

SUBJECT: DRAMA

QUALIFICATION: AS & A2

QUALIFICATION LEVEL: ADVANCED SUBSIDIARY & ADVANCED LEVEL

AWARDING BODY: AQA

CATEGORY: THEATRE STUDIES

Qualification Accreditation Number (QAN): AS – 500/2350/0
A2 – 500/2307/X

DESCRIPTION

Studying Drama and Theatre studies increases self-awareness and self confidence using the medium of analysis and performance. It can be very useful if the student is considering pursuing a career in the performing arts or for a vocation that requires good communication skills.

WHAT WILL I LEARN?

UNIT ONE

Drama 1 Live Theatre production seen and prescribed play

60% of the total AS mark
30% of the total A level mark
1 hour 30 minutes written exam

One question from each of the two sections:
Section A: response to live theatre seen during the course
Section B: Study of one set play from a choice of 6 plays

The unit will cover candidates' personal response to live theatre and the interpretation of a set play from a performance perspective.

UNIT TWO

Drama 2 Presentation of an extract from a play

40% of the total AS mark
20% of the total A level mark
80 marks

Practical performance of an extract from a published play. The unit will include candidates' preparatory and development work and supporting roles. Students are marked on preparation, development and performance work.

UNIT THREE

Further prescribed plays

30% of the total A level mark
2 hour written paper
Study of 2 further set plays

Section A: Pre 20th century plays
Section B: 20th century or contemporary plays

UNIT FOUR

Presentation of devised drama

20% of the total A level mark
80 marks

Performance by a group of devised Drama. The assessment also includes candidates' preparatory and development work and supporting notes. The unit will cover working in groups to develop and present a devised drama, performed in a theatrical style of their choice and also research into theatrical style chosen by the group for their practical work.

WHAT ARE THE ENTRY REQUIREMENTS?

GCSE Drama at grade B or above, a love of the theatre, an ability to work independently and as part of a team. An ability to perform in front of an audience and a willingness to give up own time to develop work further practical rehearsals. A good command of spoken and written English.

HOW WILL I BE ASSESSED?

Practical Drama Work: Teacher assessed and graded externally.
Written Papers; externally set and marked.

WHAT ARE THE COSTS?

Theatre trips to see live plays and productions.

FUTURE OPPORTUNITIES?

A worthwhile course for candidates in terms of general education and lifelong learning. AS/A level Drama and Theatre studies can lead to University courses in Theatre Studies and Performing Arts. Also useful for careers such as retail, travel and tourism, sales, marketing, teaching and any career which involves meeting people face to face. The study of Drama and Theatre Studies can help you to develop transferable skills which you can take into any career or job.

FURTHER INFORMATION

At A2, the specification provides candidates with the opportunity to develop skills and extend and apply knowledge gained at AS level. Candidates will demonstrate a more advanced level of performance and/or production skills alongside the ability to think independently, make judgements and refine their work in the light of research. They will also demonstrate the ability to analyse the ways in which different performance and production elements are brought together to create theatre. The academic content of the

subject is quite high and will consist both of formal written tasks and individual research, where initiative will be of vital importance. This course can be very rewarding both intellectually and in terms of enjoyment experienced along the way; the more you put into it, the more you will get out of it!

NB For this course to be viable there is a minimum number of 3 students required. If this not achieved the course can not run.