



What do I need to be able to do this course?

English Literature is for you if you love reading. You will need to enjoy analysing and thinking critically about novels, plays and poems as well as sharing and discussing ideas with others. On top of your reading you will need to be prepared to develop your essay writing towards a near-undergraduate level. The minimum entry requirement is a B at GCSE English and at English Literature.

What will I do on the course and how is it assessed?

A Level Course

Paper 1: Literary Genres

2 hour 30, closed book examination: 40% of the A level.

This paper will ask you to answer a passage based question on a Shakespeare play (Othello), then an essay-based question on the same play and then a comparative essay linking two other texts (plays, novels or poetry e.g Keats, Death of A Salesman).

Paper 2 – Texts and Genres

3 hour, closed book examination: 40% of the A level.

This examination unit will assess your understanding of work within either the **crime** genre or the **political** genre. You will answer one question on an unseen text, one on a set text such as Oliver Twist, The Kite Runner or The Murder of Roger Ackroyd and one comparative essay on two other texts you have studied from the same set list.

Non-exam assessment - Making Connections

2 essays of around 1300 words each, to be assessed by your class teacher: 20% of the A level. One should respond to a poetry text and one to a prose text. One submission can be a re-creative response. Teachers will give you guidance on text choices and tasks.

What can I do with this course?

As a highly regarded subject, English Literature is excellent preparation for degree level study of any kind. It leads naturally into communication based professions and complements the field of history, politics and law particularly well.

Where can I get further information?

Please speak to the Head of English at either school: Miss Fairburn at SA or Miss Gregg at SJF or, alternatively, your current English teacher.