

ENGLISH

Literature



Examination Board: AQA
Subject Leader(s): Mrs R Rietkerk



Course Structure

Paper	Topics	A Level
1	Love Through the Ages A- Shakespeare extract question B- Unseen poetry comparison C- Prose and poetry comparison essay (open)	3 hours 40%
2	Modern Times 1945 - Present A- Drama essay B- Unseen prose extract and comparison prose and poetry essay (open)	2 hours 30 40%
Critical Study	Comparison essay of 2 texts (1 of which must be pre-1990)	2,500 words 20%

What does the course involve?

The course involves the detailed study and analysis of literature from a wide range of genres and periods. We study poetry, prose and drama texts from a range of writers appealing to many differing tastes. Lessons, often running like University seminars, provide opportunities for discussions and a close analysis of texts in addition to the discussion of current literary criticism relating to texts. Your teacher won't tell you what to think, but together we will explore different readings of literature.

The English literature course is also one that enables an independent approach as you will be expected to read some texts independently to support a highly personal coursework project. This enables you to explore texts that suit your own taste and to teach us something about them!

Examples of texts you will study

A wide collection of poetry across the ages.
 Skirrid Hill by Shears, Othello by Shakespeare, A Streetcar Named Desire by Williams, Atonement by McEwan, The Handmaid's Tale by Atwood.

Entry Requirements

An utter love for reading! There is no hierarchy about what you should read; you just need to do lots of it!

Diligence, enthusiasm and an ability to work independently.

Further Study/Employment Prospects

English literature is a facilitating subject that is looked upon favourably by all universities (including Oxbridge and redbrick universities). There are also a great number of employment prospects that are made available through a study of English literature though a number of our past students have gone on to gain roles within the following professions:

- law, journalism, teaching, creative industries (artists; writers; actors).