

Drama 2019 v1.1

General Senior Syllabus

MERIDAN STATE COLLEGE - DRA (possible 4 QCE credits)

DISCLAIMER: excerpt only - refer to QCAA website for further details
www.qcaa.qld.edu.au/senior/senior-subjects

1 Course overview

1.1 Introduction

1.1.1 Rationale

The arts are an intellectually engaging intersection of lateral thought and practice. They interrogate the human experience and challenge our understandings by encouraging and provoking alternative ways of seeing, thinking and doing. They enable us to know and observe our world collectively and as individuals. They reveal a sense of who we are and might become as we make connections and new meaning of the world around us and our place in it.

Creative and expressive communication is central to the arts. Students learn to pose and solve problems, work independently and in collaboration, and create and convey meaning from various viewpoints. New skills are learnt and knowledge is created through the investigation and experience of valued traditions and practices across various art forms.

The arts encourage unity through active involvement in building cultural literacy by respecting and valuing the meaningful and unique impact of Aboriginal people's and Torres Strait Islander people's contribution to Australia's arts knowledge, traditions and experience. Australia's multicultural identity, cultural inheritance and contemporary arts practice is enhanced through this recognition and the shared inspirations of the broader Asia-Pacific community.

Drama interrogates the human experience by investigating, communicating and embodying stories, experiences, emotions and ideas that reflect the human experience. It allows students to look to the past with curiosity, and explore inherited traditions of artistry to inform their own artistic practice and shape their world as global citizens. Drama is created and performed in diverse spaces, including formal and informal theatre spaces, to achieve a wide range of purposes. Drama engages students in imaginative meaning-making processes and involves them using a range of artistic skills as they make and respond to dramatic works. The range of purposes, contexts and audiences provides students with opportunities to experience, reflect on, understand, communicate, collaborate and appreciate different perspectives of themselves, others and the world in which they live.

Across the course of study, students will develop a range of interrelated skills of drama that will complement the knowledge and processes needed to create dramatic action and meaning. They will learn about the dramatic languages and how these contribute to the creation, interpretation and critique of dramatic action and meaning for a range of purposes. A study of a range of forms, styles and their conventions in a variety of inherited traditions, current practice and emerging trends, including those from different cultures and contexts, forms a core aspect of the learning. Drama provides opportunities for students to learn how to engage with dramatic works as both artists and audience through the use of critical literacies.

In Drama, students engage in aesthetic learning experiences that develop the 21st century skills of critical thinking, creative thinking, communication, collaboration and teamwork, personal and social skills, and information & communication technologies (ICT) skills. They learn how to reflect on their artistic, intellectual, emotional and kinaesthetic understanding as creative and critical thinkers and curious artists. Additionally, students will develop personal confidence, skills of inquiry and social skills as they work collaboratively with others.

The objectives of the Drama course are to develop students' knowledge, skills and understanding in the making of and responding to dramatic works to help them realise their creative and expressive potential as individuals. The unique learning that takes place in Drama promotes a deeper and more empathetic understanding and appreciation of others and communities.

Innovation and creative thinking are at the forefront of this subject, which contributes to equipping students with highly transferable skills that encourage them to imagine future perspectives and possibilities.

A course of study in Drama establishes a basis for further education and employment across many fields, both inside the arts and culture industries and beyond. The knowledge, understanding and skills built in Drama connect strongly with careers in which it is important to understand different social and cultural perspectives in a range of contexts, and to communicate meaning in functional and imaginative ways.

Assumed knowledge, prior learning or experience

The key ideas of making and responding identified in the P–10 Australian Curriculum: The Arts continue in senior syllabuses throughout The Arts learning area. Prior experience in any or all of The Arts subjects will provide students with an understanding of making and responding as learning and assessment in Drama.

Through making, students 'learn about and use knowledge, skills, techniques, processes, materials and technologies to explore arts practices and make artworks that communicate ideas and intentions' (Australian Curriculum 2017). Making is working *in* the art form as artist. Through responding, students 'explore, respond to, analyse and interpret artworks' (Australian Curriculum 2017). Responding is working *about* the art form as audience.

Pathways

Drama is a General subject suited to students who are interested in pathways beyond school that lead to tertiary studies, vocational education or work. A course of study in Drama can establish a basis for further education and employment in the field of drama and to broader areas in creative industries and cultural institutions.

The demand for creativity in employees is rising in a world of rapid technological change. As more organisations value work-related creativity and diversity, the processes and practices of Drama develop transferable 21st century skills essential for many areas of employment. As people are asked to think innovatively and differently, unconventionally and from new perspectives, the role of 'the creative' across many workplaces is increasingly in demand. Diverse pathways may include fields such as psychology, social work, counselling, law, journalism and human relations.

Tertiary studies, vocational education or work experience in the area of drama can lead to and benefit careers in diverse fields such as:

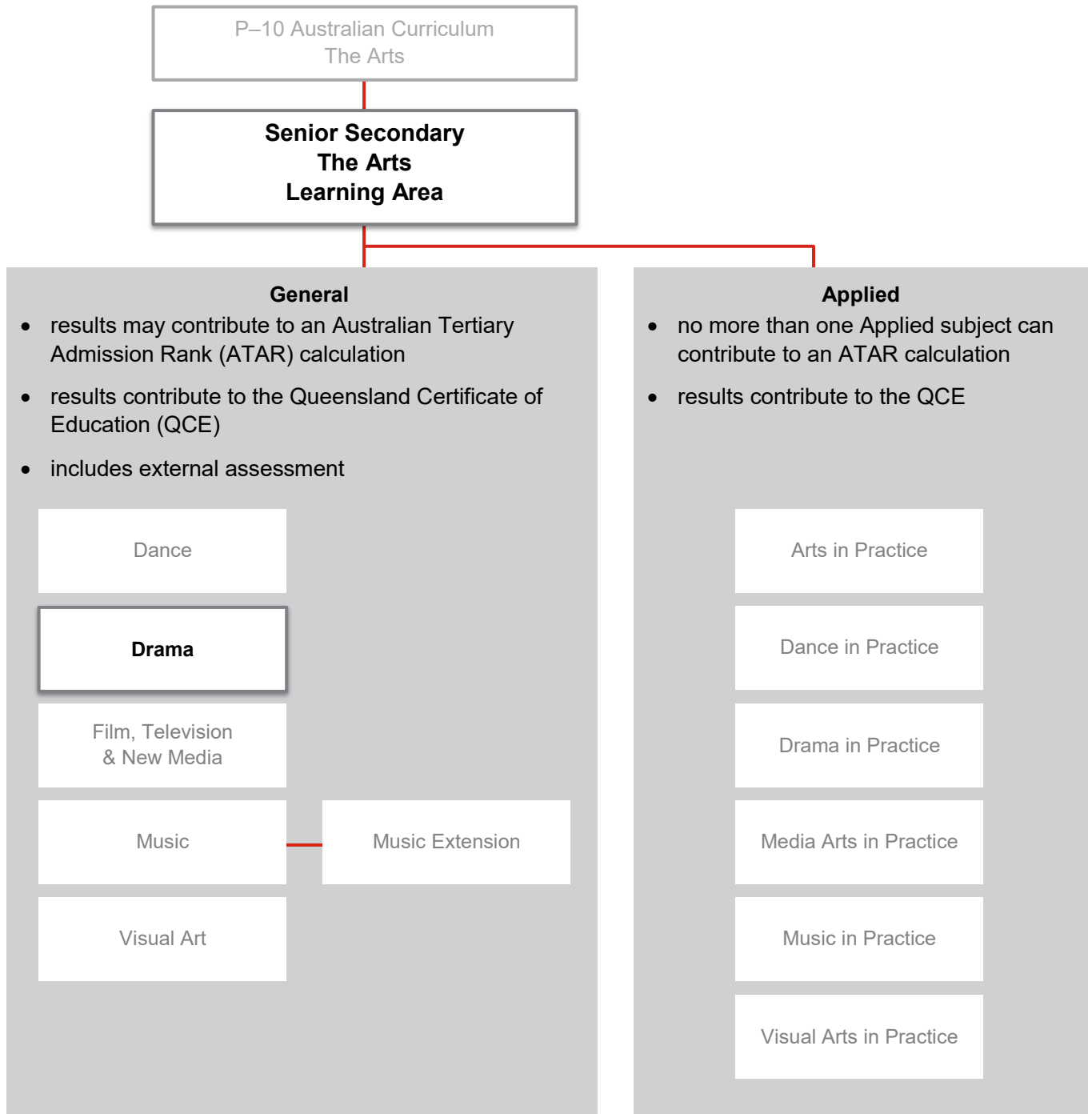
- arts administration and management, e.g. artist manager, arts administrator, booking agent, copyright/royalties manager, tour manager, venue manager, events and festivals manager/producer, arts and cultural advisor/administrator
- communication, e.g. writer, communication strategist, arts editor, blogger/vlogger
- creative industries, e.g. professional performer, actor, director, dramaturge, independent artist, artistic director, costume designer, producer, rehearsal director, theatre technician, stage manager, dialect coach, radio presenter
- education, e.g. educator in schools, corporate, private studios, community, universities and professional drama company education programs
- public relations, e.g. campaign manager, publicist, creative director

- research, e.g. researcher and academic, journalist/critic
- science and technology, e.g. drama health professional with further specialised training in areas of medicine, health, therapy.

1.1.2 Learning area structure

All learning areas build on the P–10 Australian Curriculum.

Figure 1: Learning area structure



1.1.3 Course structure

Drama is a course of study consisting of four units. Subject matter, learning experiences and assessment increase in complexity from Units 1 and 2 to Units 3 and 4 as students develop greater independence as learners.

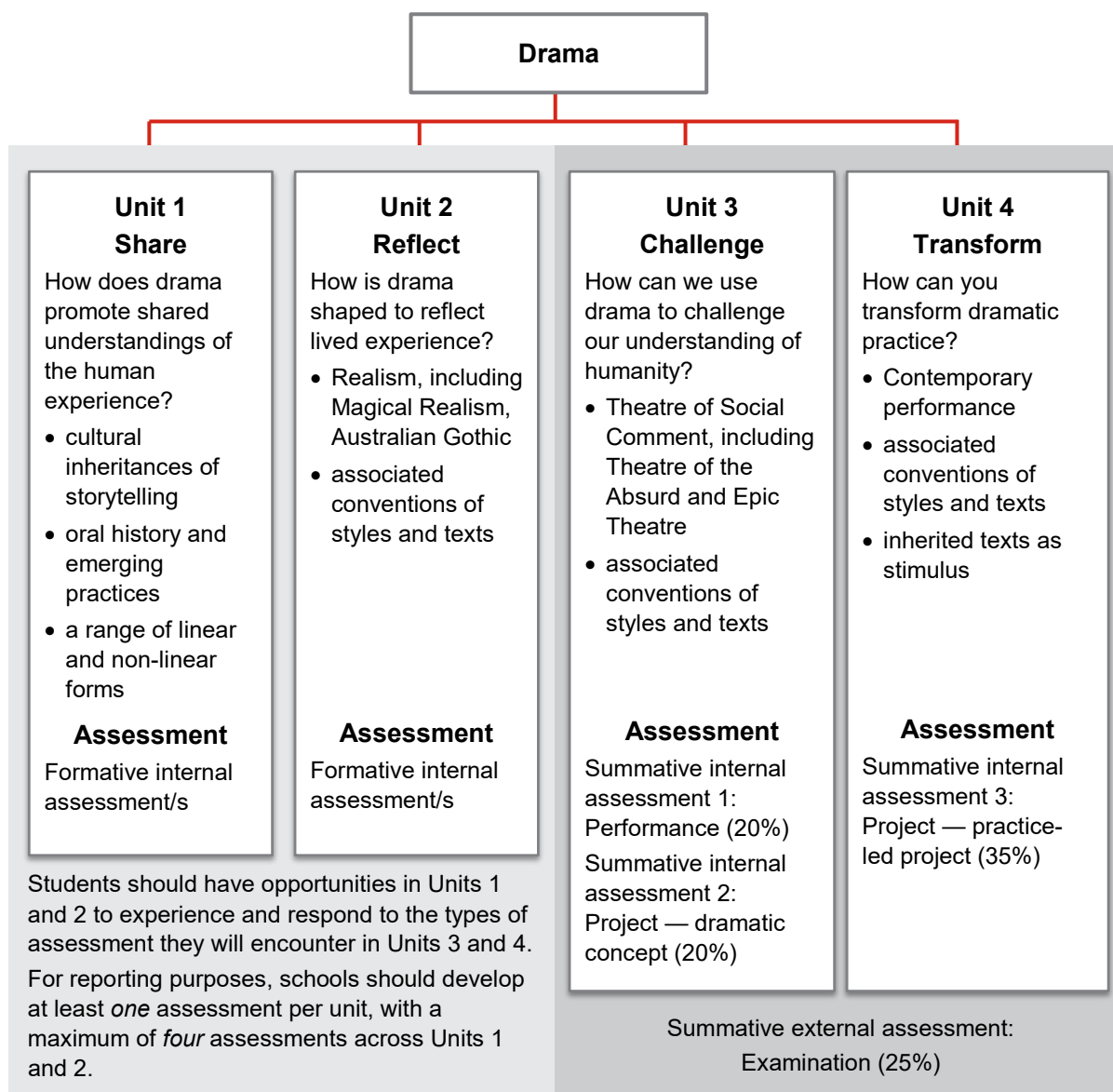
Units 1 and 2 provide foundational learning, which allows students to experience all syllabus objectives and begin engaging with the course subject matter. Students should complete Units 1 and 2 before beginning Unit 3. It is recommended that Unit 3 be completed before Unit 4.

Units 3 and 4 consolidate student learning. Only the results from Units 3 and 4 will contribute to ATAR calculations.

Figure 2 outlines the structure of this course of study.

Each unit has been developed with a notional time of 55 hours of teaching and learning, including assessment.

Figure 2: Course structure



Additional Requirements

Study Requirements	Special Requirements
<p>Due to the nature of Drama, students who select this subject will be required to attend extra rehearsals for group performances in their own time. The public performance also requires students to participate in a one night time performance. Students will also view live theatre as per assessment, which will be in the evenings, and include travel to Brisbane.</p>	<p>Due to the large amount of technologically based assessment and classwork, it is recommended that students are participants in the College's BYOx program.</p>