A level English Literature will encourage students to develop their interest in and enjoyment of literature and literary studies as they:

Read widely and independently

Engage creatively with texts

Develop and apply knowledge of literary analysis

Explore contexts of texts

Deepen their understanding of the changing traditions of literature in English

The course is specifically designed to give learners extensive depth and breadth in their studies of literature.



Student Profile

A successful student will need:

To have a keen interest in reading a range of texts from different genres and periods.

To be hard-working and manage time effectively.

To make contributions to discussions in lessons and be willing to share and discuss ideas about texts and other writer's work.

To work independently.

To be able to write essays.

To be able to reflect on their work and make efforts to improve work.



English Literature



Course Content (Edexcel)

A level - two year course

Component 1: Drama - Study of two Tragedy plays; A Streetcar Named Desire and Shakespeare's Othello - 30%.

Component 2: Prose - Two prose texts that explore the theme of Science and Society: Frankenstein and The Handmaid's Tale (one pre-1900 text and one post 1900) - 20%.

Component 3: Poetry - A selection of modern post-2000 poetry from *Poems of* the Decade: An Anthology of the Forward Books of Poetry 2002–2011 and a selection of poems from the Romanticism movement - 30%.

Component 4: Coursework - An extended comparative essay referring to any two texts. Advisory total word count is 2500–3000 words - 20%.

Skills Gained

The ability to explore and analyse a wide variety of classic literature.

The appreciation of classic and contemporary literature novels, drama and poetry.

A firm grounding of essential reading of all genres that will create a well rounded learner, appealing to universities.

Trips / Cultural Experiences

Royal Shakespeare Theatre, Shakespeare's Birthplace & Shakespeare's Classroom and Guildhall, Stratford-upon-Avon

The Future - What Next?

University degree in English or other subjects.

A level English Literature is regarded as a facilitating subject.



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