



ENGLISH LITERATURE (EDEXCEL)

Level of Study: A-Level

English Literature remains overwhelmingly popular among the wider offer of English syllabi. It is a well-established course, recognised by Higher Education Institutions. The subject is valued for its interdisciplinary content where students are invited to discuss and research the social, historical and cultural contexts of their texts. All students will sit an A-Level examination for this subject at the end of Year 13, marking the end of the course.

Description of Course

Students will study a total of 4 components:

- Component 1 'Drama'
- Component 2 'Prose'
- Component 3 'Poetry'
- Component 4 'Coursework'

Texts may include Stoker's *Dracula* and Morrison's *Beloved*, where students are invited to compare the texts considering their shared Supernatural/Gothic genre. Aspects of tragedy are explored with Shakespeare's *Othello/Hamlet* and Tennessee Williams' *A Streetcar Named Desire*. Similar to the Prose and Drama component, students are invited to explore poetry from different times with 'Poems of the Decade' (post-2000) and Donne's Metaphysical Poetry (pre-1900). The coursework component where students compare two texts of their choice begins during the summer of Year 12. It is worth 20% of the course.

Desirable Attributes of an English Literature Student

Typically an A-Level student must undertake independent reading and value the importance of wider reading. Students must be willing to read around texts they are studying in class and know that a lot of reading is required outside of the classroom.

This course gives opportunity to explore a wide range of texts which will offer many different insights and experiences. We hope you will develop a good knowledge of literature and be able to express an informed personal response confidently and interestingly. Much of your study will involve discussion in lesson time and you will be expected to prepare by prior reading. You will also have the chance to attend theatre visits and conferences. If past experience is a good guide, you should find the course stimulating and rewarding.

Skills Required

You should enjoy reading and discussing what you have read in an open and inquiring way, bearing in mind the historical, cultural and social context of texts. You should also feel reasonably confident about expressing your ideas in writing.

Entry Qualifications

GCSE English Language Grade 7 and GCSE English Literature Grade 7.

Contact Name: Ms J. Walker (Acting Head of English)
jwalker@lpgs.bromley.sch.uk

Educational Progression and Career Opportunities

English Literature A-Level is the traditional foundation for any university course involving literary studies. As success depends on the ability to argue an opinion convincingly, supporting your ideas with textual evidence, English Literature A-Level is also a good foundation for other Arts and Humanities degrees or careers.