

A-Level English Literature at West Hatch: 2020-21



Course Outline:

In Year 12, students will study a wide selection of literary texts, including poetry, taken from the anthology *Poems of the Decade*, *Frankenstein* by Mary Shelley, *Othello* by William Shakespeare, *The Wife of Bath* by Geoffrey Chaucer, and *The Handmaid's Tale* by Margaret Atwood. They begin their study with a module on the Aspects of Tragedy, using Aeschylus' *Agamemnon*. We recommend that our students read widely to support their contextual understanding of the subject and an additional, suggested **reading list is provided in their pre-joining booklet**, with more reading to be disseminated by class teachers as the course continues. Additional course material is provided via Microsoft Teams.

In Year 13, students will study *A Streetcar Named Desire* by Tennessee Williams and will revise all of their Year 12 texts. They will also complete **a coursework unit**, worth 30% of the overall grade, where they will be asked to compare two texts of their own choosing.

We aim to offer students a wide range of trips, conferences and talks, designed to maximise their enjoyment of the course, to increase their understanding and subject knowledge and to promote the further study of the subject. However, due to present circumstances, this is currently impossible. Where there are online alternatives available, we will use them until such time that normality resumes.

Workload:

At the end of each half term, students will complete an in-class, practice exam question. At the end of the first half of the summer term, students will sit a formal, pre-public exam (PPE).

In Year 13, as well as the in-class, practice questions, there will be two sets of PPEs, one before the Christmas break and the other before Easter. Students will also complete their coursework during this academic year. There are three examination papers, and the course code is 9ET0.

For each timetabled lesson, students should expect to spend up to an hour or more working independently, which could include preparation: reading ahead or researching a text. It might also mean time spent completing or adding to annotations, completing analytical responses and practice exam questions, or preparing presentations, individually and as part of a group.

In order to succeed on this course, students need to read widely. They should also take every opportunity to watch both live performances and filmic interpretations of their texts.

*If you would like any further information please contact Mr Bundred, Key Stage 5 Coordinator for English, at **DBundred@westhatch.net***