

ACHIEVING A AND A* GRADES IN PEARSON EDEXCEL A LEVEL DRAMA AND THEATRE STUDIES

CODE 7805

ABOUT THIS COURSE

This new course is focussed on how to ensure your students achieve the highest marks in Pearson Edexcel A level Drama and Theatre Studies. It will focus on exploring the characteristics of work produced by students working at the highest levels and explore a range of teaching materials designed to ensure that students achieve the top grades of A and A*.

PROGRAMME

Focus on assessment demands

10.00 – 11.00am

- Examine the assessment demands of all components including the use of assessment objectives as a framework for assessment
- Consider the most effective models for delivery of the course to ensure effective assessment practise across 2 years
- Review characteristics of an A and A* A Level student in the context of this specification
- Consider lessons learnt from 2018 examination series for Grade A and A* students
- Clarify the requirements of the range of questions in the written exam to ensure the most able students can meet this to the highest level

Discussion: coffee break

11.00 – 11.15am

Achieving successful outcomes in: Components 1 and 2

11.15 – 1.00pm

- Explore an exemplar scheme of work and build a toolkit for teaching success for A and A* students
- Examine exemplar portfolios and develop understanding of the characteristics of the work of the most successful candidates
- The characteristics of the most effective student performance and ensuring your students do this
- The links between text and practitioner that support highly effective devising

Lunch and informal discussion

1.00 – 1.45pm

Focus on the demands of the Component 3 written paper

1.45 – 3.15pm

- Practical strategies for developing a strong understanding of the page to stage process
- Answering the 20, 24 and 36 mark questions: what does a grade A/A* candidate need to do?
- Examine strong exemplar responses to the focussed extract questions for Section B – prepare students to respond as a performer and designer to A and A* level
- Understanding effective production concepts for Section C – how to support students to write as a director to an excellent standard
- Evaluating live theatre performance excellently for Section A
- Understand the highest demands of outstanding use of theatrical language – what examiners expect to see from A and A* students

Discussion : afternoon tea

3.15 – 3.30pm

Plenary and Depart

3.30 – 4.00pm

- Develop an action plan for success for students aiming for top grades
- Review delivery models to focus on the demands of assessment, including exam technique for the most able
- Consider the range of learning resources available to support teachers of the Edexcel specification

LOCATION/DATE

Online

Monday 20 January 2021

Wednesday 31 March 2021

London

Thursday 17 June 2021

COURSE LEADER

Matt Yeoman is an Assistant Headteacher at Queen's Park High School in Chester, Cheshire. He has been teaching Drama for 16 years and has the overall responsibility for leading on Teaching and Learning and staff development across the school. He is a Specialist Leader in Education (SLE) and has experience of working with a broad range of schools from across the UK to improve the quality of education in Drama.

WHO SHOULD ATTEND?

- Teachers of Drama and Theatre Studies in Secondary and Post Compulsory sectors
- Heads of Drama Department
- Directors of Faculties of Performing Arts
- Senior leaders with responsibility for the Arts

BENEFITS OF ATTENDING

- Obtain teaching ideas and approaches that push A and A* students
- Explore exemplar materials to identify characteristics of outstanding work
- Consider lessons learnt from the examination series in 2019 and how to apply these to your teaching
- Take away key methods for ensuring students get A and A* in each of the three components