

Course Level

A Level

Awarding Body

AQA

Entry Requirements

Grade 6 in GCSE English Literature and English Language

Assessment

Continuous assessment will be undertaken through tasks designed to test and develop skills for the exam units and in preparation for the coursework folder. The exam units are worth 80% of the total A Level and the coursework is worth 20%.

Course Description

A2 Unit 1: Literary Genres

The aim of this unit is to explore how texts are connected, contrasted and how they have evolved across a literary genre. In year 12, students will study aspects of Comedy and will cover four texts from the chosen literary genre. The unit spans Shakespeare, drama, modern and pre-1900 prose fiction and encourages students to develop analytical and academic writing skills, as well as the ability to debate and develop personal opinion.

A2 Unit 2: Texts and Genres

The second unit introduces students to more modern genres and they will study crime writing in year 13. Students will focus on how culture influences these evolving genres and will study three texts including poetry and post-2000 prose. The unit also aims to prepare students for unseen texts, imbuing skills of independent analysis.

A2 Unit 3: Theory and Independence

The aim of this coursework based unit is to allow students to read widely, to choose their own texts and study how different theoretical and critical methods can be applied to literature. From feminist to narrative theory, the students shape their own study, resulting in two pieces of writing (1500 words each). The coursework folder comprises essay responses, although one piece may be a piece of creative writing based on their exploration. The coursework unit is worth 20% of the A Level.

Assessment

Continuous assessment will be undertaken through tasks designed to test and develop skills for the exam units and in preparation for the coursework folder. The exam units are worth 80% of the total A Level and the coursework is worth 20%.

Career and Progression Opportunities

English Literature offers a wide choice of career options as it is a subject that demands the ability to write well, to think critically and to have personal opinions. It is a subject that mixes easily with other subjects in both Sciences and Arts. Among others, it can form part of entry into Business and Management opportunities, the Law, Accountancy and many other careers.

Link to Syllabus

www.aqa.org.uk