A LEVEL ENGLISH LITERATURE

What's it all about?

The English Literature curriculum at KS5 aims to inspire critical, confident and perceptive individuals through exploring the literary canon and shaping attitudes through a historicist approach.

THE COURSE

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- At St Wilfrid's, we follow the AQA A Level Literature course.
- There are 2 exams and 1 piece of NEA (coursework)
- The options that we follow are:
 - Love through the Ages
 - World War I and it's aftermath

PAPER 1 – LOVE THROUGH THE AGES

3 hours; 75 marks; 40% of A Level



- Shakespeare: one passage-based question with linked essay (25 marks)
- We study one of Shakespeare's greatest tragedies, Othello



SECTION A

THE Tragœdy of Othello, The Moore of Venice. As it bath beene diverfe times acted at the Globe, and at the Black-Friers , by bie Maieflies Sermants.

Written by VVilliam Shakefpeare.







LONDON, Printed by N. O. for Themas Walkley, and are to be fold at his thop, at the Eagle and Child, in Brittans Burlie. . 1622.

SECTION B

• Unseen Poetry

• Comparing 2 unseen poems



Poeiry is shen an emotion has found its thought has found thought has found words.



- Comparing Prose and Poetry
- For the prose, we study Emily Bronte's gothic love story "Wuthering Heights"
- For the poetry, we use the AQA Anthology, focusing on the 15 Pre-1900 poems



SECTION C



PAPER 2 – TEXTS IN SHARED CONTEXTS

World War 1 and It's Aftermath; 2hrs30; 75 marks; 40% of A Level

SECTION A



• Poetry from the Anthology "Up the Line to Death"





SECTION B



- Contextual Linking
- Comparing 2 unseen prose extracts





SECTION C

MAJOR PEM STARSING



• We study the play "Our Boy Jack" (based on Rudyard Kipling and his son who went to war) and compare it with "Regeneration" (a fictional account based on the meeting of Wilfrid Owen and Siegfried Sasson in a military hospital).







NON-EXAM ASSESSMENT

50 marks; assessed by teachers; 20% of A Level

INDEPENDENT CRITICAL STUDY – TEXTS ACROSS TIME

- Comparative critical study of two texts, at least one of which must have been written pre-1900.
- We will study one text as a class (Shakespeare's "Hamlet") and you are free to choose the second text to compare
- One extended essay (2,500 words) and a bibliography

WHY STUDY ENGLISH LITERATURE

(Other than for a love of reading, of course!)

SKILLS YOU'LL DEVELOP

- The study of English Literature at A Level helps you to develop a number of subject-specific as well as transferable skills by encouraging in-depth, critical and contextual thinking in response to a range of literary works.
- You'll continue to develop your analytical and interpretation skills, taking your understanding and explorations to a deeper level
- You'll develop intellectual arguments, supporting your ideas not only with the texts themselves but by reading a range of wider critical interpretations
- You'll also develop your understanding of the importance of contexts, social, historical and cultural.

IS THIS COURSE RIGHT FOR YOU?

In order to be successful in English Literature you need to be:

- A keen and enthusiastic reader
- Be prepared to read a range of texts, poetry, prose and drama, from a range of historical periods
- Enjoy analysing texts and debating your ideas
- Be able to express yourself eloquently, not only in writing, but in class discussions as well
- Be prepared to read around a text, considering other interpretations in a critical way in order to develop your own interpretations of the text
- Understand the importance of writer's methods, structure and language, and the impact they are intended to have on the reader.

ENRICHMENT

Previously, our A Level students have been offered the following experiences:

- Lectures at top, local universities
- Live streaming of productions from RSC and other renowned performers
- Attending live productions at the theatre
- Visit to Haworth with private talks and workshops at the Bronte Parsonage Museum, as well as an opportunity to see the powerful setting that is so crucial to understanding "Wuthering Heights"
- Workshops with experts who work for AQA

POTENTIAL CAREERS

English Literature has so many transferrable skills, it can apply to many career paths including (but not only):

- Law
- Teaching
- Lecturing
- Journalism
- Research