

# ENGLISH LITERATURE

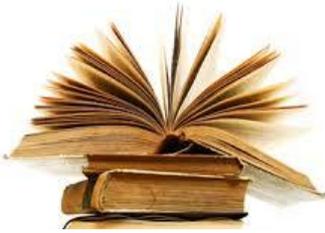
## Subject Overview

This course encourages students to develop an enjoyment of English Literature, through reading widely, critically and independently. Students will study literature across the centuries, across genre and gender, and study a range of views about texts and how to read them. The skills acquired will equip students with either a firm foundation for study in Higher Education or to develop approaches to learning that will be valuable when seeking employment.

Students can study a one-year AS level course, which is a standalone qualification, or a two-year A'level course. Students require both GCSE English and Literature qualifications preferably, although there is no specific requirement for prior learning. The AS qualification overlaps with the A'level course, although it no longer contributes to the A'level grade.

Students will develop the following skills and knowledge:

- To articulate creative, informed and relevant responses to literary texts using coherent and accurate written expression.
- To examine texts closely and demonstrate critical understanding of the ways in which form, structure and language shape meanings.
- To explore the connections and comparisons between literary texts, informed by interpretations of other readers.
- To explore the significance and influence of context in which literary texts are written and read.



## Course Outline

### Exam Board: AQA



#### AS outline

At AS we focus on 'Love through the Ages'. We study Shakespeare, a range of poetry and two prose texts.

- Paper 1: Shakespeare and poetry (pre or post 1900)
- Paper 2: Prose and unseen prose extracts

#### A2 outline

At A2, we study a range of texts across the ages. Students prepare for two exams which include close analysis of unseen extracts, as well as their prepared texts. They also have an extended essay which encourages independent thought and study.

- Paper 1:  
Love through the Ages. We study Shakespeare, prose, including at least one text before 1900 and a range of poetry.
- Paper 2:  
Texts in shared contexts. We study Modern Times: Literature from 1945 to the Present Day.

#### Coursework

Texts across time – 2,500 word essay

## Student Profile

*'I am passionate about literature as it not only entertains but also challenges. The discussions about literature we have in class have stimulated me mentally and I enjoy the process of analysing layers of meaning and considering different interpretations. The authors I admire most are Margaret Atwood, Patrick Süskind, and Khaled Hosseini and at the moment I am particularly enjoying studying Shakespeare's 'Othello'. The creative writing element of the course has also provided me with an opportunity to express ideas in my own original voice.'*

**A-level student at Claremont**

