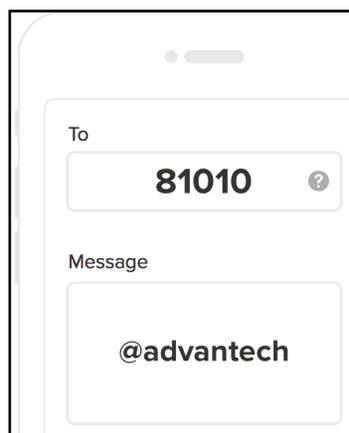
### Tech 1 Classes



To: 81010 ?

Message: @techuno

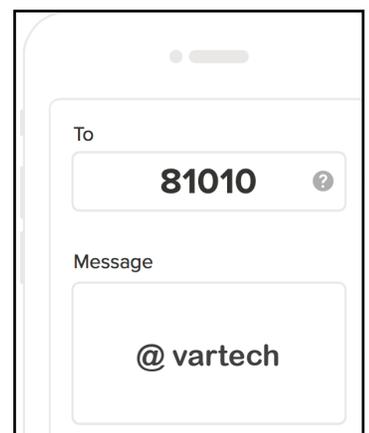
### Advanced Tech (2-4)Classes



To: 81010 ?

Message: @advantech

### Varsity Tech



To: 81010 ?

Message: @vartech

YOU MAY KEEP THE SYLLABUS FOR YOUR REFERENCE BUT PLEASE RETURN CONTRACT TO MRS. EDWARDS or MS. FLANIGAN.

## TECHNICAL THEATRE CONTRACT 2019-2020

Dear Parent/Guardian:

Because of the safety risks involved and the trust I will need to put in him/her, I need you and your student to read the following contract carefully, sign it and return it to me ASAP.

Your child's safety is my NUMBER ONE concern. At NO TIME will your student be placed in danger. You are free to come and see for yourself the area in which your student will be working. Please contact Ms. Flanigan or Mrs. Edwards any time.

AS A ROUSE HIGH SCHOOL STUDENT IN A TECHNICAL THEATRE CLASS, I AGREE TO FOLLOW THE RULES AS LISTED BELOW. I UNDERSTAND THAT VIOLATION OF ANY OF THE RULES WILL RESULT IN A DISCIPLINE REFERRAL AND/OR BEING REMOVED FROM THIS CLASS.

1. **Horseplay** is not acceptable and will not be tolerated. Any behavior that jeopardizes the safety or well-being of other students will result in a discipline referral.
2. **Theft or intentional damage of school property** or other student's property will not be tolerated. Parents are responsible for paying the reasonable replacement value of such items including equipment.
3. Absolutely **no food, candy or gum** is allowed in the classroom and PAC. This serves as your warning. A violation will result in detention or referral. See levels 2, 3, and 4 of the discipline hierarchy.
4. Students will be given a variety of tasks UNDER ADULT SUPERVISION once they've proven proficiency in these tasks. These are: **climbing the ladder(s), pulling ropes, hanging lights on a batten, going in the catwalk, and loading/unloading counterweights**. This is the bulk of the curriculum for this class and by signing below, you are ALLOWING your student to participate in the theatre tech class.

I HAVE READ AND UNDERSTAND THE SYLLABUS AND THE ITEMS ABOVE. I KNOW THAT I WILL BECOME PART OF A TEAM OF HIGHLY SKILLED INDIVIDUALS RESPONSIBLE FOR MAINTAINING THE INTEGRITY AND QUALITY OF THE ROUSE PERFORMING ARTS THEATRE.

Student Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

Parent Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

**\*Note: Email/phone information used for contact comes from the student's Skyward profile.**