



Course Title

A Level English Literature

Aims of the Course

Students will explore a range of literature with a particular focus on the expectations of genre: tragedy and crime. In the process of studying these texts, students will grow in their ability to analyse and understand a wide range of novels, plays and poetry.

What will you study?

Throughout the course, you will develop your understanding of different genres – both the expectations and the ways in which these are subverted. You will gain confidence in developing detailed responses to varied texts considering the writers' methods, the influence of context and wide ranging interpretations.

- You will study the following texts for the **tragedy** unit: *Othello* by William Shakespeare, *Death of a Salesman* by Arthur Miller, and a range of poetry by John Keats.
- You will also study the following texts for the **crime** unit: *Brighton Rock* by Graham Greene, *Atonement* by Ian McEwan and *The Rime of the Ancient Mariner* by Samuel Coleridge. This unit also requires you to study extracts from different crime texts ranging from Sherlock Holmes stories to contemporary novels like *Gone Girl* by Gillian Flynn.
- For the coursework unit, you will explore texts from different perspectives, including Marxist, Feminist and Post-Colonial. This unit gives you the opportunity to pick your own text to analyse in detail, giving you a sense of independence to your work.

How will you be assessed?

You will take two exams at the end of the A Level English Literature course.
You will also complete two pieces of coursework throughout the two years of study.

What wider skills will you develop?

The ability to read and appreciate a range of texts from varied interpretations.
Analytical writing skills in a more sophisticated manner.
The importance of debate and argument when developing an understanding of literature.

What are the future options from the course?

Completion of this course can lead to further study at University for a range of courses including Literature, Language, Media and Film.

An English degree can open the door to so many career paths:

All branches of Journalism, Law, Civil Service, Entrepreneur, Education, Medicine, I.T

Who can you contact for more information?

The Course Leader is Mr Ian Jordan (Key Stage 5 English Co-ordinator) who can be contacted via email at: ian.jordan@verulam.herts.sch.uk