

# AS/A2 in PERFORMANCE STUDIES

<b>Course Length</b>	AS is studied over 1 year; A2 is studied over 2 years
<b>Examination Board</b>	OCR
<b>Course Specification:</b>	H148 and H548
<b>Entry Requirements</b>	4/5 GCSE grades in the range of A*-C
<b>Course Leader</b>	Miss F Williams

## The Course and Assessment Pattern

This course aims to provide a multi-disciplinary approach to the Performing Arts.

All candidates will acquire skills in each of the art forms of Dance, Drama and Music and will study approaches to performance, which unite them. You will devise original work and perform existing repertoire.

Through the study of practitioners and genres, you will get to know the cultural, social and historical context in which the Performing Arts operate and you will evaluate your own performance work in this wider context.

Students will gain an understanding of performance theory and develop the ability to discuss your practical work using the appropriate technical and expressive language.

In each year of the course there will be one element of written coursework, one written examination and one examined performance.

### Who should follow this course?

While it is not essential to have completed a GCSE in Drama, Dance or Music, it is desirable to have some experience in at least one of the areas.

Unit No.	Title	Type of assessment and date
G401:	Creating Performance	(Coursework 70% AS Level). February 2010
G402:	Performance Contexts 1	(Written examination 2 hr 30% AS Level). May 2010
G403:	Performance Contexts 2	(Written examination 2hr 15% A Level). June 2011
G404:	Performance Project	(Visiting Examiner 35% A Level) June 2011

## UNITS IN DETAIL

### Year 1 Study

Elements include skills-based workshops in individual art forms, a short piece in each individual art form (dance, drama and music), a longer piece that combines elements of all 3 art forms to be performed in a community venue. A written commentary on the practical work and a performance of the longer community piece are assessed.

Unit G401: Creating Performance: this unit includes skill-based workshops in individual art forms: Dance, Drama and Music and the ways in which they can work together. You will devise and perform four pieces, one in each discipline and one that combines elements of all 3 art forms to be performed in a community venue. A written commentary on the practical work and a performance of the longer community piece are assessed.

Unit G402, Performance Context 1: this is a written examination where you will answer questions on two key practitioners that you have studied.

Section A: Shobana Jeyasingh; Matthew Bourne; **Lloyd Newson**

Section B: Caryl Churchill; Athol Fugard; **John Godber**

Section C: **The Beatles**; **George Gershwin**; John Adams

### Year 2 Study

Unit G403. Performance Context 2. Candidates study nine extracts (three from dance, three from drama and three from music) from one of the following topics.

Topic 1: **Post-Modern Approaches to the Performing Arts since 1960**

Topic 2: Politics and Performance since 1914

Topic 3: The Twentieth Century American Musical

Topic 4: Approaches to Performance in the Far East

Unit G404. Performance Project. Candidates undertake two performance assessments. These are: A performance realization of one of the works from which they have studied in either Performance Contexts 1 or 2. A student devised performance produced in response to a commission chosen from a selection set by OCR.