

English Literature

Awarding Body: Students follow the AQA Specification A in English Literature.

Course Content and Examination Requirements

“Studying for this specification encourages students to develop interest in, and enjoyment of, English Literature through reading widely, critically and independently across centuries, genre and gender, and through experience of an extensive range of views about texts and how to read them.” (AQA)

Year 12	Year 13
AS Level Units	A2 Units Leading to a full Advanced GCE
Unit 1. Texts in Context Current theme <i>World War One Literature</i>	Unit 3. Reading for Meaning Two questions involving unprepared extracts and wider reading on the unit theme of <i>Love Through the Ages</i> .
Unit 2. Creative Study - Coursework Two tasks: one on prose text and one on drama text. 2000-2500 words in total.	Unit 4. Extended Essay and Shakespeare Study - Coursework – A Shakespeare play and two other texts. Extended comparative essay of 3000 words.

Comparison with GCSE

In order to cope with the demands of this course, it is necessary to have **at least Grade B at GCSE in both English and English Literature.**

The GCSE courses in English and Literature involve close study of prescribed texts and A Level (AS and A2) is a continuation of this. There is, however, a greater depth of study and a much greater variety of texts, including more modern works.

Relevance to Further Studies and Careers

English Literature is an obvious choice at A level for anyone intending to study for a degree in any Arts subject, but it is particularly compatible with subjects such as History, Politics, Sociology, Classical Civilisation and Theology, where essay writing skills and the marshalling of evidence are required. It is also a great asset to the student of Modern Languages, as the skills developed are those essential for the study of literature in any language.

Clearly this A level may be a preparation for the study of English Literature at degree level, and is likely to be a requirement for such courses.

Graduates in English pursue careers in many areas, such as teaching, business, the civil service, administration, and some will move on from their degree to take vocational courses in other fields.

Further Information: Mrs H. Schofield