



English Literature

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Course Aims

To provide a thorough grounding in literature from the Renaissance to the 21st century, exploring how texts are constructed and how contextual factors contribute to their interpretation. English Literature enables students to develop their skills of questioning, and engage with ideas surrounding philosophy, morality, history, and culture. The course is of value to all students who enjoy exploring literature and expressing an opinion.



Qualifications and Qualities Needed

Lessons take a seminar approach and students are required to engage in class discussion. They are also required to undertake contextual research, complete critical reading, annotate their texts, and make preparatory notes outside of lessons. Examination confidence is developed through regular completion of examination style essays. Students should have achieved a grade 6 in both GCSE English Language and English Literature.

Course Structure

Exam Board: OCR

Exam texts: *Hamlet* by William Shakespeare; *A Doll's House* by Henrik Ibsen; Selected poems of Christina Rossetti; *Frankenstein* by Mary Shelley; *The Bloody Chamber and other Stories* by Angela Carter

Coursework texts: *A Fire in My Head: Poems for the Dawn* by Ben Okri; *Revolutionary Road* by Richard Yates; *A Streetcar Named Desire* by Tennessee Williams

Assessment in Year 13 is by a combination of coursework (20%) and two examinations (each worth 40%).

There are no formal examinations in Year 12.

Trips and Textbooks

We require students to purchase their texts so they can annotate them in detail. We encourage students to read *The English Review* and *e-magazine*, which are available in the Learning Resource Centre. The faculty encourages theatre trips and arranges attendance at conferences and expert seminars.

Other Points to Note

English Literature is an academic, facilitating subject, respected by universities and employers. By reading and engaging with a range of prose, drama, and poetry, you gain insight into lives, experiences, and cultures of others. Our students thrive in this stimulating subject which is especially relevant for those who are not afraid to present and uphold an opinion. Students successfully study English Literature alongside a diverse range of A Level subjects and there is no stereotypical A Level English Literature student.