

AS/A2 Level ENGLISH LANGUAGE AND ENGLISH LITERATURE



Course Guide

Level 3 Two-year course

2010/11

This course will suit those who enjoy reading a variety of literature and also enjoy writing themselves.

Subject introduction

English Language & Literature is a course which combines the critical study of literary texts with the linguistic analysis of a range of different sorts of writing, both fiction and non-fiction. It develops the ability to explore and understand both literary and linguistic criticism and to apply the concepts of both. It encourages students to develop editorial skills.

Year 1 study outline

This year consists of two modules, one of which will involve coursework.

Module 1: Exploring voices in speech and writing

You will study voices in speech and writing from an integrated literary and linguistic perspective. You will focus on the close reading of one prose text.

In a two hours 15 minutes examination you will analyse three short, unseen texts, and write about your set text.

Module 2: Creating Texts

You will develop your skills as a writer for different purposes and audiences. You will produce a coursework folder of your own writing, with commentaries about the techniques you have used. You will study one prose fiction text, and one drama or poetry text. Your coursework will be 2,000-2,500 words long.

Year 2 study outline

This year consists of a further two modules, one of which involves coursework.

Module 3: Varieties in Language and Literature

You will apply the skills and knowledge of literary and linguistic approaches gained in the AS units. You will make observations about how language works across the spectrum of written and spoken English.

SEE WHAT'S NEXT

In a two hour 45 minutes exam, you will analyse an unseen prose non-fiction extract as well as analysing linguistic and literary devices.

Module 4: Presenting the World

You will undertake independent research, and study a range of texts. You will focus on the presentation of human experience in literary and non-literary texts. You will build upon your earlier studies to show your understanding of the connections between texts.

Your coursework will comprise three pieces of writing: literary, non-literary & an analytical evaluative commentary. You will write 2,500-3,000 words and a commentary of up to 1,000 words.

Methods of study

You will experience a variety of teaching and learning styles. There will be opportunities to work in groups, pairs or as an individual. You will be encouraged to explore and discuss issues relating to texts and ways to comment upon them.

Special features

You will be given the opportunity to see the plays you study on stage and to attend conferences organised by the Exam Board to help you prepare for examinations. Other events throughout the year include visiting speakers.

Subject combinations and careers

English Literature & Language combines well with a range of subjects: History, Philosophy, Media Studies, Film Studies, Art, Psychology, Sociology, Theatre Studies and Performance Studies. It lends itself to studying English at University in a Combined Honours Degree with other subjects such as Marketing, Languages, Journalism, Cultural Studies and Media Studies, which can lead to a career in publishing, the media, journalism, the creative arts, marketing, advertising, administration and teaching.

Methods of assessment

Exams and Coursework.