

Supporting Your Learner

Advanced Higher Drama

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Course Outline

As with other NQ Drama courses, the Advanced Higher course is divided into three units: Drama Skills, Production Skills and Performance. This course anticipates the first year of university and the new, updated AH course will run in session 2015 2016.

Drama Skills

Pupils will research and study the work of two theatre practitioners and use their methods and theories to create a piece of original work which will be performed to a live audience. Pupils become theatre-makers, writing, directing and acting. The folio component evidences research of key practitioners, records rehearsal progress, key themes and ideas taken from practitioner enquiry and evaluates the final performance.

Production Skills

Pupils will study a text and choose a specialism area in acting, directing or design. Using the methods and theories of one of the practitioners studied, they will create a performance. The folio component evidences research of the key practitioner influencing the work, records rehearsal progress, key themes and ideas taken from the chosen practitioner and evaluates the final performance.

Performance

A Preparation for Performance essay will be completed; this forms 10 marks of the 60 marks available in the Performance component (60%).

Pupils will choose their specialism area from Acting, directing or design.

- As an **Actor** they will choose two performance pieces one of which will be a monologue and one an interactive piece, these will be performed for the examiner
- **Directors** will rehearse part of an identified section of script for the examiner
- **Designers** will create design concepts for two production areas as well as a scale set model and plans for set for a production.



Project (this replaces a written exam)

The final written exam has been replaced with a 3000 word dissertation which will be submitted to SQA for marking in April. This project is worth 40 marks (40%) of the overall grade in Advanced Higher Drama.

Pupils will write a dissertation about a performance issue they choose to investigate. This may be linked to one of the practitioners studied in the Drama and Production Skills units. The final word count should be approximately 3000 words. This project will be developed throughout the year and submitted in March.

Exam Preparation

- Attend Performance Exam rehearsals for both pieces and practise lines at home.
- Research and read widely around chosen dissertation topic, in consultation with staff.
- Attend dissertation tutorials and complete redrafted sections to improve investigation in to this project.
- Attend a range of professional productions to analyse theory and production concepts.

Useful Websites

<https://www.nationaltheatrescotland.com/content/>
<http://www.traverse.co.uk/>
<http://lyceum.org.uk/>

Useful Textbooks

Theatre Studies - An Approach for Advanced Level (paperback) – by [S Mackey](#), [S Cooper](#) (1995)
This is the most comprehensive text book available for Advanced Higher Drama.

Revision Classes

Additional rehearsals for Performance exam after school most days from January-March to support learners across all levels to improve their performances.

Ongoing tutorials and teacher support are planned, outside of class time, throughout the year.



SQA Past Papers

The written exam paper has been replaced by a dissertation at this level.

Understanding Standards

http://www.sqa.org.uk/files_ccc/AHCASDrama.pdf

