

A Level English Literature

What is English Literature?

Its aim is to enable students to be enthusiastic and analytical lovers of literature, who not only achieve highly, but also find enjoyment and enrichment through reading, research, discussions and critical response.

Why study English Literature?

Besides having the opportunity to read in depth the major literary works in English, as well as contemporary writing, students will gain many skills useful in a wide range of future professions, including the verbal precision necessary to edit and analyse texts effectively, as well as highly developed powers of argument and persuasion.

What makes a successful English Literature student?

A serious love of classic literature and the best of modern literature, a willingness to read round the subject and the self-discipline to undertake independent research outside the classroom.

To study this course, what qualifications will I need and in which subjects?

We recommend at least grade 5 in either GCSE in English Literature or English Language but will consider application from any student who is enthusiastic about English Literature. Students will need to be genuinely enthusiastic about Literature, and must enjoy reading a wide range of literature in their own time. Students who do not currently read regularly at home may struggle to make progress on this course.

What is the structure of the course?

Year 12 is focused around reading and enjoying the texts, whilst building the skills needed for the final examinations at the end of Year 13. Text choices are subject to change, but those listed below are representative.

| A Level Qualification | | | |
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| Component 1: Drama (30%) | Assessment | Component 2: Prose (20%) | Assessment |
| 1. <i>Hamlet</i> by William Shakespeare 2. <i>A Streetcar Named Desire</i> , Williams | A level assessment – Open text examination, 2hr 15 mins | 1. <i>Dracula</i> by Bram Stoker 2. <i>The Little Stranger</i> by Sarah Waters | A Level Assessment – Open text exam, 1 hr |
| Component 3: Poetry (30%) | Assessment | Coursework (20%) | Assessment |
| 1. Post 2002 Poetry 2. Unseen Poetry 3. <i>The Wife of Bath</i> , Chaucer | A level assessment – Open text examination, 2hr 15 mins | 3000 word comparative and analytical essay | Assessment – Internal (marked by teachers) |

What opportunities are there for me to study beyond the classroom?

In previous years we have attended the English and Media Centre’s English Literature Conference in London, as well as enjoying the Sixth Form day at UEA’s Festival of Literature for Young People. Arrangements for the coming years are to be confirmed but, we hope, will include weekly enrichment opportunities, as well as one off events.

What kind of career does this subject/qualification prepare me for?

This course is traditionally highly valued by institutes of Higher Education, and deemed an appropriate route for many academic courses. Typically it could lead to careers in Education, Law, the Media, Journalism and Publishing.