

Drama and Theatre

Examination Board: AQA

Qualification: A level

Teacher Contact: Ms Bloomfield

Entry Requirements: Students who have studied GCSE Drama should have at least a grade 6 in Drama. Alternatively they should have achieved at least a grade 5 in English.

What will I study?

The A level course is comprised of three components.

Component 1: Drama and Theatre (40%)

For this written exam we will work practically in class exploring two contrasting texts from the perspective of actors, directors and designers. In your exam you will answer one question on each play discussing how you might interpret the play as a whole or a given extract. A third question asks you to evaluate a live production you have seen. You are allowed to take notes into your exam.

Component 2: Creating Original Drama (practical) (30%)

You will work in pairs or small groups to create an original piece of drama from a stimulus of your choice. Your piece will be performed to a live audience and you can choose whether to be examined as an actor, director or designer. You will use the ideas of a recognised theatre practitioner or company to help devise your piece.

You will be assessed on your contribution to the performance and on a detailed working notebook which you will keep throughout the process.

Component 3: Making Theatre (practical) (30%)

This is a practical exploration and interpretation of three extracts (Extract 1, 2 and 3) each taken from a different play. The methodology of a prescribed practitioner must be applied to Extract 3 which is to be performed as a final assessed piece (students may contribute as performer, designer or director). You will also complete a Reflective Report analysing and evaluating theatrical interpretation of all three extracts.

Am I suited to this course?

You would be well suited to Drama and Theatre at A level if you:

- are interested in all aspects of performance
- enjoy devising and performing practical work to a range of audiences
- would like to develop your personal skills and powers of analysis
- are willing to work as a team to strict deadlines.

What other subjects does it complement?

Drama and Theatre Studies fits well in combination with a range of subjects, most notably English Language, English Literature, History, Psychology, Dance and Art.

Where can it lead?

A level Drama and Theatre Studies is a valued qualification which will enable students to enter related university courses. The course complements higher education degrees in English Literature and the Arts and equips students for careers in media and the theatre.