

SUBJECT:DANCE

QUALIFICATION: AS/A2 in Dance

QUALIFICATION LEVEL:

QUALIFICATION TYPE: Advanced Subsidiary

AWARDING BODY: AQA

CATEGORY: Performing Arts

Qualification Accreditation Number (QAN):

DESCRIPTION

In the first year (AS) you will have two main areas of study: 'Understanding dance' and 'Choreography and performance'. Both are designed to get you on your feet dancing solo and with others, in a practical expression of your new-found skills. You will learn from studying the professionals and see how dance can have great meaning and expression. Your coursework will include physical, interpretative and performance skills.

The second year takes you up a step with two more study topics. In the first – 'Dance appreciation' – you will be able to choose from ballet, modern or jazz to study a dance genre in more detail. There will be a set work to study, chosen from three professional dance pieces. Then you will develop your choreography skills even further, creating a dance for others to perform. This area of study, called 'Group choreography and solo performance' includes your very own performance in the style of one of the three genres.

WHAT WILL I LEARN?

Dance helps students develop a number of skills;

- Visual appreciation of dance and choreography
- Balanced judgement
- Information gathering and assessment
- Ability to work on your own or as part of a team
- Communication

WHAT ARE THE ENTRY REQUIREMENTS?

You need at least a C in GCSE Dance. Students who have not taken GCSE Dance are still able to choose AS/A2 Dance but must have attained at least a C in English GCSE.

HOW WILL I BE ASSESSED?

In the first year you will sit a written paper on 'Understanding dance'. This paper will account for 40% of your AS marks. The remaining 60% of your

marks are for practical coursework from your 'Choreography and performance' study. The second year assessment is in two parts as well. The 90 minute paper you will sit on 'Dance appreciation' accounts for 50% of your marks. A practical examination on group choreography and solo performance accounts for the remaining 50% of your A2 marks.

WHAT ARE THE COSTS?

Students will require dance clothes consisting of lightweight tracksuit bottoms or leggings and non-restricting t-shirts. No specific dance shoes are required for the course.

FUTURE OPPORTUNITIES?

GCE Dance is suitable for anyone wanting to pursue the arts or dance in Higher Education, or as support for any course requiring good communication and group work skills. In addition to performing, choreographing and teaching, this course may lead to such diverse careers as dance therapy or journalism.

Many students who take dance at A level also take Drama and Theatre studies, Performing Arts and P.E. English Literature, Media studies, Communication Studies and Music are also great companion courses.

FURTHER INFORMATION

For some people, dance is simply the way in which they express themselves. Joy, sadness, loneliness, love...if you can imagine how dance would portray human emotions and stories, this course is for you.

Step inside the world of dance and gain knowledge and understanding of the dancer in action and the skills involved in performance. Through analysis, interpretation and evaluation of dances you will gain an appreciation and understanding of their historical and cultural context. You will take your first steps in developing your own creativity as a dancer and choreographer. Not to mention keeping fit and trim.

For more information, visit:

www.aqa.org.uk/qual/gce/dance_new.php

All information provided has been taken from 'Why choose dance A Level' student guide provided by AQA:

<http://store.aqa.org.uk/qual/gce/pdf/AQA-2230-W-SG.PDF>