A Level English Literature

Exam board and specification: AQA (7712)

What you need to study this course: Grade 7 in GCSE English Literature or English Language

Why you should consider this course:

English Literature is a rigorous and therefore highly regarded academic A Level which will be welcomed by universities. For those who like reading, it means immersion in some of the greatest works of literature ever created. At A Level, this subjects requires and sharpens essay-writing and critical thinking skills.

What you will study

Year 12: A Streetcar Named Desire, a play by Tennessee Williams; Frankenstein, a novel by Mary Shelley; The Feminine Gospels, a collection of poetry by Carol Ann Duffy and Mr Loverman, a novel by Bernadine Evaristo.

Year 13: Love Through the Ages, an anthology of poetry; Atonement, a novel by Ian McEwan; Othello by William Shakespeare

How you will be assessed:

Exam Papers:

Paper 1: Love Through the Ages, Y13 content, 3-hour exam;

Paper 2: Post 1045 Literature, Y12 content, 2.5 hour exam

Coursework: 2,500 word essay comparing Frankenstein and a novel of your choice.

Paper 1 and 2 each consist of three essays, each marked out of 25.

You will have an Unseen Poetry question on Paper 1 and an Unseen Prose question on Paper 2.

Where can it take you?

An A Level in English Literature is seen as an indication to universities and employers that your comprehension and written skills are highly developed. It can form the basis of a career in:

- Law
- Advertising
- Publishing
- Journalism
- Creative Industries

It also works well in combination with other humanities and social science subjects and careers, upgrading written and critical thinking skills.

A Level English Literature Alumni Destinations: