



This course is for students who are interested in and enjoy reading. The reading requirement outside of lessons is crucial for success, as students will need to build their cultural capital through independent research into relevant context and criticism. The two novels for Paper 2 and the coursework novel need to be read independently. Students should also be prepared to engage with a variety of literary texts and ideas and contribute to class activities and discussion. Level 6 and above at GCSE is required.

English Literature A Level is referred to as one of the *facilitating* subjects: it is highly regarded by universities. The subject is, in itself, not obviously related to established career paths, but the skills required - communication and the ability to formulate and present compelling arguments - are closely related to the skill set for Law and managerial careers.

The course is built around four *components*.

Component 1: Drama - *Othello* and *A Streetcar Named Desire*

Component 2: Prose - *Hard Times* and *Atonement*

Component 3: Poetry - *Poems of the Decade: An Anthology of Poetry 2002-2011* and Chaucer's *The Wife of Bath*.

Component 4: Course work (2500-3000 words) comparing two texts - agreed between students and teacher

Assessment

Components 1-3 above are assessed by final exams at the end of Year 13. This will involve short exam answers – one hour essays of three/four sides. Initially students have to acquire the knowledge of the exam texts to enable them to tackle the exam questions; but towards the later stage of study there will be intensive work on the exam-style essays.

The course work can be re-drafted with the support and supervision of your teacher. This is worth 20% of the final grade.

Useful websites/further reading

See Edexcel Syllabus 9ETO

See KS5 section of school website (English Department)

