

Sixth Form Options

Drama and Theatre Studies

A Level Course – AQA 7262

"Not everyone is going to be an actor but nowadays everyone needs drama skills in one form or another."

Jeni Whittaker
Founder of *Dramaworks* and advisor to colleges and universities

Who should take Drama and Theatre?

- Students with a keen interest in theatre, film, television, public speaking, collaborating with others, working on projects
- performing, directing and design.
- Students who want a deeper understanding of drama and are interested in studying plays, looking at the work of influential theatre practitioners, analysing live theatre performance and creating performance work of their own.
- Health Warning: It is time consuming



Why take A Level Drama and Theatre?

Much sought after transferable skills :

- collaborative skills
- analytical thinking
- approaches to research
- confidence and maturity
- objective evaluation
- mature decision making
- empathy

Provides a breadth of experience for students – many universities and employers seek it out.



Drama enhances students' artistic and creative abilities and gives them a better understanding of themselves and their world.

In a society in which effective communication is vital, the study of drama develops verbal and nonverbal, individual and group communication skills which are skills for living.

A drama education is excellent preparation for all kinds of employment, and it is now common knowledge that the skills taught through drama are much respected by employers in a range of fields.

Phil King, The Guardian, Dec 2014

'the most important subject in school is not necessarily maths or science to survive in the tech world. It would be theatre – drama – where you learn how to interact with other people in a collaborative way.'

Simon Kuestenmacher "the future of work in the age of technology", 2021

But isn't it a soft subject?

 Drama and Theatre Studies is a challenging and respected A Level accepted by Universities.

 It is the most common A Level amongst highest performing Law Graduates at Russell Group universities*

 It complements Arts, Humanities, Languages and Science subjects alike



 *10 Key Skills you need to become a Lawyer, The Lawyer Portal, 2017

What will I study?

Two Year – linear A Level course – 3 components covering:

2 x Set Plays

Live Productions

Theatre Practitioners

Devised Performance and accompanying Devised Log Book

Scripted Performance and accompanying Reflective Report

How will I study?

Lessons can be a variety of:

- Practical
- Seminar based
- Lecture
- Rehearsal
- Research
- Google Classroom
- Digital Theatre Platforms

Component 1: Drama and Theatre (40%)

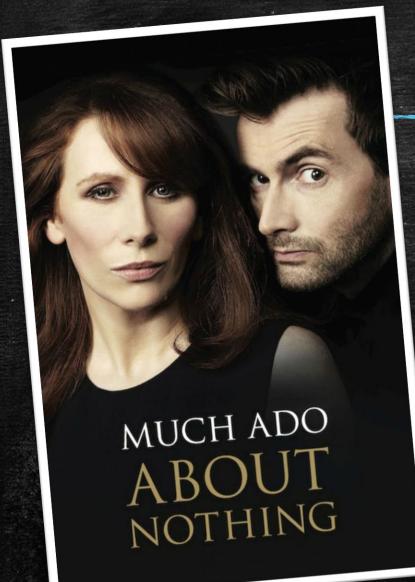
- Theory Two set plays and Live Theatre
- 3 Hour Written Exam

What does the course look like?

Component 2: Creating Original Drama: Devising (30%)

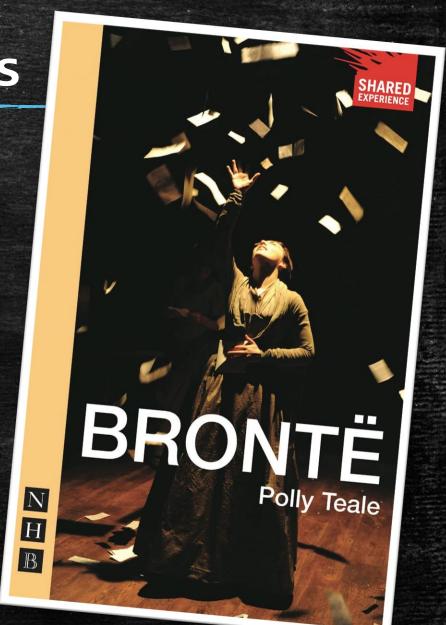
- Practical Performance and accompanying notebook internally assessed
- Based on style and practise of practitioner
- Non-Naturalistic

- Component 3: Making Theatre: Scripted (30%)
- Practical Performance and reflective report externally assessed
- Based on style and practise of practitioner
- Naturalistic



The Set Texts

Director Performer Designer



DRAMA

A STREETCAR
NAMED DESIRE
NAMED DESIRE
by TENNESSEE WILLIAMS
direction BENEDICT ANDREWS
Avoung Vic / Journal Andrews coproduction



 $\dot{P}_{ extstyle{Palace Thec}}^{ extstyle{Watford}}$

Gaslight

Things

Wed 2 - Sat 26 October

Live Theatre

DIGITAL THEATRE+









What skills will I need?

- ✓ Enthusiasm
- ✓ Passion
- √ Stamina
- ✓ Commitment
- ✓ Creativity
- ✓ Independence
- ✓ Curiosity
- ✓ Skills of analysis
- ✓ Good group work skills



What grades will I need to do this?

- Good pass in GCSE Drama –
 but not essential
- Good pass in English Language or Literature



Drama Opportunities at A Level

- Whole School Production acting or design
- House Drama Captains
- Drama Club Leaders
- Inter-house Drama Competition
- Technical Theatre Group
- Drama lesson support



What do students go on to do with Drama and Theatre Studies?

"Not everyone is going to be an actor but nowadays everyone needs drama skills in one form or another. This is the age of the 'presentation' where products and ideas are sold in a competitive market-place by the strength of the presenter and his/her powers of delivery. The scientist, the business executive, the engineer, the bank manager, the retail executive, the designer - none are exempt".



Jeni Whittaker

arts disciplines are valuable subjects of study in themselves but can also contribute to the knowledge and skills required for many professions from law to medicine and design to engineering



Question Time!

Ask the students!