



Nurturing Potential since 1611

DRAMA AND THEATRE

AS and Linear A Level [AQA Examination Board]

Assessment Methods:

- Performances for an audience / Design in practice - Practical examination
- Portfolio of evidence and self-assessment
- Written Examination

Am I suitable to do Drama and Theatre at A level?

- Candidates who opt for Drama and Theatre should have a love of the theatre and ideally will have taken Drama or English Literature at GCSE
- You must enjoy working with others to express ideas dramatically, whether as a **performer** or **designer** and you must be prepared to work hard
- You must have the ability to write good essays in a critical and analytical way, both for portfolio and examinations

What qualities do I need (to develop)?

- **A positive attitude** - accepting and following advice positively, being open to ideas, being Involved
- **Good Communication** - sharing ideas, listening, writing clear essays, negotiating in group work
- **Initiative** - getting costumes for your play, organizing your own deadlines, independent library research
- **Focus** - concentration in acting, getting details of production right
- **Independence** - working alone, championing your ideas, showing initiative
- **Being a team player** - offering positive criticism, supporting others
- **Commitment and Organisation** - willingness to rehearse in study periods, lunch time and after school for as long as it takes
- **Reliability** - punctuality to lessons and rehearsals, prompt work

What can I do with Drama and Theatre?

Most students study the subject out of pure interest. Obviously, many develop this further by choosing a degree in acting, performance skills, teaching or perhaps a joint degree such as French and Drama. Some choose a completely new subject, where they find the skills which they have developed in Drama and Theatre underpin their new subject - Subjects such as **law** (persuasive communication), **archaeology and anthropology** (knowledge of culture), **business management** (organisation), **public relations** (understanding an audience), **medicine** (empathy and communication with patients).

Drama and Theatre uses and develops most of the skills employers want.

AS Level Drama and Theatre from 2016 (AQA)

Summary of 1 year course:

Component 1: Knowledge and understanding of drama and theatre (written)

What's assessed

- Study of **one** set play from a choice of seven (50 marks)
- Analysis and evaluation of the work of live theatre makers (30 marks)

How it's assessed

- Written exam : 1 hour and 45 mins
- Open book
- 80 marks
- 40% of AS Level

Component 2: Process and performance (practical)

What's assessed

- Practical exploration and theatrical interpretation of two extracts (Extract 1 and 2) each taken from a different play
- Methodology of a prescribed practitioner must be applied to Extract 2
- Extract 2 is to be performed as a final assessed piece (students may contribute as performer, designer or director)
- Portfolio evidencing interpretive process and analysis and evaluation of performance

How it's assessed

- Performance of Extract 2 (30 marks)
- Portfolio (30 marks)
- 60 Marks in total
- 60% of AS
- This component is marked by teachers and moderated by AQA

A Level Drama and Theatre from 2016 (AQA)

Summary of 2 year course:

Component 1 : Knowledge and understanding of drama and theatre (written)

What's assessed

Study of **two** set plays:

- one chosen from List A (25 marks)
- one chosen from List B (25 marks)
- Analysis and evaluation of the work of live theatre makers (30 marks)

How it's assessed

- Written exam : 3 hours
- Open book
- 80 marks
- 40% of A-Level

Component 2: Creating original drama (practical)

What's assessed

- Process of creating and performing devised drama (students may contribute as performer, designer or director)
- Devised piece must be influenced by the work and methodologies of one prescribed practitioner

How it's assessed

- Working notebook (40 marks)
- Devised performance (20 marks)
- 60 marks in total
- 30% of A level
- This component is marked by teachers and moderated by AQA

Component 3: Making theatre (practical)

What's assessed

- Practical exploration and interpretation of three extracts (Extract 1, 2 and 3) each taken from a different play
- Methodology of a prescribed practitioner must be applied to Extract 3
- Extract 3 is to be performed as a final assessed piece (students may contribute as performer, designer or director)
- Reflective report analysing and evaluating theatrical interpretation of all three extracts

How it's assessed

- Performance of Extract 3 (40 marks)
- Reflective report (20 marks)
- 60 marks in total
- 30% of A-Level
- This component is marked by AQA