

A Level English Literature

Course Outline



Component One: Poetry

1 x 2 hour exam, split into two parts (120 marks total) .

Clean Text

Section A: Poetry Pre 1900 - 60 marks (Christina Rossetti)

Split into two parts, one question focused on close analysis of a named poem and one extended essay style question.

Section B: Poetry Post 1900 - 60 marks (Duffy and Larkin)

A choice out of two extended essay style questions.

Component Two: Drama

1 x 2 hour exam, split into two parts (120 marks total).

Closed text.

Section A: Shakespeare - 60 marks (Hamlet or The Tempest)

Split into two parts, one question close analysis of a section given from the text and one extended essay style question about the play as a whole.

Section B: Drama Pre and Post 1900 - 60 marks (A Streetcar Named Desire and The Duchess of Malfi)

A choice of two extended essay style questions.

Component Three: Unseen Texts

1 x 2 hour exam (80 marks total)

Section A: Unseen Prose (1918 – 1939) - 50 marks

Analysis of an extract from an interwar text and placing it in both social and literary context.

Section B: Unseen Poetry - 30 marks

Analysing a poem and writing up close analysis.

Component 4: Prose Study Pre and Post 2000 - NEA (coursework)

2500-3500 word essay assignment (80 marks)

Analysis and comparison of two different texts, one pre 2000 (The Color Purple) and one post 2000 (text of your choice).

What our students say (all from current Year 12 students):

I am really happy I chose English because the texts are amazing and so engaging. The class discussions make the novels and plays even more engaging and the themes involved bring out passionate discussions. I love it!

I love that English opens up such interesting and important conversations between the class and teachers. It is such a supportive environment and the texts bring up a range of issues which we can openly discuss as a group.

I love the classes and working as a group to explore the texts – English is my favourite class ever! The teachers are all so lovely and supportive.

English Literature has the best content since starting subjects at A Level, I've only grown to love it more. It's a great experience and anyone considering it, should definitely take it.

English Literature is definitely the most enjoyable A Level I've chosen. The classes are so much fun and the texts are far better than the ones at GCSE. I would recommend it to anyone considering it as it benefits me in all my lessons.

English Literature is incredible! It is one of the best subjects, I love it!