



English Literature A Level (Edexcel)

Why study this subject?

A Level Literature is a highly regarded qualification which develops a spectrum of academic and communication skills. A Level Literature students learn to develop critical awareness and to adopt different perspectives. Their writing skills are sharply honed, accurate and confidently deployed to construct compelling and convincing arguments based on specific evidence. Reading challenging and varied literary texts encourages students to appreciate the significance of cultural and contextual influences on readers and writers. A lively culture of discussion and reflection in lessons builds students' confidence in speaking and listening, preparing them for further study in seminar and tutorial contexts at university and forums of communication in their working lives. Students learn to be independent and to identify and pursue avenues of particular academic interest in their non-examined assessment. By fostering an appreciation of the craft and beauty of literature, this course encourages students to become lifelong learners and readers.

Entry Requirements

Please see the entry requirements page on the school website.

Content

A Level Literature students study eight literary texts in detail. The texts studied include a Shakespeare play, three works written before 1900 and one written post-2000. Students' skills of analysis of an unseen text are also examined in their examinations. Our examination board is Edexcel.

Assessment

A Level Literature – 80% examination and 20% non-examined assessment.

Future courses and possible careers

English Literature is an excellent 'gateway' A Level to most university courses as it has an established reputation as a rigorous and challenging subject. Students interested in pursuing careers in the Arts, in the Media, in Education and in the Law will find A Level English Literature extremely valuable. This is a relevant and useful qualification for any career or course which identifies skills in writing, research, communication, analytical thought and critical appreciation as desirable.