



# ENGLISH LITERATURE A-LEVEL

## WHY SHOULD I STUDY A-LEVEL ENGLISH LITERATURE?

If you want to study a wide range of influential and thought-provoking English Literature from a wide range of periods and genres, this is the course for you. You will foster a deeper appreciation of how writers from across the centuries address recurring themes. The course offers an opportunity to read and critically evaluate the widest range of poetry, prose, and drama, in addition to introducing students to the world of literary criticism.

## WHAT WILL I LEARN ABOUT?

Students will study a Shakespearean comedy or tragedy, as well as another comedy or tragedy by another playwright, supported by a collection of relevant literary criticism (the Shakespeare Critical Anthology) which will help students learn and understand popular critical responses to Shakespeare's work. Two prose texts will be studied (one pre and one post 1900), united in their addressing of a common theme, as well as a range of poetry, including an anthology selection and either a selection of work by a single poet or a range of work from a range of poets united by the representation of a specific theme. Finally, two more texts will be studied, either poetry, prose, or drama, to facilitate completion of the non-examination assessment.

## HOW WILL I BE ASSESSED?

Students will sit three terminal, externally assessed examinations and complete a non-examination assessment. There is a drama examination paper, a prose examination paper, and a poetry examination paper. The non-examination assessment is an essay of 2500-300 words, internally assessed and externally moderated.

## WHAT SKILLS WILL I DEVELOP?

Students will hone their reading skills, becoming adept at handling large amounts of text. Students will also be able to analyse writers' choices and how they help to construct texts and communicate ideas. When responding, students will be developing and evidencing their essay skills and the ability to construct, develop and evidence an argument successfully.

## WHERE COULD THIS SUBJECT TAKE ME IN THE FUTURE?

Students with English qualifications are valuable for their reading skills, analytical skills, and written skills. They are emotionally intelligent individuals with the ability to handle large amounts of text and compare and contrast sources. Such skills are in demand in a wide range of careers.

**Exam Board:** Edexcel

