

What are the aims of this course?

The course aims to encourage students to develop knowledge and skills in reading, writing and critical thinking. Through literature, students have a chance to develop culturally and acquire knowledge of the best that has been thought and written. Studying GCSE English Literature should encourage students to read widely for pleasure, and as a preparation for studying literature at a higher level.

What will I learn?

On the course you will study a Shakespeare play, a pre-1914 novel, a modern novel or play and a variety of poetry, both modern and poetry that is part of our literary heritage. During the course, you will be taught how to analyse a variety of literature and respond to texts personally and critically. You will read texts and analyse writer's craft focusing on how they use language and structure to develop their ideas. Finally, you will be encouraged to enjoy literature and discuss novels, poems and plays with your peers.

Course Outline

| Unit Titles | Content | % Unit is Worth |
|-------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------|
| Literary Heritage | Paper 1 Section A: Response to Shakespeare. Students will study Macbeth and answer one essay question related to character or theme. | 20% |
| Literary Heritage | Paper 1 Section B: Response to pre-1914 prose. Students will study A Christmas Carol and answer one essay question related to character or theme. | 20% |
| Modern Texts | Paper 2 Section A: Response to modern texts. Students will study Blood Brothers or An Inspector Calls and answer one essay question related to character or theme. | 20% |
| Poetry Through the Ages | Response to poetry: Students will study prescribed poems on the theme of Power and Conflict and write a comparison of two of the poems they have studied. | 20% |
| Unseen Poetry | Response to poetry: Students will read and respond to two unseen poems and write an essay analysing the themes they identify within them. | 20% |

Progression and Career Opportunities

A Level English Language and Literature, A Level Media. To acquire a place on these courses you may be expected to achieve a minimum of a grade 5 or 6.

A journalist, an editor, a solicitor or a writer are amongst the many jobs that GCSE English Literature prepares you for.

Further Information

Specification Link:

<http://www.aqa.org.uk/subjects/english/gcse>

BBC Bitesize Link:

<http://www.bbc.co.uk/education/subjects/zr9d7ty>

Other websites/books:

<http://www.englishbiz.co.uk/>

For more information contact:

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