



English Literature A Level

What is the course content?

Year 12 and 13:

A Level Literature encourages the independent study of a range of texts across time and will broaden your knowledge and love of the subject. By choosing this course, you will study a variety of texts including one Shakespeare play, a selection of love poetry, a selection of literary extracts and at least 2 sets of prose texts.

You will be expected to read widely around the subject beyond the set texts for contextual and comparative purposes.

Topics/Skills

Paper 1: Love Through The Ages – Shakespeare and Unseen Poetry

- One passage based question on a Shakespeare play
- One poetry comparison on two unseen poems
- 40% of A Level

Paper 2: Texts in Shared Contexts – Modern Times Post 1945

- Study of three set texts – comparative question and contextual linking
- Question on one unseen prose passage
- 40% of A Level

Non-exam Assessment

- Comparative literary study of two texts, at least one of which was written pre-1900 as an extended (2,500 word) essay and bibliography
- 20% of A Level

How is the course assessed?

Assessment structure:

A Level exam papers - Paper 1 is open book 3 hours and worth 40%

Paper 2 is open book 2 hours 30 minutes and worth 40%

Coursework component - Word count is 2,500 and worth 20%



Future Opportunities

English Literature is a subject which is well regarded by University Admissions Tutors and by employers. Students opting for this subject in the 6th Form frequently go on to study it at university, enjoying potential careers in teaching, the art and entertainment industries, the media or legal professions. Similarly, an A Level in Literature is an excellent support qualification for those wishing to study degrees in Psychology, Sociology, History or Law.

Key Contact

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