

## POST 16 SUBJECT OVERVIEW

**Name of Subject** - Drama

**Which Examination Specification is Studied for this Course?**

AQA

**Why should I study this course?**

The course is designed to inspire students to become independent theatre makers with the transferrable skills needed to go on to higher education.

This qualification emphasises practical creativity alongside research and theoretical understanding.

Students learn through experience, seeing theatre and making theatre for themselves. Students are also introduced to a wide range of theatrical styles and contexts as they explore plays practically and devise their own performances.

The written examination is designed to allow students to demonstrate their creativity and imagination in interpreting set texts and applying independent thinking when evaluating a live theatre production.

The study of Drama and Theatre at A level can help students with a variety of skills as well as develop their creative career aspirations. Students who study this course will enhance their skills in creative thinking, teamwork, analysis, presentation skills, planning and many more.

**Who is suitable to study this course? -**

You will need...

An interest in performance

An Enthusiasm for live theatre

A willingness to work as a team

A desire to explore, analyse and imagine

An ability to write clear and concise essays

An active and creative imagination

Students who want to go onto study a creative degree, e.g:

Below are a few Drama BA courses offered by different universities and the A-level entry requirements they ask for:

- The University of Manchester: 'A,B,B. Grades ABB including an essay-based subject such as English Literature, History or Politics. General Studies is welcomed but not normally included as part of the standard offer.'
- University of Essex: 'B,B,B. Including an essay-based subject.'
- Bath Spa University: 'B,C,C. Grades BCC including Grade B in Drama, Theatre studies, English or related subjects accepted.'

Here are a few examples of careers Drama students can move into:

- Broadcaster.
- **Choreographer.**
- Dancer.
- Disc jockey.
- Drama therapist.
- Drama/theatre critic.
- Magician.
- Model.
- Acting

There are many others. Please follow this link for more ideas:

<https://www.lonestar.edu/drama-careers.htm>

### **What GCSE Qualifications Support the Study of this Course?**

What GCSE's are useful for drama

- **English literature**
- **English literature and language**
- **Dram**

Other typical A-levels taken by current drama students

- **history**
- **media studies**
- **general studies**

### **What are the Qualification Requirements for this Course?**

IT IS NOT ESSENTIAL TO HAVE TAKEN GCSE DRAMA but students will ideally have Grade Point 6-9 (Grade B-A\*) at Drama GCSE or related subjects. The minimum GCSE grade required is Grade point 5 (Grade C). Evidence of acting experience will also be taken into consideration, especially if you have not taken this subject at GCSE.

### **How is the Course Delivered?**

Teacher = Miss Foshier

Number of Hours = 4

Independent Study = Attending live performances, watching recorded performances, rehearsing for milestone performances

Software used = Google Classroom/Drive (extensively used)

The course is extensively Practical

<b>Subject Overview</b>		
<b>Half Term</b>	<b>Year 12</b>	<b>Year 13</b>
<b>Autumn 1</b>	Introduction of A Level course. Build on skills and relationships. Component 2: <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Practical exploration and theatrical interpretation of two extracts (Extract 1 and 2) each taken from a different play. Extract 2 is to be performed as a final assessed piece</li><li>• Portfolio evidencing interpretive process and analysis and evaluation of performance</li></ul>	Component 2. Process of creating devised drama <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Performance of devised drama</li><li>• Working notebook</li></ul>

<b>Autumn 2</b>	<p>Component 2:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Practical exploration and theatrical interpretation of two extracts (Extract 1 and 2) each taken from a different play. Extract 2 is to be performed as a final assessed piece</li> <li>• Portfolio evidencing interpretive process and analysis and evaluation of performance</li> </ul>	<p>Component 2.</p> <p>Process of creating devised drama</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Performance of devised drama</li> <li>• Working notebook</li> </ul>
<b>Spring 1</b>	<p>Component 2:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Practical exploration and theatrical interpretation of two extracts (Extract 1 and 2) each taken from a different play. Extract 2 is to be performed as a final assessed piece</li> <li>• Portfolio evidencing interpretive process and analysis and evaluation of performance.</li> </ul> <p>Component One: Knowledge and understanding of drama and theatre</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Study of one set play from a choice of seven</li> <li>• Analysis and evaluation of the work of live theatre makers</li> </ul>	<p>Component 3:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Practical exploration and interpretation of three extracts (Extract 1, 2 and 3) each taken from a different play</li> <li>Extract 3 is to be performed as a final assessed piece</li> <li>• Reflective report analysing and evaluating theatrical interpretation of all three extra</li> </ul>
<b>Spring 2</b>	<p>Component One: Knowledge and understanding of drama and theatre</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Study of one set play from a choice of seven</li> <li>• Analysis and evaluation of the work of live theatre makers</li> </ul>	<p>Component 3:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Practical exploration and interpretation of three extracts (Extract 1, 2 and 3) each taken from a different play</li> <li>Extract 3 is to be performed as a final assessed piece</li> <li>• Reflective report analysing and evaluating theatrical interpretation of all three extracts</li> </ul> <p>Component 1: Written Exam</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Knowledge and understanding of drama and theatre</li> <li>• Study of two set plays, one chosen from List A, one chosen from List B</li> <li>• Analysis and evaluation of the work of live theatre makers</li> </ul>
<b>Summer 1</b>	<p>Component One: Knowledge and understanding of drama and theatre</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Study of one set play from a choice of seven</li> </ul>	<p>Written Exam</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Knowledge and understanding of drama and theatre</li> </ul>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Analysis and evaluation of the work of live theatre makers</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Study of two set plays, one chosen from List A, one chosen from List B</li> <li>• Analysis and evaluation of the work of live theatre makers.</li> </ul>
<b>Summer 2</b>	<p>Begin the Y13 course. Introduce the Y13 course and begin on Component 2.</p> <p>Process of creating devised drama</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Performance of devised drama</li> <li>• Working notebook</li> </ul>	<p>Component 1: Written Exam</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Knowledge and understanding of drama and thea</li> </ul>

### How is the Course Assessed?

**Component One:** One formal written exam. Externally assessed.

**Component One:** 40%

**Component Two:** One internally assessed devised performance with a written Working Notebook.

**Component Two:** 30%

**Component Three:** Externally assessed practical performance and written portfolio

**Component Three:** 30%

Regular feedback will be given throughout the course and students will receive a Praising Stars predicted grade at the end of each half term.

### What is our Recommended Subject Reading list to Support your Study?

Antigone - Euripides

Road – Jim Cartwright

Lysistrata – Sophocles

AS Drama and Theatre Studies – The Essential Introduction for Edexcel A. Perks and J. Porteous

P. Brook The empty space

Bermel Artaud's Theatre of Cruelty

J. Willett The Theatre of Bertolt Brecht

D. Cannon In Depth Acting

J. Benedetti Stanislavski: An Introduction

A. Perks and J. Porteous A2 Drama and Theatre Studies – The Essential Introduction

Actions: The Actors' Thesaurus By Marina Caldarone and Maggie Lloyd-Williams

The Actor and the Target By Declan Donnellan

Anger and After (Routledge Revivals)

A Guide to the New British Drama By John Russell Taylor

Becoming an Actor By Thomasina Unsworth

