

English Literature AS/A2 Level

Subject Area

Sixth Form

Qualification

AS/A2 Level

Level

Level 3

Awarding Body

AQA Specification B

Course Summary

A-Level English Literature is designed for those interested in how stories are told through fiction, poetry and drama, and what these stories say about us as humans. Throughout the course you will study a range of topics covering many aspects of English Literature including: how writers construct narratives; aspects of tragedy; why gothic literature has had a lasting impact and how literary theory can be applied to create meaning. The course will provide the opportunity to study a wide range of writers and genres, including: Shakespeare, Marlowe, Thomas Hardy, Bram Stoker and more modern writers in the form of Cormac McCarthy and Khaled Hosseini. The study of English Literature will also develop a range of high level skills invaluable in higher education and many areas of employment.

How will I be assessed?

A-Level English Literature comprises of four units: two will be taken in year one and the remaining two units in the second year of your studies. The first unit is examined by one written paper whilst unit two is examined by the completion of a coursework folder comprising of two essays. In year two one unit is a written examination whilst the final unit of the course is again examined by the production of two essays based on texts of your choice.

Entry Requirements

You will require a minimum of five GCSEs including Maths and English.

How much time will I spend on the course?

You will study for 4 ½ hours per week in class, but remember you will need to devote at least the same time again working independently.

How is the course taught?

A variety of teaching methods will be used including group work, class discussion, presentations, and research projects. The course will also include a number of educational trips related to the course.

Where is the course taught?

The course is taught in the Sixth Form at the Redditch campus

Who is this course suitable for?

The course is designed for anyone who has an interest in literature and is usually studied as part of a three or four A-Level programme. A-Level English Literature is an academic subject and is therefore invaluable to anyone planning to study for an arts degree at university, particularly those considering studying not just for a degree in English but those planning degrees in History; Law; Politics; Media and Film and a host of other arts based subjects.

What materials do I have to provide?

You will need to provide pens, paper and a suitable folder; you will be expected to buy your own books.

Are there any additional costs or specialist equipment required?

You will be supplied with a reading list at the start of the course and you may wish to purchase some of these books, although many of the books are available in the College library or can be ordered through the College from the British Library. There are educational trips arranged for this course and these will incur some additional cost although this will be kept to a minimum, and you are expected to purchase copies of the books studied on this course.

What are the mandatory modules or units?

Unit 1: Aspects of Narrative
Unit 2: Genre Studies: Tragedy (coursework)
Unit 3: Gothic Literature
Unit 4: Further and Independent Reading (coursework)

What can I do after this course?

Most students who study A-Level English Literature progress on to university to study a range of degree courses, particularly in subjects such as English, History, Politics, Philosophy, Media, Film and Law. However, the skills developed on this course are also seen as invaluable by a range of employers.

What careers would this course be useful for?

An A-Level in English Literature combined with further study could lead to a range of careers including: teaching; the media; law and journalism.

How do I apply / join this course?

You first need to complete an application form. You can find a form in the back of the Prospectus or you can call our Information Centre on (01527) 570020 and they will send you a form in the post. Alternatively you can complete the form on-line by visiting the College's website www.ne-worcs.ac.uk.

Once we have your form we will invite you to come into College and meet with a member of our teaching Team so you can ask any other questions you have. Usually at this meeting we will either offer you a place on the course you have applied for or, in some cases an alternative course.

Can I get any financial support with the costs of study?

From September 2011, young people who need financial support to help them stay in Education or training after 16 can apply to NEW College for the new 16-19 Bursary Fund.

Those most in need will be eligible for a bursary of £1200 a year. This includes young people in care, care leavers, young people receiving income support and disabled young people receiving both Employment Support Allowance and Disability Living Allowance. Young people eligible for income support will include some teenage parents, young people estranged from their families, and those whose parents have died.

Other students facing financial difficulties may also be able to claim a bursary to help with costs of transport, food, equipment or other course-related costs.