



A LEVEL

ENGLISH LITERATURE

Course Summary

COURSE OVERVIEW

In Y12 you will focus on how aspects of love are explored over the course of the history of English literature. In Y13 you will explore both modern and contemporary literature's engagement with some of the social and political issues which have helped to shape the latter half of the 20th century. You will also complete a 2,500 word essay, comparing two texts of your choice.

WHY SHOULD I STUDY ENGLISH LIT?

English Literature will help you develop transferable skills such as essay writing, analytical skills and a high level of communication. You will gain knowledge of the history and background behind literary periods. The course stretches your thinking, refines your writing and prepares you for universities that prize critical judgment, intellectual flexibility and communication.

WHAT COURSES CAN THIS PREPARE ME FOR AT UNIVERSITY?

Literature, Creative Writing, Journalism, Politics, Media, Law and Psychology. It is also classed as a 'facilitating' subject, and is highly regarded by Oxbridge and Russell Group universities.

WHAT CAREERS CAN THIS SUBJECT SET ME UP FOR?

It supports routes into law, publishing, journalism, marketing, teaching, politics, advertising, PR, copywriting, cultural heritage, arts administration and research – roles where argument, empathy, precision with language and critical reading truly matter.

COURSE SPECIFICATION

EXAM BOARD: AQA 7712

Paper	Content	Duration	Weighting
1	Othello by William Shakespeare, Unseen poetry comparison, The Great Gatsby as compared to Pre 1900 Love poetry anthology	3 hours	40%
2	A Streetcar Named Desire, Unseen prose extract analysis, The Handmaid's Tale, Feminine Gospels	2 hours 30 mins	40%
3	Comparison between two texts of your choice, on of which must be pre 1900. 2,500 word essay.	n/a	20%