

A Level English Literature

Why study English Literature at A Level?

English Literature is a great subject choice for students who enjoy reading independently, thinking critically and evaluating ideas.

This course provides the opportunity to discuss, explore and interpret a wide range of literary texts, understand and evaluate literary genres and develop your skills of analysis and interpretation. By studying English Literature, you will develop many valuable, transferable skills that will increase your future employability.

What will I study?

Throughout the course, you will study a range of unseen prose and poetry texts alongside:

- The poetry of Christina Rossetti
- *The Tempest* by William Shakespeare
- *A Streetcar Named Desire* by Tennessee Williams
- *A Doll's House* by Henrik Ibsen
- *The Bloody Chamber* by Angela Carter
- *Dracula* by Bram Stoker,
- *Even the Dogs* by Jon McGregor
- *Brand New Ancients* by Kate Tempest

Assessment

Paper 1: Shakespeare, Drama and Poetry Pre-1900. 2 hours and 30 minutes (40%)

There are two sections in this exam. In section A you will answer two questions on a Shakespeare play, one of which will be extract based. In section B you will respond to a critical statement using your knowledge of poetry and drama.

Paper 2: Drama and Prose post-1900, 2 hours and 30 minutes (40%)

There are two sections in this exam. In section A you will write a critical appreciation of a gothic extract. In section B, you will compare two Gothic texts that you have studied.

NEA: Two assignments

You will complete a close reading essay and a thematic comparative essay on two contrasting texts.

Study trips, visits and events

You will get to meet and engage with visiting speakers and university lectures.

You will attend theatre trips, take part in coaching and mentoring opportunities with younger students and have chances to enter writing competitions such as The Christopher Tower Poetry contest.

Subject entry requirements

6 in English Literature.