

A LEVEL DRAMA AND THEATRE STUDIES

The Arts and Entertainment industry is the fastest growing contributor to the UK economy, yielding over £76 billion a year with an hourly turnover of £8.8 million. With over 1.71 million jobs, nearly 7% of people in the UK are employed in the arts, and as the sector continues to grow you could be heading for a rollercoaster career as an actor or director.

Drama and Theatre Studies explores how and why theatre has been made throughout history. You will study key practitioners who have shaped modern theatre alongside key texts that have shaped not just theatre but literary convention. With a focus on the practical application of dramatic skills, you will develop, refine and eventually master your approach to acting and performance, and put your skills into practice through various public performances.

The skills you will develop throughout the course are completely transferable into a multitude of other jobs. You will acquire advanced skills in analysis, collaboration, emotional intelligence and confidence. Drama and Theatre Studies is an excellent subject to facilitate progression in more diverse career paths. In a recent study, it was found that 100% of students who applied to a range of Russell Group Universities and who had studied Drama and Theatre Studies at A Level were offered places on their Law degrees.

With the future of the Arts looking so bright, now is the perfect time to enter an exciting and diverse industry.

COURSE OUTLINE

A Level Drama and Theatre studies is a linear two year course that is moderated and examined in Year 13.

In the final examination you will answer questions based on two set texts that you have studied throughout the two year course. The two set texts are 'Hedda Gabler' and 'Our Country's Good'. The first text is chosen because of the impact it has had on theatre, whilst the second text is taken from a list of 20th and 21st century plays. You will then answer a question based on a live theatre production you have experienced as an audience member.



ASSESSMENT STRUCTURE

Each assessment component contains a written element. This equates to the A Level being assessed on 40% practical performance and 60% written work/examination.

YEAR	TITLE	CONTENT	WEIGHTING
12	Component 1 – Section C	Reviewing live performance	0% (Preparation only)
12	Component 3 – Making Theatre	Performance of two extracts from two different plays	0% (Preparation only)
13	Component 2 – Creating Original Drama (Practical)	Prescribed practitioner – Antonin Artaud	30% of A Level
13	Component 3 – Making Theatre	Performance of one extract to be moderated	30%
13	Component 1 – Section A and B	Study of a set text	40%
13	Audition Preparation	Preparation for auditions to universities and drama schools	0% (for students wishing to pursue degree level study in subject)

ENTRY REQUIREMENTS

Competition for places will be high as drama and theatre and related subjects are a popular choice at university and drama schools. As a result to ensure we strive for the highest success. Students will ideally have Grade Point 7-9 (Grade A*/A) at Drama GCSE or related subject. The minimum GCSE grade required is Grade point 6 (Grade B). Studying English Literature and/or Language alongside this course would be advantageous. Evidence of acting experience will also be taken into consideration, especially if you have not taken this subject at GCSE.

PROGRESSION ROUTES

Students can progress onto Higher Education in order to study this subject at universities and drama schools. Students can study various different courses including acting, directing, community drama, sound, lighting and even law with a view to entering the theatre, film or television professions and ultimately to building a career in this field. There are single or combined honours courses in drama at many high-ranking universities, commonly in conjunction with a degree in English or related field. Drama and Theatre Studies also complements a range of subjects and is useful in building confidence and improving presentation skills for any profession. Many a barrister will make use of their dramatic training in the courtroom!

RECOMMENDED EXTRA CURRICULAR ACTIVITIES

It is vital that you are willing to see as many live theatre productions as possible. The department will organise occasional trips to the theatre, however it is important that you develop a love of live performance and visit theatres to see productions in your own time.

You are encouraged to join an extra curricular Youth Theatre to continue developing your skills as a performer. King's has teamed up with Pick N Mix Theatre to offer you discounted fees to join their Youth Theatre which is delivered by professional actors that have worked for companies including the Royal Shakespeare Company and the National Theatre.

RECOMMENDED READING LIST

Impro by Keith Johnstone
An Actor Prepares by Konstantin Stanislavski
The Theatre of Cruelty by Antonin Artaud
Letters to George by Max Stafford-Clark
True and False by David Mamet

TOP 5 UNIVERSITIES CURRENTLY FOR THIS SUBJECT

1. Royal Academy of Dramatic Art
2. Royal Central Academy of Speech and Drama
3. Liverpool Institute for Performing Arts
4. Mountview Academy of the Theatre Arts
5. East 15

COURSE/QUALIFICATION DETAILS

Qualification: A Level Drama and Theatre Studies

Specification: AQA

Code: 7262

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All the world's a stage, And all the men and women merely players. - William Shakespeare

