

ENGLISH LITERATURE A LEVEL

WHAT WILL I STUDY?

This course, which is highly regarded as a facilitating subject by all universities, will help you to develop your reading and critical analysis skills through the study of various texts, from the 10th century to the present day. Written work will enhance your overall ability to structure and respond analytically to whole texts and unseen material, while regular discussion in class will help you develop your wider communication skills.

You will study drama, poetry and prose – and examine works by a wide range of modern and pre-20th century authors and poets.

Examinations test your skills of analysis and interpretation through the commentary on an unseen poem or prose extract while the essay questions encourage you to take a more conceptual approach to the texts studied, taking account of the context in which they were produced and received and the ways in which they have been interpreted by other readers.

The course features a popular annual theatre or cinema trip to see a play or film version of a text studied. Previous visits have included the RSC production of Hamlet in London and the latest film version of Jane Eyre at the Regal Cinema in Henley. Our local cinema also periodically arranges – through links with major London theatres – screenings of popular theatre productions (such as Frankenstein starring Benedict Cumberbatch).

WHAT NEXT?

A key course for students planning to continue on to university to study subjects including English language and literature, English literature, English studies, law, politics, history, sociology, creative writing, linguistics and teaching.

It also provides a strong grounding for those wishing to pursue many other subject areas at degree level. Alternatively, students may consider direct entry into employment or further training.

ASSESSMENT

Coursework (20%) Exam (80%)

DURATION

2 years

ENTRY REQUIREMENTS

Standard entry requirements to include grade 5 GCSE English Literature and English Language and grade 4 Maths.

EXAM BOARD

Edexcel

COSTS

£35 per year for textbooks plus optional theatre trips