

6th Drama & Theatre Studies

Course Level

A level

Awarding Body

Edexcel

Entry Requirements

Grade 5 in GCSE Drama, English Language or Literature. (If GCSE Drama has not been taken it is a requirement to have Grade 5 in either English Language or English Literature)

Assessment

Component 1: Devising

Coursework

40% of the qualification

80 marks

Component 2: Text in performance

Coursework

20% of the qualification

60 marks

Component 3: Theatre Makers in Practice

Written examination: 2 hours and 30 minutes

40% of the qualification

80 marks

Course Description

From 2016 students who choose A level Drama and Theatre Studies will be committing themselves to the duration of the course which consists of three units which run over two years. Throughout the course students will study a variety of texts and will be exposed to as much live theatre as possible. There are opportunities to devise your own work and also to work with challenging and engaging texts. Students who choose Drama and Theatre Studies as an option must be clear that although some of the course is practically based, there is a significant amount of theory, with written coursework and an exam making up for 64% of the marks. Throughout the course, students will develop a multitude of skills, including collaboration, communication and an understanding of how to amend and refine work in order to make a smooth transition in to their next level of study or employment.

Component 1: Devising

Content overview

Devise an original performance piece.

Use **one key extract** from a performance text and theatre practitioner as stimuli. Performer/designer routes available.

Assessment overview (Internally assessed, externally moderated)

There are **TWO** parts to the assessment:

A portfolio (*worth 60 marks*) that can be hand written, typed evidence between 2500-3000 words **or** recorded/verbal evidence between 12-14 minutes **or** a combination of the two. The devised performance / design realisation (*worth 20 marks*).

Component 2: Text in Performance

Content overview

A group performance/design realisation of **one key extract** from a performance text.

A monologue or duologue performance / design realisation from **one key extract** from a *different* performance text.

Assessment overview (Externally assessed by a visiting examiner)

Group performance / design realisation: worth 36 marks.

Monologue or duologue / design realisation: worth 24 marks.

Component 3: Theatre Makers in Practice

Content overview

Live theatre evaluation.

Practical exploration and study of a complete text – focusing on how it could be realised for performance.

Practical exploration and interpretation of another complete performance text, in light of a chosen practitioner – focusing on how this text could be reimagined for a contemporary audience.

Assessment overview

Section A: live theatre evaluation (worth 20 marks)

Students will answer one extended response question from a choice of two requiring them to analyse and evaluate a live theatre performance they have seen. Students are allowed to bring in theatre evaluation notes up to 500 words.

Section B: Page to stage – Realising a performance text (worth 36 marks)

Students will answer two extended response questions based on an unseen extract from the performance text they have studied.

Students will demonstrate how they, as a theatre maker, intend to realise the extract in performance.

Students will answer from the perspective of a performer and a designer.

Section C: Interpreting a performance text (worth 24 marks)

Students will answer one extended response question from a choice of two using their chosen text.

Students will demonstrate how their re-imagined production concept will communicate ideas to a contemporary audience.

Students will also need to outline how the work of their chosen practitioner has influenced their overall production concept and also demonstrate an awareness of the original performance conditions. You will be allowed to bring clean copies of the text in to the exam only.