

ENGLISH LITERATURE

Exam Board: AQA



Aims of the Course

The study of English Literature aims to:

- Develop a critical understanding of a wide range of classic and contemporary literature.
- Explore the link between literature and the context in which it is written.
- Encourage a profound enjoyment of literature in all its forms.
- Increase appreciation of the English Literary Heritage, placing texts in the social and historical context in which they were written.

Types of Learning Experience:

The AQA English Literature A level is a two year linear course assessed through exams and coursework at the end of the course. Knowledge is gained through lectures, seminars, classroom discussion, student presentations, critical reading, journals, videos, newspapers, dramatic interpretation, theatre and wide personal reading. A love of reading is a requirement for this course.

Link Subjects:

English Literature may be taken with any other subject.

Progressing to Higher Education:

English Literature is a stimulating subject which is relevant to life today. It is a recognised advanced level subject for entry into University and Higher Education and is useful to access further study in any of the arts.

Careers:

English is relevant to those wishing to pursue courses in publishing, education, media and advertising and teaching; it provides evidence of proficiency in self expression and a keen analytical mind.

Paper 1

Literary Genres

Aspects of Tragedy—the study of 3 texts: one Shakespeare; a second drama text and one further text.

Assessment

Written exam of 2 hours 30 minutes closed book.
3 questions
75 marks
40% of A level

Paper 2

Texts and Genres:

Elements of Political & Social Protest Writing
Study 3 texts: one prose, one poetry and one further text.
Examination will include an unseen element.

Assessment

Written exam: 3 hours
3 questions
Open book 75 marks
40% of A Level

Third component

Non-exam Assessment: Theory and Independence
Study of two texts: one poetry and prose informed by the study of the Critical Anthology
Two course work essays –1500 words each
Assessment
50 marks
20% of A level
Assessed by teachers
Moderated by AQA

Entry requirements:

A minimum of 5 grades 9-4 including English and Maths. This must include a GCSE Grade 5 in either English Language and English Literature.