



A LEVEL Drama & Theatre Studies Edexcel

WHAT DO I NEED TO KNOW OR BE ABLE TO DO BEFORE TAKING THIS COURSE?

It is useful to have taken Drama at GCSE level but not essential. It is important that you are interested in gaining a greater understanding of how theatre and plays work and that you are keen to be involved with performances. You need to be curious about political and social issues and ideas and have a creative instinct for communicating your ideas through drama. You may be keen on acting, writing or on the visual and technical side of theatre and wish to develop your skills in some or all of these areas. Equally you will be interested in going to the theatre to see plays of different styles performed by different theatre companies.

WHAT WILL I LEARN ON THIS ADVANCED GCE COURSE?

The course demands practical, creative and communication skills in almost equal measure. You will extend your ability to create drama and theatre. You will also be required to write about drama and to develop your evaluation and analytical skills to become an informed critic. The course will involve taking part in drama productions, as well as studying plays, playwrights and theatre practitioners.

Component 1: Devising (40% of the qualification 80 marks)

Overview: Students will devise an original performance piece using an extract from a performance text and a theatre practitioner as stimuli, students will also create a working portfolio which documents the journey of creating unique theatre.

Component 2: Theatre Text in Performance (20% of the qualification 60 marks)

Overview: Students will perform in a group performance of one key extract from a performance text. In addition, students will perform a monologue or duologue performance from one key extract from a different performance text. This performance is examined externally.

Component 3: Theatre Makers in Practice (Written examination: 2 hours 30 minutes 40% of the qualification 80 marks)

Overview: Students will write a live theatre evaluation of a performance they have seen. Students will explore two complete texts – focusing on how they can be realised for performance – and how they could be reimagined for a contemporary audience.

Trips: You will need to attend a minimum of two live theatre productions to write a review, these trips will cost approximately between £20-£35.

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