

# ENGLISH LITERATURE

## Which Exam Board and Specification?

OCR H472

This is a course which offers you access to a wide range of cultural and reading experiences, including poetry, prose and drama. Although texts span four centuries the course is very much in the modern era. Visits to the theatre and academic speakers, are a very important part of the student experience. Students have a fair amount of control over text and task choices, though always guided by teaching staff.

## And from the pupils?

There is an expectation that students have a readiness to talk about the texts we are reading and to participate in a seminar style of learning. Students need an interest in the cultural and historical contexts within which all literature is rooted. To access the course students require a good GCSE pass in English Language and Literature.

## Assessment

The course is assessed through 80% examination and 20% coursework.

## Coursework – Modern Literature post-1900 (one text post-2000)

A comparative essay between two modern texts from different genres, for example 'The History Boys' (Alan Bennett) and 'Oranges Are Not the Only Fruit' (Jeanette Winterson) and a critical or recreative piece on a text from the third genre, for example Thomas Hardy's 'Poems 1913'.

**Exam Board:** OCR

**Assessment:** 80% Written Examination  
20% Coursework

## Examination One – Drama and Poetry Pre-1900

Two tasks on a Shakespeare text, currently 'Hamlet'. A comparison task (choice of tasks) between a poetry and second drama text (currently the Poems of Christina Rossetti and Ibsen's 'A Doll's House'.

## Examination Two – Comparative and Contextual Study

The study of texts in a chosen topic area, either American Literature or Gothic Literature and close analysis of a given extract as well as an essay task which requires reference to more than one text.

## Where will it take me?

An A Level in either English Literature or English Language can lead to a wide variety of courses and careers. Obviously, it is a strong step towards Law or Journalism, Publishing or the Creative Industries, but could just as easily take you into Research and Consultancy, Public Services or any area of Management.



**Andrew Gamble, Head of English**