

English Literature

The Course

English Literature offers the opportunity to develop analysis skills that will help you succeed in your future career no matter what you go on to do. It is particularly relevant to journalism, broadcasting, teaching, law and the theatre arts. In it we build on the skills and knowledge you have developed at GCSE to explore the worlds of various authors, periods and contexts. We read poetry, prose and plays. Four texts are set for AS and another four for A2. At A2 you get to choose your own texts for the coursework module. Some of the themes explored are the development of the individual, the ways in which individuals respond to their world and the way power structures impact on, shape and change individuals and societies. We explore moral choices and the nature of humanity itself.

Pre-Course Tasks

Read widely: everything you read adds to your reading experience and helps develop your fluency and taste.

Watch screen adaptations of classic novels and plays.

Use the internet to make a time line of famous writers and research their lives, times and work.

Research how writers have been treated across time and place. For example you could look at the historical treatment of female writers or writers of colour. You could explore how totalitarian states have treated writers and their work.

Pre-Course Reading

Jane Eyre a novel by Charlotte Bronte: Penguin edition

Dr Faustus a play by Christopher Marlowe: Longman edition

Fieldwork poetry by Seamus Heaney: published by Faber and Faber

Skirrid Hill poetry by Owen Sheers: published by Seren

WJEC AS/A2 English Literature Specification from 2015

WJEC Specimen Assessment Materials from 2015

The WJEC Teachers' Guide is also interesting and useful.

WJEC resources are free to view on the open website.

Useful Websites

www.wjec for WJEC resources mentioned above.