

## Dance

A Level Dance Studies	Course content	Assessment
<u>Component 1:</u> Performance and choreography	<p>This is a practical unit that will develop your technical, performance and choreographic skills. You will perform a solo dance in the style of a practitioner you study and a quartet which you may choreograph yourself or with the tutor.</p> <p>You will build on your choreography skills and learn how to create an original piece of group choreography, in response to an externally set task. Throughout the choreographic process you will outline the development of your dance in a Choreographic log as well as provide programme notes, of no more than 300 words, to summarise your choreographic ideas. Throughout all aspects of the unit you are to show awareness of safe practice within dance.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Marked by an external assessor</li> <li>• Practical exam</li> <li>• 80 marks</li> <li>• 50% of A-level</li> </ul>
<u>Component 2:</u> Critical engagement	<p>This unit is split into two sections. You will investigate two areas of study and two set works. You will gain an understanding of different professional repertoire and practitioners working within the context of these genres and you will study an in depth critical analysis of two set works, one each of the chosen areas of study.</p> <p>Section A – You will be required to respond to both short answer and essay questions based on one area of study and one set work. <i>Area of study - Rambert Dance Company 1966–2002.</i> <i>Set work – Rooster by Christopher Bruce, 1991.</i></p> <p>Section B – You will be required to answer two essay questions based on the second area of study and set work. <i>Area of study and set work – currently unknown.</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Written exam: 2 hours 30 minutes</li> <li>• Section A - 50 marks</li> <li>• Section B - 50 marks</li> <li>• Total - 100 marks</li> <li>• 50% of A-level</li> </ul>

Where are they now?

### JESS HILL

Jess studied Dance, Maths, Biology and Chemistry at Winstanley. She enjoyed participating in a range of enrichment activities at college including, the Musical; West Side Story, Fred meets Fosse as well as various other dance shows. Jess studied Dance and Musical Theatre at the prestigious dance school, Bird College, in London.

Since graduating she has worked for a number of dance institutions and says “Winstanley was an amazing environment to nurture my performing arts skills. The amount of performance opportunities was amazing. The teachers at Winstanley were very inspiring and helpful, they helped us think for ourselves and outside of the box”. Since graduating Jess has been in and out of professional dance jobs and is currently teaching a range of classes including aerial work.

### BETH ORMROD.

Beth studied Dance, Chemistry and Biology at Winstanley. She enjoyed participating in a range of dance productions whilst at college and says “I would definitely recommend the Dance A Level. It is a fun and enjoyable subject with a very friendly, helpful and supportive department that strive to ensure you produce work to the best of your ability. The lessons catered to all abilities and really challenged

# winstanley college

you. I always knew I wanted to follow a science route after college and dance proved to be a key talking point in all of my university interviews. There are plenty of extra curriculum activities to get involved in – something for everyone”. Beth is currently studying Medicine with Biochemistry at Kings University, in London. Beth has been awarded a scholarship to support her studies.

## **Learning outside the classroom**

Theatre trips, Dance Show, Musicals, Workshop,  
Entry for Dance Competitions  
Small study and rehearsal groups  
On line resources for independent study

### **Study Support**

When you enrol we'll make sure that you're receiving all the support you need, for example you may be entitled to extra time in your exams, you may benefit from working with a dyslexia tutor or you may simply need help with organising your time and many pieces of paper!

### **Academic Challenge**

If you are keen to continue with Dance to University or Dance College/Conservatoire you will receive help with choosing which institution and which course is right for you. We'll support your development of interview and audition skills, assist you with choreographing audition dances, guide you to further reading, challenge you with additional discussion and inspire you with enrichment activities and trips. Ex Winstanley students already studying this subject beyond Winstanley will visit and tell you the real story and visiting speakers will give you a glimpse as to what further study in Dance involves.

## **From school pupil to Winstanley student**

Not all students have taken GCSE Dance but come to the course with a range of experiences in a range of dance styles such as school shows, youth dance companies, dance school shows, festivals/competitions, dance exams (RAD, ISTD etc).

No experience is necessary but you should have a true passion for Dance: attending weekly lessons or watching dance productions, performing and/or choreographing.

You may wish to make use of the following to get to know us better:

Taster Days

Open Evenings

Tickets for shows to see our current students at work