










Year 11 > 12 Bridging Work Summer Term 2024



Subject	Dance
Course	A-Level
Awarding Body	AQA

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Course/specification overview

"A Level Dance is a course which encourages students to develop their creative and intellectual capacity, alongside transferable skills such as team working, communication and problem solving. All of these are sought after skills by higher education and employers and will help them stand out in the workplace whatever their choice of career. This specification reflects both historical and current dance practices, making it more relevant, and inspires a lifelong passion and appreciation for dance". (AQA A Level Introduction)

There are three main elements within the course:

1. Performance in a SOLO and as a QUARTET
2. Choreograph a group choreography, which lasts for 3-4 minutes, for three, four or five dancers, in response to an externally set task.
3. Critical Engagement - Understanding of a range of professional dance works, in TWO Set works and TWO Areas of Study.

Component 1: Practical elements

Solo Performance

Performance in a Quartet

Choreography in a group of 3-5 dancers

Component 2: Written exam

The written exam will show detailed knowledge of the following areas and works:

Set Work – Rooster (Christopher Bruce, 1991)

Area of Study – Rambert Dance Company 1966-2002

Set work – Singin' In The Rain (Donen and Kelly, 1952)

Area of Study – American Jazz Dance 1940-1975



Our department expectations

The expectation of the department is to develop 'Thinking dancers' with the ability to use their skills of performance, creativity and appreciation of dance as life-long skills.

The characteristics of the Hayes learner are at the heart of dance. A 'Thinking Dancer' is Independent, Creative, A Team player, A Communicator & Reflective.

Performance and choreographic ability are essential and there is an expectation to build on your skills and widen your ability in a range of styles. This will require independent study and research outside of the lesson environment.

Independence and resilience are essential skills to develop and maintain in the dance department. There are a number of opportunities to experience these skills as a Hayes learner through lessons, independent study, homework, leadership and extra-curricular clubs.

Lessons are both practical and written and there is an expectation to bring appropriate kit and writing equipment to all lessons.

Enthusiasm for the subject is essential – background reading and research are the key to success!



Review/revise

Review the GCSE Dance Knowledge Organiser pages in your learner handbook.

Keep your dance technique by regularly performing one of your two GCSE Set Phrases.

Check your GCSE vocabulary knowledge using the glossary link below.

<https://www.aqa.org.uk/resources/dance/gcse/dance/teach/subject-specific-vocabulary>



Watch

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=4ZM2wqq6u3o>

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=fgh13vsc1jU>

https://www.ted.com/talks/hugh_herr_the_new_bionics_that_let_us_run_climb_and_dance#t-818282

https://www.ted.com/talks/amma_y_ghartey_tagoe_kootin_a_historical_musical_that_examines_black_identity_in_the_1901_world_s_fair#t-264864

https://www.ted.com/talks/camille_a_brown_a_visual_history_of_social_dance_in_25_moves?referrer=playlist-little_known_big_history#t-80715

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=D1ZYhVpdXbQ>



Listen to

As much music as you can! The wider your knowledge of music the easier it is to find and research accompaniment for choreography work. Start making a 'choreography' playlist.

Podcasts

<https://player.fm/podcasts/Dance>

<https://open.spotify.com/show/2P3icQLqEsqeUR5WAHqllx?si=952045eeb0ea426c>



Read

Author	Title	Publisher
Pritchard, J. (compiler). (1996)	Rambert: A Celebration	London: Rambert Dance Company
Sanders, L. (1997)	Choreographer Fact Card: Christopher Bruce	Guildford: NRCD
White, J. (ed). (1985)	20th Century Dance in Britain	London: Dance Books
Crisp, C., Sainsbury, A. and Williams, P. (eds)	Ballet Rambert, Fifty Years and On	London: Rambert Dance Company

<https://www.dancing-times.co.uk/>



Research

Task 1 – Timeline of Artistic Directors of Rambert Dance Company

<http://www.rambert.org.uk/performance-database/timeline/?startyear=1930&endyear=1985&sort=asc>

Using the timeline from the link above, can you find what year the following five people were appointed as Artistic Director?

Norman Morrice

John Chesworth

Robert North

Richard Alston

Christopher Bruce

Task 2 - Research and prepare a Factfile (2 sided A4 for each) for both of the dance practitioners listed below

Robert North

Richard Alston

You should include,

- A brief synopsis of the choreographers work and style
- Examples of their main works and the dates they were first performed
- Background and dance training
- Specific techniques used within their work
- Annotated pictures

These websites will help with your research

<http://www.rambert.org.uk>

<https://www.richardalstondance.org/biography>



Complete

Task 3 – Get creative - Create your own time line and plot the following;

- a) The date that each of the 5 key practitioners became an Artistic Director (Morrice/Chesworth/North/Alston/Bruce)
- b) Date of the first involvement with Rambert Dance Company of North, Alston & Bruce and in what role eg, Dancer, choreographer, Associate choreographer
- c) Name and date of two works by North, Alston & Bruce between 1966 & 2002

All tasks must be prepared and ready to be handed in or shared in the first lesson back

You will be tested on your knowledge of your fact files and the timeline throughout the first half term of Year 12 through practical and written assessments.



Appendices/resources

<https://www.aqa.org.uk/subjects/dance/as-and-a-level/dance-7237>

<http://www.rambert.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2015/08/Rooster-Resource-Pack-1.pdf>

<https://www.onedanceuk.org/resource/>

<https://filestore.aqa.org.uk/resources/dance/AQA-7236-7237-RL.PDF>

<https://filestore.aqa.org.uk/resources/dance/AQA-7237-SW-RL.PDF>

