



Drama



One of the main appeals of the subject is the emphasis on group activities, so the learning takes place through the shared experience of watching theatre and of making drama as part of a group. In choosing drama you have already entered in to a collaborative ensemble of actors and performers, in a partnership with your fellow students and teacher. This company bond will get stronger and more enjoyable as you progress through the course. As such it is vital that personal 'baggage' is left at the door of the studio and that a professional integrity is always maintained.

If you have already studied drama at GCSE then you will understand the importance of group work in a practical subject like this. It is important to remember that when working in a group punctuality and attendance is vital to success and that others may become less inclined to collaborate with you if you are inconstant. If you are new to the subject, you might be surprised to discover how much you come to rely upon the trust and support of other group members and discover how much fun drama can be!

Assessment Component Breakdown

Component 1: Drama and theatre

What's assessed

- Knowledge and understanding of drama and theatre
- Study of two set plays, one chosen from List A, one chosen from List B
- Analysis and evaluation of the work of live theatre makers

How it's assessed

- Written exam: 3 hours
- Open book
- 80 marks
- 40% of A-level

Questions

- Section A: one question (from a choice) on one of the set plays from List A (25 marks)
- Section B: one three part question on a given extract from one of the set plays from List B (30 marks)
- Section C: one question (from a choice) on the work of theatre makers in a single live theatre production (25 marks)



Component 2: Creating original drama (practical)

What's assessed

- Process of creating devised drama
- Performance of devised drama (students may contribute as performer, designer or director)

Devised piece must be influenced by the work and methodologies of one prescribed practitioner

How it's assessed

- Working notebook (40 marks)
- Devised performance (20 marks)
- 60 marks in total
- 30% of A-level

This component is marked by teachers and moderated by AQA.

Assessment Component Breakdown

Component 3: Making theatre (practical)

What's assessed

- Practical exploration and interpretation of three extracts (Extract 1, 2 and 3) each taken from a different play

Methodology of a prescribed practitioner must be applied to Extract 3

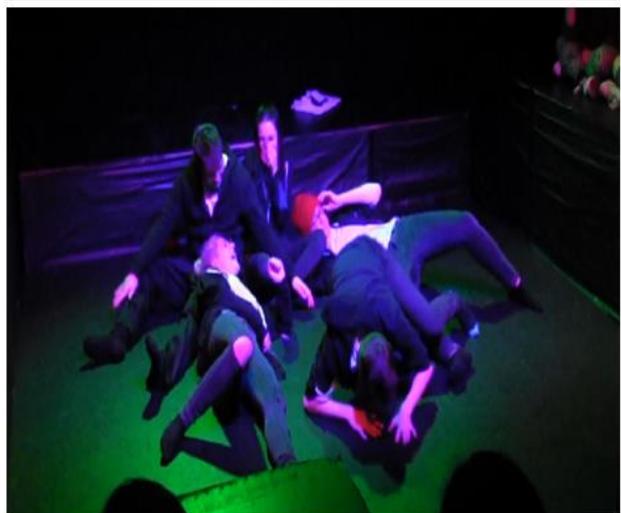
Extract 3 is to be performed as a final assessed piece (students may contribute as performer, designer or director)

- Reflective report analysing and evaluating theatrical interpretation of all three extracts

How it's assessed

- Performance of Extract 3 (40 marks)
- Reflective report (20 marks)
- 60 marks in total
- 30% of A-level

This component is marked by AQA.

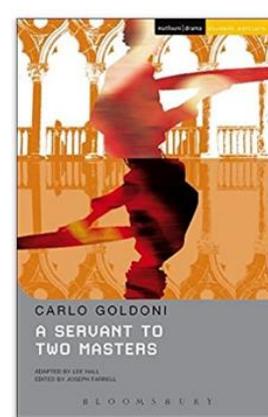
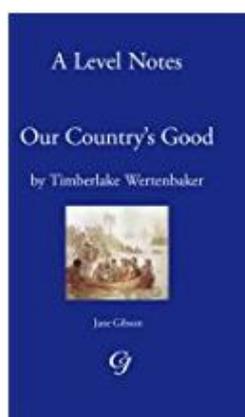
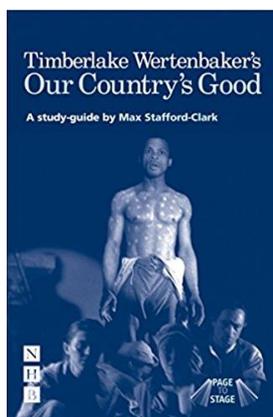
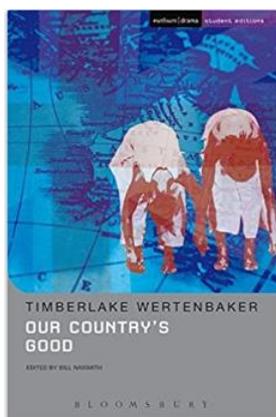


Pre course A-level study

1) Buy and read both of the following plays

Complete a mood board research page in poster form for both. Collate images and key quotes. Research the themes, characters, genre, style and background research about both the play, the style and the writer.

Playwright	List A set play
Carlo Goldoni	<i>A Servant to Two Masters</i>
Timberlake Wertenbaker	<i>Our Country's Good</i> (Methuen Student Editions – ISBN: 978-0413692306)



Research ideas

- Watch YouTube clips from both plays and read online sources (Education packs are particularly helpful)
- Books on Commedia Dell'arte and The Georgian Judicial System, alongside books about the Transportation of convicts to the British Penal Colony New South Wales

2) Watch live theatre

You will need to watch at least one live theatre production across the summer. Norwich has lots of great theatres (The Theatre Royal, The Maddermarket, The Playhouse, Sewell Barn Theatre, The Garage, to name a few!). So make sure that you go to the theatre and write notes on the performances that you see. Notes should contain the following:

- What is the title, who wrote it, where did you see it, what was the name of the theatre company performing?
- What was it about? Themes/aims and intentions
- What was the style and genre of the performance?
- What do you think the intentions for the audience were? For example was it designed to make you laugh/cry?
- Were there any particular moments that stood out, if so why?
- What was the period and genera?
- Comment on the set/ costumes/lighting and sound