



# English Literature

**Awarding Body: OCR**

**Level: A-Level**

## Introduction

Enjoyed GCSE Literature? Well, A-Level is even more rewarding!

A-Level English Literature will encourage you to develop your interest in, and enjoyment of, literary study through reading widely and critically. You will study a wide variety of fiction texts on a variety of themes. As part of this, you will be encouraged to study and share ideas with your classmates on this wide variety of texts.

The extensive reading you will undertake on this course includes poetry, prose and drama from different periods, including at least one play by Shakespeare, other texts written before 1900, and one text written after 2000.

This breadth of study will enable you to consider the ways in which texts relate to one another and to literary traditions, movements and genres.

You will, by the end, be able to appraise different views of the texts and appreciate the significance of historical and cultural influences upon readers and writers. For any English A-Level, a love of writing and a commitment to undertake extensive, independent, challenging reading is imperative.

## Year one content

- Study of Shakespeare- Hamlet
- A Doll's House by Ibsen
- Comparative and Contextual Study- Theme: "The Immigrant Experience"-  
The Reluctant Fundamentalist by Mohsin Hamed and The Namesake by Jhumpa Lahiri.

## Year two content

- Selected Poems by Christina Rossetti
- Coursework-focusing on twentieth and twenty first century texts

## **What you need**

At least a grade 5 in GCSE English Language and grade 5 in English Literature.

## **Assessment**

Assessment is 20% coursework – (you get to choose your own three texts) and 80% examination.

## **Career and further study**

As the most 'traditional' of the English A-Level courses, English Literature is particularly prized by leading universities. It will prove an asset if you are applying to study any degree course in the humanities or social sciences, all of which place a premium on your powers of written expression.

English can also be combined with a wide range of other courses at university. The coursework unit, in particular, equips you with the independent research skills that are vital to success in Higher Education.

Literature really is a versatile A-Level and the high level of literacy and analytical skills that you develop can enhance any degree that you may choose to follow. Former literature students from FPSS have gone on to study degree subjects at university including the following: English, journalism, drama, creative writing, law, medicine, media, drama, MFL, liberal arts, sports studies plus many other academic subjects.

This course provides an excellent foundation for careers that demand a command of both spoken and written English, such as law, journalism, publishing, teaching and the media.

## **Trips and Other Costs**

We aim to provide relevant theatre trips, but this depends on what is available and wherever possible will purchase subsidised student rates.