



A Level English Literature

What will I study?

English Literature is a rich and rewarding subject that explores how writers use language to express ideas, emotions and perspectives. You will study a range of texts including poetry, prose and drama from different periods and genres. The course includes close analysis of literary techniques, exploration of historical and cultural contexts, and opportunities to develop your own interpretations. You'll engage with texts such as Shakespearean plays, modern novels, and classic poetry, and learn how literature reflects and shapes the world around us.

How will I be assessed?

Assessment is through written examinations and coursework. You will complete essays that analyse literary texts, compare themes and techniques, and demonstrate your understanding of context and interpretation. The Edexcel exam board requires students to study a range of texts across genres and time periods, and to produce analytical and evaluative responses. Coursework will involve an independent comparative essay on two texts of your choice.

What are the entry requirements?

You will need GCSE Maths at grade 4, GCSE English Language at grade 5, and GCSE English Literature at grade 5.

Where will this course lead?

English Literature is a highly respected A level that supports progression to a wide range of university courses including English, Law, History, Journalism, and Creative Writing. It also develops analytical and communication skills valued in many careers. You may choose to continue your studies at Milton Keynes College through one of our Higher Education programmes, or pursue degree-level apprenticeships in related fields. Career options include publishing, teaching, media, public relations, and more.

What combines well with this subject?

English Literature combines well with subjects such as History, Philosophy, Politics, Sociology, Media Studies, and Drama. These subjects complement the analytical and interpretive skills developed in English Literature and offer broader perspectives on society and culture.