



URSULINE HIGH SCHOOL
& WIMBLEDON COLLEGE
SIXTH FORM

DRAMA AND THEATRE STUDIES

at Ursuline High School

LEVEL: A Level

EXAMINATION BOARD: EDEXCEL

SPECIFICATION NUMBERS: 9DR0

September 2021

URSULINE HIGH SCHOOL
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Deputy Headteacher and Assistant Headteacher Key Stage 5:
Mr Didier Adam & Mr Ben Barton

WHAT WILL I STUDY IN THIS SUBJECT?

Component 1 - Devising (40%) - practical and written/oral

Devise an original performance piece.

Use one key extract from a performance text and a theatre practitioner as stimuli.

Centre choice of text and practitioner.

Performer or designer routes available.

Portfolio (either written or spoken) = 60 marks; Performance = 20 marks

Component 2 - Text in Performance (20%) - practical

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.

Group performance = 36 marks; Monologue or duologue = 24 marks

Component 3 - Theatre Makers in Practice (40%) - written exam

Section A: Live Theatre Evaluation

20 marks: Students answer one extended response question from a choice of two requiring them to analyse and evaluate a live theatre performance they have seen in light of a given statement.

Section B: Page to Stage: Realising a Performance Text

36 marks: Students answer two extended response questions based on an unseen extract from the performance text they have studied. Students will demonstrate how they, as theatre makers, intend to realise the extract in performance.

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

Section C: Interpreting a Performance Text

24 marks: Students will answer one extended response question from a choice of two based on an unseen named section from their chosen performance 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 theatre practitioner has influenced their overall production concept and demonstrate an awareness of the performance text in its original performance conditions.

WHAT SKILLS AND INTERESTS DO I NEED FOR THIS SUBJECT?

Excellent to very good attendance record

Commitment to groupwork and the performance rehearsal process.
 Strong interest in analysing theatre and performance
 An ability to be expressive
 Imagination, concentration and belief
 A willingness to attend live performances in school and at the theatre
 Research skills
 Ability to negotiate and compromise within a group

HOW WILL I BE ASSESSED?

Unit	Mode	Assessment	Weighting
1	Component 1 - Devising - practical and written/oral	Internal Assessment	40%
2	Component 2 - Text in Performance	External Assessment	20%
3	Component 3 - Theatre Makers in Practice	External Assessment	40%

FIELDWORK/TRIPS/THEATRE ENTERPRISE PROJECT

- Visit The National Theatre, Globe Theatre, Richmond Theatre, New Wimbledon Theatre, New Wimbledon Studio
Attend Live Theatre Performances.
- Visit To National Theatre Costume Collection,

AS students will also get the opportunity to work shadow with the Drama Department setting up their own Theatre Company in the Summer Term. Within the company students will manage, produce, write, direct, cast, design an original production for performance in the Ursuline School Hall Theatre, New Wimbledon Studio or New Wimbledon Theatre.

WHAT OTHER SUBJECTS COMBINE WELL WITH THIS SUBJECT?

History English Language English Literature Media Studies
 Psychology Film Studies Sociology

TO WHAT FURTHER OR HIGHER EDUCATION COURSES COULD THIS SUBJECT LEAD?

Degree Courses: Performance, Acting, Drama with English (major or minor), Stage management, Performing Arts.

WHAT CAREERS COULD THIS SUBJECT LEAD TO?

Human Resources, Public Relations, Recruitment,
Journalism, Broadcasting, Radio, Television Presenting, Writing, Producing
Lighting, Costume, Set, Music/Sound Design
Public Service, Nursing, Counselling, Therapy, Coaching, Mentoring
Probation Service, Social/Community Services
Stage Management, Theatre, Television, Radio or Film Production
Teaching, Lecturing, Instructing, Training, Motivational Speaking,

RECOMMENDED READING

A Student's Guide to A2 Drama and Theatre Studies for the Edexcel
A Student's Guide to AS Drama and Theatre Studies for the Edexcel
Artaud, A. The Theatre and its Double (Calder)
Boal, A. Games for Actors and Non-Actors (Routledge)
Brook, Peter, The Empty Space
Callow, S. Being an Actor (Penguin)
Griffiths, T.R. Stagecrafts (Quarto Publishing)
Innes, C. Edward Gordon Craig (Cambridge University Press)
Johnston, K. Impro for Storytellers (Faber and Faber)
Stanislavski, C. An Actor Prepares
Stanislavski, C., Building a Character
Stanislavski, C. Creating a Role
Wallis, J. (trans) Brecht on Theatre (Methuen)

Plays by the following playwrights:

William Shakespeare, Richard Sheridan, Henrik Ibsen, Bertolt Brecht, Carol
Churhill, Theatre Biographies, John Osborne, Caryl Churchill, John Gay,
Euripides, Lorraine Hansberry, F.G. Lorca, Dario Fo, Timberlake Wertenbaker,
Sarah Daniels, Pam Gem

THEATRE VISITS TO THE FOLLOWING THEATRES

New Wimbledon Theatre, New Wimbledon Studio, Colour House Theatre,
Polka Theatre, Orange Tree, Richmond Theatre, Charles Cryer Theatre,
National Theatre, Phoenix Theatre,

ENTRY CRITERIA

Please refer to the Entry Criteria Insert to understand the Pathway requirements.

The entry criteria for this subject if you have studied it at GCSE is: Grade 6 in Drama

The entry criteria for this subject if you have not studied it at GCSE is: Grade 6 in English Language OR English Literature