



A-Level English Literature at All Saints



Read the Specification

We use the AQA exam board for A-Level as it develops on the skills learnt (using the same exam board) for GCSE.

To get an overview of the course, go to the AQA website and look at the specification (we study Tragedy for Paper 1 and Crime for Paper 2):

<https://www.aqa.org.uk/subjects/english/as-and-a-level/english-literature-b-7716-7717>

Watch a Crash Course in English Literature

If you want to consider why we read and write, this is a very quick synopsis of why we study Literature:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=MSYw502dJNY>

Watch Masterclasses on Literary Theory

Literary theory is a key part of the study of English Literature and is the focus of your Non-Exam Assessment. Watch the following masterclasses to give you an introduction:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=6s1-8sWutQ> (Feminist)

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=nmlhEWiYE3o> (Marxist)

Read the Course Texts

The following texts are from the A-level course and are ones that you may study or that will give you a useful idea about the genres studied. Read as many as you can to prepare yourself for the course.

Tragedy

King Lear by William Shakespeare

Othello by William Shakespeare

Death of a Salesman by Arthur Miller

'La Belle Dame Sans Merci', 'Lamia', 'Eve of St Agnes' and 'Isabella' by John Keats

Crime

Atonement by Ian McEwan

The Murder of Roger Ackroyd by Agatha Christie

Hamlet by William Shakespeare

'The Rime of the Ancient Mariner' by Samuel Taylor Coleridge

Complete your own Personal Reading

The best thing that you can do to prepare for English Literature is to read a wide range of good quality books. As well as reading some of the course texts, choose two texts of your own choice and read these. Aim for a suitably challenging novel, or a poem (or collection of poetry) or a play, or all three!