

**Course title:** English Literature

**Exam Board:** Edexcel

**Course description:**

This course is divided into three examined components and one non-exam assessment component. The three exams provide students with the opportunity to explore and analyse drama, prose and poetry texts, with comparison being at the heart of the course.

- The first examined component (30%) is an analytical response to two drama texts, including a critical analysis of Shakespeare. This unit allows students to explore Renaissance drama, such as *Hamlet* and Marlowe's *Doctor Faustus*.
- The second examined unit (20%) offers students the opportunity to explore comparisons between two novels from the Supernatural genre. The texts studied are *The Picture of Dorian Gray* and *Beloved*.
- The final examined component (30%) is focused on poetry and allows students to explore a contemporary collection of poems. This examination calls for students to compare an unseen poem with the collection of poems studied during the course. In addition, students complete an analytical response on a collection of Christina Rossetti's poetry.

The non-examined coursework unit is also comparative and allows students to study two texts from the dystopian genre. The assessment is made through a 3000 word essay on a given topic. This is worth 20% of the overall mark awarded.

**Assessment:** Examination and coursework

**Admission Requirements:** Grade 6 or higher in GCSE English Literature.

**Additional Information:**

As well as being a qualification for entrance to many degree courses, an A-Level in English is useful for all kinds of managerial and administrative careers in the public services, industry or commerce; teaching; journalism; and all types of social work. In fact, it is highly valued for all jobs where more importance is attached to versatile thinking, human understanding and the ability to express oneself effectively than to specific technical or scientific knowledge.