



Drama and Theatre Studies

One year AS/Two year A level.

Drama and Theatre Studies is concerned with developing the students' enjoyment and interest in the subject, both as participants and as informed members of an audience. Through studying a combination of practice and theory you will develop your performance and academic skills, and achieve a deeper understanding and critical appreciation of the subject.

Requirements:

The College minimum to start an advanced level course is one grade B and four grade Cs at GCSE. Students wishing to undertake this course require grade B or above in GCSE English Literature. The student will also be expected to meet the Average Points Score for this subject. Students are also required to undertake and pass a one day audition process prior to enrolment.

This subject will focus on:

- developing good theatre practice through participating practically in the subject as actor, director, designer etc;
- becoming an informed member of an audience through the study of specialist terminology;
- the study of important plays from Shakespeare to the present day;
- how to study and interpret texts for performance; and
- the study of important practitioners who have helped to shape what we have to come to understand by the term Drama and Theatre.

You can expect to:

- act in a range of different drama and theatre productions;
- stage devised performances and ones based on pre-existing texts in order to demonstrate and develop an understanding of the performance process;
- explore different aspects of theatre history and understand its place within culture and contemporary performance;
- explore various playwrights and practitioners to further develop your practical and academic skills; and
- develop an understanding of how the actor and director interprets a text from a variety of critical perspectives.

Method of assessment:

Assessment is by performance examination, coursework, and written examination.

Progression:

A variety of options will be open to you after completing this subject. Drama and Theatre Studies is a practical and academic course. You can therefore apply for a wide range of courses both at university and drama schools including Theatre, Performing Arts, English

Literature, Media and various humanities subjects. Employers, particularly in those professions that require people skills and problem solving, also value this subject.

Other information:

Siobhan Cha Cha (ex All Saints and Drama and Theatre Studies Student of the Year 2009) said: "I really felt that this course got me thinking more about the society I live in and ideas I took for granted. Drama is not just about regurgitating lines from a script, it is a way of philosophising about the world as we see it. I enjoyed the course because it gave me the freedom to explore themes that were relevant to me and create my own interpretations. There was no wrong answer or one way of doing things. Everyone can gain their own personal experience and the course really gave me an opportunity to test and justify my beliefs and opinions whilst learning more about theatre which I take such an avid interest in." Siobhan is going to Birmingham University to study Drama.

Drama and Theatre Studies had a 100% pass rate at A Level in 2009.