English Literature

Overview

Do you enjoy novels, plays and poetry? Are you keen to explore texts written in the 21st Century, as well as literary heritage texts that have influenced generations? The OCR English Literature specification allows you to build on and develop the skills acquired during GCSE English Literature by approaching a range of more sophisticated texts. Current students studying the course particularly enjoy the opportunity afforded by the specification to engage in a piece of coursework in an area of personal interest.

Awarding Organisation: OCR

Minimum course requirements: GCSE Grade 5+ in both English Language and in English Literature

More information: Ms N Salmon

Curriculum and assessment

COMPONENT 1 Drama and Poetry pre-1900 (40%)

Students will study a Shakespeare play, drama and poetry pre 1900.

Students will be assessed for this component through a 2 hour 30 minute exam at the end of the two year course.

COMPONENT 2 Comparative and Contextual Study (40%)

Students will study a collection of texts from one of the following topics:

- American Literature 1880–1940
- The Gothic
- Dystopia
- Women in Literature
- The Immigrant Experience

Students will be assessed for this component through a 2 hour 30 minute exam at the end of the two year course.

COMPONENT 3 Independent Study (20%)

Students will undertake a coursework project of their choosing focussing on modern literature.

Students will be assessed for this component through coursework which is internally assessed and externally moderated.

Post 18 opportunities

A-Level English Literature can complement many other subjects and can be a valuable contrast for students studying scientific subjects who wish to demonstrate a range of interests.

Destinations of students in recent years:

Cambridge University – English Literature
Durham University – Politics, Philosophy and Economics
University of East Anglia – Culture, Literature and Politics

Expenses

Optional theatre trips and university lectures are organised by the department. Students may be required to purchase key texts.