



DRAYTON MANOR HIGH SCHOOL

ADVANCED LEVEL COURSE 2022-2024

English Language and Literature

Specification Edexcel

Entry Requirements

Grade 6 in English Language or English Literature GCSE

What do I need to know or be able to do before taking this course?

The study of English Language and Literature will encourage you to develop your interest in both English Language and English Literature as interconnected disciplines. This course will give you the opportunity to develop as an independent, confident and reflective reader and writer, and you will have the opportunity to explore the ways that people manipulate language in order to express themselves. The course will give you the opportunity to read and analyse both literary and non-literary texts and to write analytical essays as well as producing your own creative writing.

What will I learn on this course?

- Voices in Speech and Writing: An Anthology (a collection of non-literary texts, including newspapers, blogs, speeches, interviews, travelogues where the focus will be on how the writer or speaker crafts his/her work to produce a distinctive voice)
- 'The Great Gatsby' (F Scott Fitzgerald)
- 'Othello' (Shakespeare)
- 'Streetcar Named Desire' (Tennessee Williams)
- A selection of unseen non-fiction prose
- Coursework is a free choice of a non-fiction and a fiction text. Students will use these to produce two pieces of their own creative writing

How is the course structured?

Unit	Title	Weighting	Assessment Type
1	Voices in Speech and Writing:	40%	Exam
2	Varieties in Language and Literature	40%	Exam
3	Non-examination assessment: Investigating and Creating Texts	20%	Coursework

What skills will I develop by doing this course?

The course will enable you to

- Communicate insights gained from the combined study of literature and language;
- Develop your ability to use linguistic and literary critical concepts
- Develop as independent and confident readers
- Demonstrate your skills in speaking and writing for a variety of specific purposes and audiences
- Respond to texts of different types and from different periods, making comparisons

between them

What kind of student is this course suitable for?

This course will appeal to students who

- Have an interest in reading a wide variety of examples of English language and literature
- Enjoy expressing their opinions and justifying their comments on texts
- Enjoy studying a subject which is relevant to their own lives and experiences
- Want to keep their options open for further study - English Language and Literature is a popular qualification for a wide range of courses in higher education or for future careers

What is the difference between English Literature and English Language/ Literature?

The main difference is that in English Literature you will only study works of literature, i.e. poems, plays and novels, whereas in English Language/ Literature the texts you study will include literature, but will also include non-literary texts such as diary extracts, reports, speeches, transcripts of conversations, instruction manuals, letters. The focus will be very much on how writers use language for effect and adapt it according to audience and purpose. In English Literature, you will also look at the writer's use of language but as part of a wider exploration of themes and character. Both subjects contain a mixture of coursework and final examination.

What could I go on to do at the end of my course?

Students with A Level English Language and Literature have a wide range of possible career and higher education opportunities. You will learn and use a wide variety of transferable skills during the course. These include responding to literary and non-literary texts, developing skills in speaking and writing for different purposes and audiences and identifying and developing the links between different parts of the subject. These skills are in demand from employers and universities and colleges and are also valuable in their own right.

English Language and Literature can be studied separately or as a single subject in higher education or can be combined with a wide variety of other subjects. It could form a good basis for study in any arts-based subject in combination with, for example, History, Media studies, Philosophy, Law, Politics or Foreign languages.