

# English Literature

## A Level: Level 3

### This Course

This challenging course will develop students' knowledge and understanding of English Literature through the study of novels, plays and poetry. The course encourages students to 'read around' the set texts in terms of critical views, social and historical context and other texts by the same authors on the syllabus. You will develop your own perspectives on everything you read and be able to argue your views well. The course will develop your skills in constructing a logical and coherent argument, which is the basis of an analytical essay.

#### Course Content:

Paper 1: Love through the Ages

Study of three texts: one poetry and one prose text, of which one must be written pre-1900, and one Shakespeare play. The study of these texts culminates in a 3 hour exam paper.

Paper 2: Texts in shared contexts

Option 2A: World War I and its aftermath

Study of three texts: one prose, one poetry and one drama, of which one must be written post 2000. The study of these texts culminates in a 2hr 30 minutes exam paper.

Non-exam assessment: Independent critical study (coursework)

Comparative critical study of two texts, at least one of them must have been written pre-1900

Students will be guided towards choosing 2 texts of sufficient challenge and literary merit to warrant study and will be supported through the construction of their coursework essay. The final piece should be around 2,500 words.

### Why English Literature?

English Literature A level provides an excellent foundation for degree level study in almost any field. The study of English Literature is considered a strong and respected academic course, grounding students and preparing them for a wide range of careers. Employers recognise the immense value of a literary education and opportunities exist in careers ranging from diplomacy to law and accountancy to the caring professions.

The A-Level History curriculum can support A Level English Literature as the course requires students to have a detailed understanding of historical contexts and literary periods. Media can also work alongside this course as both courses focus on skills of analysis and interpretation. Study of Psychology can similarly support English Literature, as literary texts explore the human condition and big issues such as Love and War.

### What's expected from me?

When studying A Level English Literature, students will be provided with a reading list and are expected to complete extensive wider reading in their own time and to keep a reading journal.

**Entry requirements for A Level English Literature:** students should have achieved a Grade 5 or above in GCSE English Language and Grade 6 in GCSE English Literature.