



Drama General – Summary of syllabus changes

The changes between the current Year 11 and Year 12 Drama General course syllabuses and the proposed Year 11 and Year 12 Drama General course syllabuses are summarised below.

Content changes

Overall

- The content and the complexity in each unit have been reviewed to ensure there is clear differentiation between ATAR and General syllabus content.
- The reviewed General syllabus can function as an independent syllabus, while also allowing for the common practice of combining General and ATAR classes.
- Course content areas have been streamlined and reorganised under new subheadings.
- Units 1 to 4 now include suggested contexts for exploring the syllabus content.
- Drama roles have been updated and renamed *creative team* to reflect the ATAR content.
- Unit topics have been updated to mirror the new content area subheadings.
- Suggested text lists have been updated.
- Terminology has been updated to ensure sequential progression from Year 7 to Year 12.
- The rationale has been updated to align with the WACE Refreshment and reflect the revised unit topics.
- The course outcomes have been replaced with aims.
- The General Capabilities have been updated as part of the WACE Refreshment.
- Progression from the Years 7–10 curriculum information has been updated to reflect the revised Pre-primary to Year 10 Arts strands of explore, create and perform.

Year 11-specific

- Units 1 and 2 have been modified as follows:
 - The Unit 1 focus has changed from dramatic storytelling to realism and representational drama.
 - In Unit 1, the suggested contexts of realism theatre, verbatim theatre and documentary theatre have been added.
 - The Unit 2 focus has changed from drama performance events to non-realism and presentational drama.
 - In Unit 2, suggested contexts of Australian gothic theatre, Elizabethan theatre, Musical theatre, Epic theatre and Absurdist theatre have been added.
 - Each content area has new subheadings to aid with organisation and clarity.
 - Drama language – elements of drama and drama processes
 - Contextual knowledge – drama conventions
 - Production and performance – spaces of performance and theatre design.
 - Under the creative team, the role of director has been added, and scenographer has been renamed set designer.
 - The elements of drama have been updated.
 - In the contextual knowledge content, the context (historical, social or cultural) of the drama has been added.

- In the spaces of performance content, performer and audience relationship has been added to clarify the syllabus content.
- In the theatre design content, elements of design have been added.
- The oral and written communication content has been rewritten for clarity, and now includes the structuring of ideas and responses, short answer forms, oral presentations and diagrams with annotations.

Year 12-specific

- Units 3 and 4 have been modified as follows:
 - The Unit 3 focus has changed from representation, realist drama to drama in rehearsal and performance.
 - In Unit 3, the suggested approaches have been added to explore the syllabus content of recognised practitioner or company approach to rehearsal, psychological approach to rehearsal and physical approach to rehearsal.
 - The Unit 4 focus has changed from presentation, non-realist drama to the interpretation and performance of a drama.
 - In Unit 4, the suggested interpretations have been added to explore the syllabus content of recognised practitioner or company approach to interpretation, design-focused interpretation of different theatre forms and form and style interpretation.
 - Each content area has new subheadings to aid with organisation and clarity.
 - Drama language – elements of drama and drama processes
 - Contextual knowledge – drama conventions
 - Production and performance – spaces of performance and theatre design.
 - In the creative team, the role of scenographer has been renamed set designer.
 - In the contextual knowledge content, the context (historical, social or cultural) of the drama has been added.
 - In the spaces of performance content, performer and audience relationship and performance space and stage types have been added to clarify the syllabus content.
 - In the theatre design content, elements of design have been added.
 - The oral and written communication content has been rewritten for clarity, and now includes the structuring of ideas and responses, short answer forms, oral presentations and diagrams with annotations.

Deleted/moved content

- The following content has been removed from the syllabus:
 - In contextual knowledge – values, forces and drama practice
 - In production and performance – management skills and processes.
- The following content has been moved in the syllabus:
 - Voice and movement – moved to elements of drama
 - Drama forms and styles – moved to drama conventions
 - Design and technologies – moved to theatre design.

School-based assessment changes

Overall

- The use of illustrations has been removed in the Year 11 description of the response assessment type, as this is not syllabus content.

- In the Year 12 description of the response assessment type, *Responses may be oral or in written form and include supporting diagrams with annotations* has been added.
- Changes in the weighting of assessment types have been made to the Year 12 school-based assessment.
 - The assessment type performance/production weighting has increased from 55% to 65%.
 - The assessment type response weighting has reduced from 30% to 20%.

Appendices

Appendix 1 – Grade descriptions

- Minor edits have been made to remove deleted syllabus content.