

Course title: Higher Drama

SCQF: level 6 (24 SCQF credit points)

Unit 1: Drama Skills (Higher) 9 SCQF credit points

Unit 2: Drama: Production Skills (Higher) 9 SCQF credit points

Course assessment 6 SCQF credit points

Recommended entry

The preferred level of entry to Higher Drama is a pass at A or B level in N5 Drama. Students without a pass or a pass at C level may be allocated a place at the discretion of the school.

Purpose and aims of the Course

Higher Drama provides opportunities for learners to develop skills in creating and presenting drama. This Course focuses on the development and use of complex drama skills and production skills to present drama.

This Course is practical and experiential.

The aims of the Course are to enable learners to:

- generate and communicate thoughts and ideas when creating drama
- develop knowledge and understanding of the complex social and cultural influences in and through drama, both devised and scripted
- develop complex skills in presenting drama
- develop knowledge and understanding of complex production skills when presenting drama, both devised and scripted
- explore form, structure, genre and style
- develop acting, directing and designing skills

As learners develop practical skills in creating and presenting drama, they will also develop knowledge and understanding of the cultural and social influences on drama. Learners will analyse and evaluate how the use of self-expression, language and movement can develop their ideas for drama. Learners will develop critical thinking skills as they investigate and develop complex drama skills.

Course assessment structure

Component 1 — question paper 40 marks

Part A: This section will deal with comment on the social, historical and/or theatrical contexts of the studied prescribed text.

Part B: This Section will take the form of a written analysis of a performance that the learner has seen.

Component 2 — performance 60 marks

Part A: a written 'preparation for performance' statement

Part B: a performance (actors will choose two pieces, one from a text they have studied)

Total = 100 marks

Homework

Homework is an integral part of the course and will be issued on a regular basis to enhance the work done in class. This may take the form of research, reading scripts, script writing, designing, evaluating, essay writing, and learning of lines.

Progression

This Course or its Units may provide progression to:

- other qualifications in drama or related areas
- further study, employment and/or training

Relationship between the Course and Curriculum for Excellence values, purposes and principles

This Course allows learners to develop practical skills in creating and presenting drama. Learners will also develop drama production skills.

In this Course, learners are encouraged to exercise imagination and creativity. They will develop important skills, attitudes and attributes of the four capacities, including creativity and adaptability, enthusiasm, a willingness to learn and confidence.

This Course encourages learners to be creative and to express themselves in different ways. Learning through drama helps learners to appreciate cultural values, identities and ideas.

This Course also provides scope for personalisation and choice.

Costs

It is a course requirement that students undertake 2-3 theatre trips. These will incur costs for tickets and transport but financial support may be available if required.