

Drama & Theatre Studies

Exam Board: Edexcel

ENTRY REQUIREMENTS

Grade C or above at GCSE Drama. This course is open to those who did not take Drama at GCSE.

COURSE STRUCTURE AND CONTENT

Two modules are studied in Year 13 for AS Level and two additional modules are studied in Year 14 for A2.

YOU WILL STUDY

AS Unit 1: Exploration of Drama and Theatre

- ◆ Two plays exploring a variety of ways in which they can be realised in performance. Students will evaluate a piece of 'live' theatre.

AS Unit 2: Text in Performance

- ◆ Students will demonstrate performance and/or design skills by taking part in two 'live' performances:
 - i) a monologue or duologue written by a known playwright,
 - ii) a performance of a play by a known playwright.

A2 Unit 3: Exploration of Dramatic Performance

- ◆ Students will create a unique and original piece of theatre to be performed to an audience.

A2 Unit 4: Theatre Text in Context

- ◆ Students will explore a set play, from a choice of three, analysing the text from the point of view of a director.
- ◆ Students will Study a period of theatre history experience a ‘live’ performance of a play from that historical period, which must be critically evaluated.

YOU WILL BE ASSESSED IN THE FOLLOWING WAYS

Unit 1: Internally Assessed/Externally Moderated (40% of AS)

- ◆ Students will submit exploration notes on research and practical work carried out on two plays (maximum 3,000 words).
- ◆ Students will submit an evaluation (maximum 1,000 words) of a ‘live’ theatre performance.

Unit 2: Externally Assessed Practical Exam (60% of AS)

- ◆ Students will perform, or design for, two performances.
- ◆ Students will provide a concept of the interpretation of chosen roles or designs.

Unit 3: Internally Assessed/Externally Moderated (40% of A2)

- ◆ Students will be assessed on research and development work (observed and written evaluation).
- ◆ Students will be assessed during a live performance of the drama that they have created.

Unit 4: Externally Assessed Written Exam (60% of A2)

- ◆ Students will be required to take a 2½ hour written paper answering questions on the content studied during this unit.
 - i) Section A — Set Plays
 - ii) Section B — Theatre History

SKILLS DEVELOPED

Students will gain the ability to:—

- Partake in disciplined and creative co-operation,
- Select and use a form of writing appropriate to purpose and complex subject matter,
- Organise relevant information clearly and coherently, using specialist vocabulary when appropriate,
- Develop the skills of acting, costume design and construction, mask design and construction, design and execution of stage setting, lighting and/or sound,
- Realise dramatic intentions through performance,
- Respond with knowledge and understanding to drama from different periods,
- Demonstrate knowledge and understanding of the prescribed theatre practitioners (Stanislavski and Brecht),
- Form judgements about live theatre observed,
- Present an effective interpretation of a play text,
- Make connections between theoretical understanding and realisation in performance.

CAREER PROGRESSION

Drama and Theatre Studies:—

- Provides opportunities for progression to courses in higher education in the subject area of drama and theatre studies,
- Can be used as an entry qualification in a range of other subjects,
- Offers subject content which is distinct from that of other subjects,
- Compliments other arts subjects,
- Demonstrates to future employers that you have developed self – confidence and communication skills.