

ST MARY'S COLLEGE



INTRODUCTION

This course is a practically based Performing Arts course which will develop the skills you already have in the three major disciplines of Acting, Dancing and Music.

AS well as studying the Performing Arts business you will study a wide variety of performance styles including Physical Theatre, Ballet, Jazz Dance, Classical Theatre, Improvisational Comedy, Musical Theatre, Jazz, Pop and Rock.

You will create pieces in all three disciplines both in groups and in individual projects. This will enable you to develop strong practical skills in Performing Arts.

The subject combines well with many subjects at St. Mary's, most notably Music, Media Studies, Applied Art and Design, Fine Art and English Literature due to the creative processes and artistic approaches involved.

AS LEVEL

Content

Module	Assessment
G380 - Investigating Performing Arts organisations	Portfolio
G381 - Professional Practice: Skills development	Portfolio
G382 - Professional Practice: Performance	External examination

How is the course delivered?

You will be taught using a variety of methods and will take responsibility for much of your learning from the outset. As well as experiencing traditional lessons in all three disciplines you will also be expected to undertake individual research and creation projects

Entry requirements

GCSE passes at grade C must include one from: Music, Dance, Drama or Performing Arts. Alternatively, an equivalent level of ability must be demonstrated. You will find the practical aspects of this course very challenging if you do not have some formal training in one or more of the subject areas or very strong practical skills acquired out of school. There is a large amount of rehearsal and performance time outside of the usual college day. A methodical approach to coursework is essential. Additional support is available to all students.

What skills and interests do I need?

The ability to communicate ideas and work effectively in groups is essential if you wish to study at this level. As well as having these skills you must also demonstrate the following.

- A willingness to participate in all 3 areas of study
- A thorough, systematic approach to work and commitment to outside rehearsal time.
- An ability to work to tight deadlines.
- An interest in the performing arts as a business.

How does it build upon studies in Key Stage 4?

Performing Arts at St. Mary's is very different to the way you will have studied Music, Dance and Drama in school. The subject is centered upon skills acquisition in a very structured and individual way. Also the technical knowledge is of a much higher level. You must be prepared to learn and acquire theoretical knowledge.

How is the course assessed?

The course follows the OCR specification and is assessed through 2 portfolio's and one live practical exam.

A2 LEVEL

Content

Module	Assessment
G384 - Getting Work	Portfolio
G385 - Exploring repertoire	Portfolio
G386 - Producing your Showcase	External exam

How is the course delivered?

You will be taught in a very similar way to AS level. Using a variety of methods, you will take responsibility for much of your learning from the outset. As well as experiencing traditional lessons in all three disciplines you will also be expected to undertake individual research and creation projects.

Entry requirements

You must have achieved a grade E or above at AS level in order to move on to A2. It is possible to transfer your grade from another institution if you have followed the OCR syllabus.

How is the course assessed?

The course follows the OCR specification and is assessed through 2 portfolio's and one live practical exam.

Progression routes

Performing Arts places an equal weighting on Dance, Drama and Music. Students are able to progress to further studies in any of these areas. You will develop a variety of skills which will be invaluable in a number of careers. These could include:

- Performing
- Teaching
- Arts Administration
- Technical Theatre work
- Journalism / Radio/ T.V.
- Public Relations
- Film and Media

You will also have the option at the end of college to progressing to a Drama School rather than a traditional university, this will greatly benefit you if you wish to become a performer, however, competition is fierce for places and some colleges are very unlikely to take an 18 year old students except in exceptional circumstances.

Further Information

For further information please contact Michelle Plews

Full specifications can be found at www.ocr.org

NOTES:

**St Mary's College
Saltersgill Avenue
Middlesbrough
TS4 3JP**

Tel: (01642) 814680

www.stmarys-sfc.ac.uk

Fax: (01642) 819624