

A LEVEL ENGLISH
LITERATURE
STUDY PACK

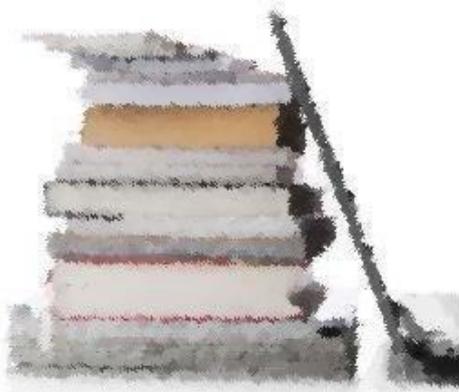
HCUC

A merger between Uxbridge College and Harrow College

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Student Course Book A Level English Literature



— ' (8ET0, 9ET0) — ' .

Welcome to AS/A Level English Literature

Welcome to the College and welcome to the English Department. This handbook gives you information and advice about studying English Literature at AS and A2 Level. This handbook also contains a wider reading list at the end, which you must use to support your studies outside of the classroom. *It is important that you keep the course handbook somewhere safe, as you will need to refer to it throughout the year.*

For this paper you will study *Hamlet* and your GCSE studies. The course offers you greater opportunities for detailed analysis of a wide variety of texts, personal research and creative work.

The course builds on the knowledge, understanding and skills established in

You are required to attend all of your lessons. If you are going to be away it is important to let the Tutorial Co-ordinator and your English lecturer know. If you miss a lesson, it is your responsibility to find out about and catch up with any work missed.

Punctuality

It is your responsibility to ensure that you attend classes on time. Lateness is very disruptive to other members of the class and as a matter of courtesy to them and your lecturer you should be punctual. If you have a particular problem that is causing you to be late to class, please discuss this with your lecturer.

Written Work

You will be set written tasks each term and it is a requirement of this course that you keep up to date with the written work. You will be given a deadline and your work must be handed in by this date. If it is not, it may not be accepted for marking. Most of the written tasks that you do will be given a grade which will correspond to the AS and A2 grading system.

Set Texts

You will need to purchase your own copies of the set texts studied. You must buy the editions recommended to you by your lecturer, as often you may only take those editions into the exam. It is your responsibility to buy the texts and bring them to class.

Your AS Level Course

The A Level course you are studying is the Edexcel syllabus. There are two components for the AS course: two examined and one coursework. You must complete all assessment in May/June in your second year.

Paper 1: Poetry and Drama

60% of the total qualification

For this paper you will study a selection of post-2000 specified poetry and one drama text, in this case *Dr Faustus* by Christopher Marlowe

Paper 2: Prose

40% of the total qualification

For this paper you will study *The Picture of Dorian Gray* by Oscar Wilde and *Beloved* by Toni Morrison. These texts will be under the theme of the supernatural.

A2 Programme of Study

In your second year, in addition to the texts studied in your AS year, you will study *Hamlet* by William Shakespeare and a selection of poetry from the Modernist movement. You will also be required to produce a piece of coursework for which the suggested word count is 3000 words.

Paper 1: Drama

critical essays relating to the play. This will be supported by: *Shakespeare: A Critical Anthology – Tragedy*. You will also re-visit *Dr Faustus* from your AS year.

30% of the total qualification

Paper 2: Prose

For this paper you will re-visit both prose texts studied at AS: *Beloved* and *The Picture of Dorian Gray*

20% of the total qualification

Paper 3: Poetry

For this paper you will re-visit the Post-2000 poetry and write a comparative essay with an unseen poem. You will also study a selection of poetry from the Modernist movement and respond to a question linked to the context of this movement.

30% of the total qualification

Coursework: You will produce an assignment (3000 words) of one extended comparative essay referring to two of the texts below:

Coetzee, J. M. *Disgrace*. London: Vintage, 2000

Wicomb, Zoë. *Playing in the Light*. New York: The New Press, 2006

Fugard, Athol. *The Township Plays* Oxford: OUP, 1993

Gordimer, Nadine. *The House Gun*. London:

Bloomsbury, 1999

Assessment Objectives

Students must:	
AO1	Articulate informed, personal and creative responses to literary texts, using associated concepts and terminology, and coherent, accurate written expression
AO2	Analyse ways in which meanings are shaped in literary texts
AO3	Demonstrate understanding of the significance and influence of the contexts in which literary texts are written and received
AO4	Explore connections across literary texts
AO5	Explore literary texts informed by different interpretations

Course Texts

Books which you need to buy:

AS

Beloved Toni Morrison

The Picture of Dorian Gray Oscar Wilde

Dr Faustus Christopher Marlowe

A2

Hamlet William Shakespeare

Coetzee, J. M. *Disgrace*. London: Vintage, 2000

Wicomb, Zoë. *Playing in the Light*. New York: The New Press, 2006

Fugard, Athol. *The Township Plays* Oxford: OUP, 1993

Gordimer, Nadine. *The House Gun*. London: Bloomsbury, 1999

You will also need a folder in which to keep all your course materials.

Recommended Reading List

Thank you for applying to study A-Level English Literature. As part of your course and in addition to your core set texts, you will need to read widely, in order to expand your subject knowledge. Successful students on the A-level course can be distinguished by their ability to make comparisons and connections between texts, informed by wider literary study. As a result, we strongly recommend that you attempt to read **two books** from the list below **before the start** of your course.

1984, George Orwell

Brave New World, Aldous Huxley

Disgrace, J.M. Coetzee

The Picture of Dorian Gray, Oscar Wilde

The Buddha of Suburbia, Hanif Kureishi

Wide Sargasso Sea, Jean Rhys

Wuthering Heights, Emily Bronte

Beloved, Toni Morrison

Life of Pi, Yann Martel

This list is by no means exhaustive and you will be expected to carry out further reading as the course progresses, covering prose, poetry and drama. Your lecturer will suggest some suitable texts; however, you should be aware that an A-level English Literature course demands a high level of self-study and if you do not enjoy reading, this course is not suitable for you.

Please do not feel that you have to spend a lot of money; utilise the facilities at your local library or look at websites such as amazon.co.uk

Literary Theory recommended reading list

Bell Hooks, *Ain't I a Woman*

Bennett and Royle, *Introduction to Literature, Criticism and Theory*

M. Butler, *Language, Power and Identity*

R. Carter, *Working with Texts: A Core Introduction to Language Analysis*

S. Croft, *Success in English Literature: A Practical Guide to Working with Unseen Texts at A Level*

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