

## 8. Year 11 Subjects 2011 (Performing Arts)

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### VCE Theatre Studies

Theatre Studies focuses on the interpretation of play-scripts and the production of a play. Students apply stagecraft such as acting, directing, dramaturgy, set design, costume design, stage-management, sound design, lighting design, publicity, make-up and special effects to the performance. Students also contribute to the performance of a scripted monologue. Students learn about the times, places and cultures of key theatrical styles and developments and develop awareness of the traditions and histories of theatre. This knowledge and understanding is further developed by analysis and evaluation of their own production and productions by professional theatre practitioners. Theatre Studies provides students with pathways to further studies in fields such as theatre production and theatre design, script writing and studies in theatre history.

### Unit One: Theatre Styles of the pre-modern era

#### *Areas of Study:*

This unit focuses on the application of stagecraft (including acting, costume, direction, dramaturgy, lighting, make-up, multi-media, properties, promotion/publicity, set, sound and stage-management) in relation to play-scripts from the pre modern era; prior to the 1800s. They also study theatrical and performance analysis and apply these skills to the analysis of a play from the pre-modern era. Periods of the pre-modern era include Ancient Greek Theatre, Roman Theatre, Liturgical drama such as morality/miracle/mystery plays, Commedia Dell'Arte, Elizabethan and Shakespearean theatre, Restoration theatre, Neo-classic theatre, Spanish and French Theatre and non-western theatre such as Beijing Opera, Noh theatre, Bunraka and Kabuki.

#### *Assessment:*

Unit 1 consists of three outcomes:

- Outcome 1 - Students should be able to identify and describe the distinguishing features of playscripts from the pre-modern era.
- Outcome 2 - Students should be able to apply acting and other stagecraft to interpret playscripts from the pre-modern era.
- Outcome 3 - Students should be able to analyse a performance of a playscript from the pre-modern era in performance.

#### *Assessment Break-Down:*

A variety of assessment tasks can be used during this unit:

- Assessment tasks for this unit could include:
  - analytical exercises; oral presentations; interpretation of playscript/s; performance of playscripts from the pre-modern era; multimedia reports/presentations; annotated visual reports; tests; essays.
- At least one assessment task must be completed in writing.
- There will be an end-of-semester Exam.

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### VCE Theatre Studies (Cont...)

#### Unit Two: Theatrical Styles of the modern era

##### *Areas of Study:*

This unit focuses on the application of stagecraft (including acting, costume, direction, dramaturgy, lighting, make-up, multi-media, properties, promotion/publicity, set, sound and stage-management) in relation to playscripts from the modern era; from the 1880s to the present. They also study theatrical and performance analysis and apply these skills to the analysis of a play from the pre-modern era. Periods of the modern era include Naturalism/Realism, Expressionism, Epic Theatre, Absurdist theatre, physical theatre, political theatre, feminist theatre, Eclectic theatre (contemporary theatre that crosses traditional boundaries).

##### *Assessment:*

Unit 2 consists of three outcomes:

- Outcome 1 - Students should be able to identify and describe the distinguishing features of playscripts from the modern era of theatre.
- Outcome 2 - Students should be able to apply stagecraft to interpret playscripts from the modern era.
- Outcome 3 - Students should be able to analyse and evaluate stagecraft in a performance of a playscript from the modern era.

##### *Assessment Break-Down:*

A variety of assessment tasks can be used during this unit:

- Assessment tasks for this unit could include:
  - analytical exercises; oral presentations; interpretation of playscript/s; performance of playscripts from the pre-modern era; multimedia reports/presentations; annotated visual reports; tests; essays.
- At least one assessment task must be completed in writing.
- There will be an end-of-semester Exam.