

Drama A Level



Exam Board: Edexcel

Entry requirements: Grade 6 in GCSE Drama

Intent

Structure

Throughout the course, students will explore relevant practitioners, playwrights and skills relating to a range of scripts from a range of time periods, including Greek theatre and modern day. Students will respond to these examples through practical and written activities that demonstrate their understanding of different genres and types of theatre.

Throughout the A-Level Course students will explore;

- Knowledge and understanding of drama and theatre
- Study of two set plays
- Analysis and evaluation of the work of live theatre makers
- Process of creating devised drama
- Performance of devised drama
- Practical exploration and interpretation of one group piece and either a monologue or a duologue

Implementation

Content & Sequencing

In A Level Drama students are challenged to think more critically about theatre as a whole, diving deeper into their knowledge of practitioners, theories and skills. Students are encouraged to go and see as much live theatre as they possibly can to be able to pick apart artistic intentions and director's concepts for them to get better at creating their own. There will be opportunities to engage with practitioners and examples of both current and historical. This is taught to the students through practical and theory lessons by the teacher, visiting workshops/practitioners and organised theatre trips.

Students are encouraged to become independent practitioners in their own right and given the opportunity to assist and direct others in school projects. Each student will be supported by 1-2-1 tutorials and feedback and group sessions with peer feedback.

Assessment Methods

The A-Level is made of 3 components

- Component 1 - Devise an original performance piece, AO1, AO2 and AO4 are assessed. There are two parts 1) a portfolio (60 marks, 40 marks assessing AO1 and 20 marks assessing AO4) and 2) the devised performance/design realisation (20 marks, assessing AO2) Overall out of 80 marks and worth 40%
- Component 2 – Scripted piece, AO2 is assessed by an external examiner. This is one whole group piece and one monologue or duologue and is marked out of 60 and is worth 20%
- Component 3 - 2 hour and 30-minute written exam broken up into 3 sections. Section A: Live Theatre Evaluation marked out of 20, assessing AO4. Section B: Page to Stage: Realising a Performance Text marked

out of 36, assessing AO3 and Section C: Interpreting a Performance Text Marked out of 24, assessing AO3. This is overall out of 80 and weighted 40% of the final grade.

AO1 - Create and develop ideas to communicate meaning as part of the theatre-making process, making connections between dramatic theory and practice
AO2 - Apply theatrical skills to realise artistic intentions in live performance

AO3 - Demonstrate knowledge and understanding of how drama and theatre is developed and performed

AO4 - Analyse and evaluate their own work and the work of others

Impact

Onward Progression

An A level in Drama provides opportunities to develop skills demanded by employers. Students can opt for further education pathways such as a Foundation course and BA Hons degree's at universities and at drama schools. Support is provided for students with compiling performers CV's, Monologues for audition pieces and UCAS applications and interview practice.

Many students who have studied Drama at A-level have gone to work professionally in the industry but have also taken other paths in life that Drama has benefited them. These range from police officers to politicians.

Further information contact

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