

ADVANCED HIGHER DRAMA



Faculty of Expressive Arts

SUPPORTING YOUR YOUNG PERSON

Course Outline

Course title: Advanced Higher Drama

SCQF level: 7 (32 SCQF credit points)

Course code: C721 77

Course Assessment Structure

Component 1 — performance 50 marks

Component 2 — assignment 20 marks

Component 3 - project–dissertation 30 marks

Total marks 100 marks

How to help at home

- Your child should be doing extensive research on their assignment and dissertation which will involve a lot of searching on the internet. These notes should be documented clearly in their note books.
- **Assignment-** this involves a full study of a theatrical performance and this includes the director's previous work, their style and their directorial imprint. It would be beneficial to engage in discussion with your child about their assignment to understand what they have found out. They should be able to engage in discussion on this production if they are up to speed with their research.
- **Dissertation** this is where they need to decide up on a performance issue of their own (*e.g equality in theatre, gender stereotyping, are certain plays relevant anymore etc*). They then need to do extensive research on this and build an argument using a variety of sources such as plays, performances and literature. Again, engaging in discussion with this and asking questions will help them realise where their weak areas of knowledge lie. As well as this, if you were to look into this topic you may be able to offer some insight into their dissertation that they hadn't thought of.
- **Performance-** here are a variety of strategies you may want offer them support.
 1. Offering to test them on their lines
 2. Read the play that they are performing so that you can engage in conversation on the content of the play and who they are playing.
 3. Find a film of their plays and watch it together

4. Read in the lines of the character they are playing opposite
5. Help them source any props they may need
6. Discuss the themes and/or issues within the play.

Assessment & Course Structure

The Course assessment will consist either of acting, directing or design.

1 A performance.

2 An assignment.

3 A project–dissertation.

Performance

Option A — Acting

The purpose of this performance is to allow candidates to demonstrate advanced levels of practical performance skills. Candidates will be required to perform two contrasting acting roles, one of which will be interactive and one of which will be a monologue. Each candidate should be involved in an acting contribution of approximately 20 minutes in total, with approximately 15 minutes for the interactive role and two to three minutes for the monologue. An audience is essential for the acting option. All lines must be learnt. Scripts will not be allowed and a prompter may be present.

Assignment

The assignment will have 20 marks. (40% of the total mark with project).

Candidates analyse a professional theatrical production, as well as the work of at least one theatre practitioner (actor, director, and/or designer) involved in the production and produce an assignment based on a choice of two questions.

Project–dissertation

The project will have 30 marks (40% of the total mark with assignment).

The candidate will be required to demonstrate depth of knowledge and understanding of a relevant performance issue. The candidate will select an area which should allow analysis of performance theories and practice. It will be informed by the work of a current and/or historical theatre practitioner and/or company. The project will take the form of a dissertation of between 2,500 and 3,000 words.

Controlled assessment — practical assessment

Acting, directing and design components are set by centres within SQA guidelines and externally assessed.

The report is set by centres within SQA guidelines and conducted under some supervision and control.