



# English Literature

This course covers a range of literature written in the English language including studying works by Brontë and Shakespeare, and pre-1900 poetry as well as post-2000 poetry and prose. However, there is a greater range of texts with a wide international appeal, including 'The Kite Runner' and 'Beloved'.

Your skills in writing, not just for English Literature essays, but for every type of written communication will develop. You will be encouraged to use skills of analysis, constructing and defending an argument; looking at textual evidence and writers' styles and, of course, a huge amount of historical context. These skills are transferable to other subjects and English Literature is a well-recognised A Level by top universities throughout the world.

## AS

### Unit 1: Post-2000 Poetry and Prose

**Post-2000 Poetry:** An anthology of post 2000 poetry focusing on relationships  
You will learn how to analyse a poem, look at how writers make meaning and what the audience reception may be.

**Post-2000 Prose:** 'The Kite Runner'  
This is the first taught novel which examines relationships between cultures. Skills of analysis and how the writer uses the narrative method to influence the reader reception are central to the understanding of the novel.

**Assessment:** Two-hour open book examination

### Unit 2: Drama

**Pre-1900 Drama:** 'Dr Faustus'

**Post-1900 Drama:** 'A Streetcar Named Desire'

Two drama texts from different periods are studied independently and audience reception is a key taught element of this, alongside a valuable and interesting historical analysis. Critical reception is used to enable the audience to 'read' the text in different ways.

**Assessment:** Two-hour open book examination



# English Literature

**A2**

## **Unit 3**

### **Poetry and Prose**

**Post-1900:** Unseen Poetry. This is an analysis of an unseen poem

You will have the skills to take a poem not previously studied and analyse it in depth for meaning. You will be able to comment on the writer's style and the form of the poem.

**Prose - two novels:** 'Wuthering Heights' and 'Beloved' focusing on women in literature

You will be comparing and contrasting two substantial novels with the same central theme but from different periods of literature. You will be given an argument to defend in a scholarly essay.

**Assessment:** Two-hour open book examination

## **Unit 4**

### **Drama and Poetry**

**'Hamlet'** This is an in-depth study of a Shakespearian text where the language of the play is studied in great detail, together with the context of the period. Motive and debate from initial statements are examined through your own literary style.

**Pre-1900 poetry** taught from an anthology \*Currently Victorian poetry  
Poets, their lives and some of their notable works are analysed in conjunction with the context of the period and what is influencing the writers. Reader reception, both contemporary and modern, as well as literary criticism, is fundamental to your construction of a well evidenced essay.

**Assessment:** Two-hour open book examination