

# Drama

The **Drama** course aims to give students a thorough grounding in all aspects of Theatre Studies and Drama.

As a result of this course students should feel able to tackle practical work, to respond imaginatively to established theatre texts, consider the approach of eminent practitioners and be able to respond authoritatively to live performances they have seen.



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*Austin Friars exists to provide excellent education inspired by our Augustinian values.*

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In wider terms the course stretches students' imagination through exploring theatrical possibilities.

Pupils gain hugely in self-confidence through the rigours of practical performance.

Perhaps, most importantly, the course allows pupils to work in meaningful group situations in order to produce a practical finished product, thus giving a very realistic insight into the world of work.

### Course Content

#### Component 1:

**Theatre Workshop, Non-Exam assessment: internally assessed, externally moderated, 20% of A Level.**

Students participate in the creation, development and performance of a piece of theatre based on a reinterpretation of an extract from a text chosen from a list supplied by WJEC. This piece must be developed using the techniques and working methods of either an influential theatre practitioner or a recognised theatre company.

Students will be assessed on either acting or design and must produce:

- A realisation of the performance or design.
- A creative log.

#### Component 2:

**Text in Action, Non-Exam assessment: externally assessed by a visiting examiner, 40% of A Level.**

Students will be assessed on either acting or design. They will participate in the creation, development and performance of two pieces of theatre based on a stimulus supplied by Eduqas.

1. A devised piece using the techniques and working methods of either an influential theatre practitioner or a recognised theatre company (must be different to that chosen for Component 1).
2. An extract from a text in a different style chosen by the student.

Students choosing design, must also give a 5-10 minute presentation of their design to the examiner. A process and evaluation report must be produced within a week of completion of the practical work.

#### Component 3:

**Text in Performance, Written examination, 2hrs 30mins, 40% of A Level.**

#### Sections A & B

*Open Book:* Clean copies (no annotation) of the two complete texts chosen must be taken into the examination.

Two questions, based on two different texts chosen from List A and List B.

#### Section C

*Closed book:* A question based on a specified extract from: The Book of Dust.

Past students have gone on to a range of University courses after taking an A Level in this subject from

Architecture to Media type courses as well as several going on to Acting and Drama degrees. English and Drama is also a popular university course following this A Level.

A high achieving candidate in this course has proved that they are very imaginative, understand the importance of design, are able to communicate in a sophisticated manner and can work effectively as a team. They are, therefore, a very attractive prospect to employers and universities alike.

In terms of future careers, the course is particularly useful with regard to jobs related to theatre and television and all other aspects of the media.

Students looking to go into any area of employment, such as law, that requires excellent communication skills will also be well served by the course as will those students considering any high-ranking career that demands excellent presentational skills and the ability to organise teams.