

AS/A2 ENGLISH LANGUAGE & LITERATURE

Entry requirements:

Grade C or above in English and English Literature GCSEs

Examination board:

AQA B

Teachers:

J. Everitt, R. Criticos, R. Kapadia, C. Mackie, K Rhodes, S. Thomas

Timetable organisation

All English AS/A2 Specifications are taught by pairs of teachers who cover the syllabus between them in five lessons per week. Teaching in English is of the highest quality with every effort made to support, engage and challenge all students. It is possible to study English Language AS/A2 and English Literature AS/A2 as discrete subjects. It is not possible to study the Joint English Language and Literature specification with either of the other two courses. Students are expected to complete the AS course before moving into A2. Students take all AS/A2 modules in the June session.

Main Syllabus areas

AS: Unit 1, an examined module, introduces students to the study of Language and Literature using a short anthology of thematically linked non-literary and literary texts.

Unit 2 is a coursework module enabling students to develop their understanding of the writer's craft through their study of prose fiction and non-fiction, culminating in two written pieces of coursework demonstrating this understanding analytically and creatively.

A2: Unit 3 is an examined module in which students identify and discuss how meanings are constructed, conveyed and interpreted in drama and real life, through the study of one prescribed play and a variety of transcripts of real life spoken situations.

Unit 4 is a coursework module in which students select two literary works from a prescribed list of authors covering all three literary genres.

Main Syllabus area (cont..)

The coursework portfolio will contain transformations of these texts into different genres, each new text accompanied by a commentary which demonstrates an understanding of the creative processes involved in transforming texts.

Method of assessment

At AS and A2 level there is a single examination module comprising 60% of the total marks and a coursework module comprising 40% of the marks.

Qualities required

You need to enjoy reading and have a genuine interest in Literature. You will need an open and enquiring mind and an interest in human communication and interaction. You will need well-established writing skills and a willingness to enter into debate and discussion. You will need to be able to manage a demanding workload.

Links with other subjects

English Language & Literature provides an excellent complement to Arts, Performing Arts and Social Sciences. As a discipline which demands rigorous analytical and fluent communicative skills, it enhances all Post 16 study.

Career prospects

This course is particularly suitable for those students who wish to study English, Linguistics or English Studies in Higher Education. It offers a wide range of options with or without a degree: Law, Accountancy, Media, Banking, Local Government, Civil Service, Personnel / Human Resources, Journalism – and Teaching.

Extension and enrichment opportunities

Conferences, Lectures, University Master Classes, Visiting Speakers, Workshops.