English Literature

Subject Lead: Mrs E Percival
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Key topics covered

Currently…

- Modern Poetry Anthology / "Unseen" poetry
- *A Streetcar Named Desire*, Tennessee Williams (1947)
- *Othello*, William Shakespeare (circa 1603)
- *Beloved*, Toni Morrison (1987) & *Dracula*, Bram Stoker (1897) OR *Heart of Darkness*, Joseph Conrad, & *The Lonely Londoners,* Sam Selvon
- Romantic Poetry
- Independent coursework comparison essay, approx. 3500 words.

Recommended textbook and/or resources

No specific resources required for lessons. However, this is a course that will require you to read, write and re-draft regularly, so bring high-expectations of yourself to lessons!

Useful reading to support your studies:

- *The Glass Menagerie,* Williams*; Death of a Salesman,* Miller
- *Frankenstein,* Shelley
- *1984,* Orwell
- *The Handmaid's Tale,* Atwood

Why study the subject/what students like about it

For keen readers, the course is a delight. Students read challenging texts that span over 500 years of development in literature and that explore issues such as feminism, prejudice, inequality and power.

A-Level students really enjoy the extended essay component of the course, too. Students are encouraged to make independent text selections and are given a great deal of freedom to explore issues that are important to them. This essay provides students with an opportunity to explore their own ideals in great detail.

"An inspiring course! I can say without doubt that I enjoyed every single English lesson, and I won't forget the moving, shocking and sometimes crazy stories and poems that we read." -SD, 2022

Opportunities outside the classroom

Students will be given access to online theatre resources to enable them to watch performances in their own time; Digital Theatre+ is a comprehensive resource offering live recordings of plays, and additional supporting documents.

In previous years, we have also organised trips to The Globe theatre and to live poetry performances.

Future progression/career routes

The course provides a grounding for either Language or Literature at degree level and is an excellent subject to complement many courses, such as psychology, sociology, history, any media-related course, communication or law or education.

