Brigshaw SIXTH FORM

(AQA) - A Level

ENGLISH LITERATURE

A Level English Literature is the study of a range of texts written in a variety of forms by a range of writers. You will explore what writers have to say about many themes such as love, conflict, death and betrayal.

In the study of Literature you will develop the skills of close reading, analysis, independent thinking and the construction of a clear and decisive argument. You will read poetry, novels, plays and other texts written by Shakespeare to the most modern publications.

FUTURE OPPORTUNITIES

Not only does the course equip learners to move onto an English related university course, it also opens up careers in journalism, communications, teaching, law, marketing, management and many others. It provides transferable soft skills and knowledge such as analytical skills, evaluation, effective communication and leading groups.

ENTRY REQUIREMENTS

GCSE:

English Language and English Literature at grade 5.

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COURSE CONTENT & ASSESSMENT

The A level course builds upon the skills you have acquired at GCSE level. There are 2 examined units and one coursework element (NEA).

Paper 1 A – Literary Genres: Aspects of Tragedy

This unit requires you to study 3 texts: one Shakespeare, one modern play and one further pre-1900 text. You will deepen your GCSE skills, thinking more deeply about how the historical definition of tragedy can be applied to texts over time. The chosen texts are 'Othello', 'Keats' poems and 'Death of a Salesman'.

Paper 2B - Texts and Genres: Elements of Political and Social Protest

This unit requires you to study 3 texts – one post 2000 prose text; one poetry and one further text which must be written pre-1900. Here you'll study 'The Kite Runner', 'The Handmaid's Tale' and Blake's poems.

ASSESSMENT

- **Paper One and Paper Two are assessed through a 2 hour 30 minute exam each. This is worth 80%.**
  The non-examined assessment (NEA) is worth 20% of the final mark, entitled 'Theory and Independence' this involves analysis of critical standpoints in relation to texts. You will study two texts: one poetry and one prose and then produce two essays of 1250-1500 words each, responding to a different text and linking to a different aspect of the Critical Anthology. One essay can be re-creative and would be accompanied by a commentary.

Ben, a 1st year at the University of Liverpool said:

"My passion for English was ignited well before sixth form but A level Literature really developed my skills and allowed me to 'find my voice'. It prepared me well for the challenges of studying English at university."