

# Drama

## Units 1-2

Drama is about imagining, creating and presenting ideas through dramatic expression. Drama helps students to gain an awareness of how performance is shaped and given meaning through analysis of a their own work and of a performance by professional drama practitioners. Drama provides opportunities for students to learn about dramatic art through the development of expressive and performance skills and the experience of making and being in a role, both collaboratively and as a soloist.

**Drama can be taken with Theatre Studies or as a separate subject.**

### UNIT 1

This unit focuses on creating, presenting and analysing a devised performance that includes real or imagined characters, based on personal, cultural and/or community experiences and stories. They manipulate expressive skills in the creation and presentation of characters, and develop awareness and understanding of how characters are portrayed in naturalistic and non-naturalistic performance styles and document the processes they use. They investigate a range of stimulus material and learn about stagecraft, conventions and performance styles from a range of contexts.

#### LEARNING ACTIVITIES

Creating, sustaining and performing roles and characters, creating ensemble and/or solo performances, evaluating own performances through written and oral tasks, analysing and evaluating a professional performance and maintaining a folio of research, notes, and homework.

#### KEY SKILLS REQUIRED

Interest in and ability to explore the dramatic potential of a stimulus, organisation, ability to perform in front of an audience, ability to maintain a workbook, research, collaborate cooperatively in small groups and an ability to analyse and evaluate performances of others.

#### ASSESSED TASKS

Ensemble and solo performances, folio, written and/or oral reports analysing own performance work, a professional performance and an end of semester written examination.

### UNIT 2

Students will investigate processes used in constructing a devised ensemble and/or solo performance based on a contemporary or historical Australian context.

#### LEARNING ACTIVITIES

Exploring techniques to construct performance, exploring ways of using different theatrical conventions, stagecraft and dramatic elements, documenting and recording processes used in devising a performance, performance presentation and analysis of both their own performance work and an Australian drama performance.

#### KEY SKILLS REQUIRED

Interest in and ability to explore the dramatic potential of a given stimulus, organisation, ability to perform in front of an audience, ability to maintain a workbook, research, collaboration in small groups and an ability to analyse and evaluate performances of others.

#### ASSESSED TASKS

Ensemble performance, e-folio and blog, written analysis and evaluation of own performance work, written analysis of a professional production and an end of semester written examination.

# Drama

## Units 3-4

Drama is about imagining, creating and performing ideas through dramatic expression.

**Students are advised to complete Units 1 and 2 Drama or have significant previous drama experience prior to studying Units 3 and 4.**

### UNIT 3

Students will develop skills in constructing and presenting a non-naturalistic ensemble performance to an audience, applying specific performance styles based on a prescribed task.

#### LEARNING ACTIVITIES

Research to develop characters specific to ensemble tasks, exploration of different performance styles and how to apply theatrical performance conventions, stagecraft and dramatic elements; techniques to document and record the processes used to construct a performance, analysing own performance as well as a performance from the prescribed VCAA play list.

#### KEY SKILLS REQUIRED

The ability to create and perform characters confidently in front of an audience, an ability to analyse and evaluate performance work of both self and others verbally and in writing, to learn and use the key language and terminology of drama, the ability to collaborate successfully in a group and an ability to meet deadlines within a production schedule.

#### ASSESSED TASKS

Contribution to a group devised performance and presentation of this performance to an audience. A written analysis of the group devised performance process, attendance at a prescribed production and subsequent written analysis of this production.

### UNIT 4

Students will develop the skills for creating and developing characters for a solo performance.

#### LEARNING ACTIVITIES

Research to develop characters specific to a solo task; exploration and application of theatrical conventions, stagecraft and dramatic elements; document and record the stages and processes used to construct a solo performance and written analysis of own performance.

#### KEY SKILLS REQUIRED

The ability to create and perform characters confidently as a solo performer in front of an audience, an ability to analyse and evaluate performance work of both self and others verbally and in writing, to learn and use the key language and terminology of drama and an ability to meet deadlines within a production schedule. Also the ability to study and prepare for a written exam based on the Outcomes from Units 3 and 4.

#### ASSESSED TASKS

Short solo performance and written evaluation; development and presentation of a solo performance selected from a prescribed VCAA list of characters; a written report and an end of year written examination.

#### VCAA ASSESSMENT – The overall Study Score will consist of:

School Assessed Coursework (40%), 7 minute solo performance examination in October (35%), 1 ½ hour written examination in November (25%).