

A LEVEL

ENGLISH LITERATURE

Exam Board: OCR	Course Code: H472
Entry Requirements: Average of grade 5 or higher across all GCSE exams including a minimum grade of 5 for maths. Grade 6 in English.	

Course Summary:

Is it ever right to take on the role of God? Can marriage and independence coexist? To what extent was Shakespeare critical of colonialism?

The beauty of English Literature lies in how writers craft their texts to create stories and worlds that can be seen as a mirror of our own society. When studying Literature, you will read and appreciate some of the greatest and most influential writings ever published, which force us to face some challenging questions about our own beliefs and attitudes. Literature is explored in many different forms, including novels, drama, poetry, and short stories; these texts are selected across an expansive time period to encapsulate some of the most pertinent issues in various eras across history.

Criticality is key to fully appreciate the complex ideas conveyed in literature. You will be able to familiarise yourself with different schools of thought and learn to interpret texts through varied perspectives, including dramatic and theatrical adaptations. The genre study of The Gothic will also develop an in-depth understanding of the developments in this area, comparing different approaches and identifying connections across texts.

1: Drama and Poetry Pre 1900

The Tempest William Shakespeare
A Doll's House Henrik Ibsen
Selected Poems Christina Rossetti

3: Literature Post 1900 (Coursework)

Three texts: One poetry, one prose, one drama

2: Comparative and Contextual study

The Bloody Chamber Angela Carter
Frankenstein Mary Shelley
Unseen Gothic Extracts

Two tasks: Close reading analytical essay and a Comparative essay

Note: Text choices are subject to change

Skills:

- English Literature is still one of the most highly regarded subjects by universities. It is 'facilitating', meaning that it will open the door and equip you with skills to study a wide range of different subjects including:
- Communication – Producing essays that develop arguments logically and coherently. Responses will be personal, creative, and informed, evaluating strengths and flaws in varied viewpoints, particularly through discussion based tasks.
- Analytical – Unpacking the varied methods by writers to craft and convey meaning. Building connections across texts and analysing how meaning is shaped.
- Critical – Understanding the various contextual influences and interpreting texts through different perspectives and theories.

Assessments:

2 x 2.5 hour exams – 40% each, Paper 1: Drama and Poetry pre-1900 , Paper 2: Comparative and Contextual Study

Non-exam assessment: Literature Post-1900 20%, Task 1: 1000 words, Task 2: 2000 words

This course is suitable for students who...

First and foremost, you must have a passion for reading and be able to do this independently. You should be willing to engage in arguments and debates, a clear communicator, and willing to explore different interpretations.

Future careers:

Writing, Publishing, Performance, Journalism and broadcasting, Education, Teaching, Law, Politics, Civil Service
