

KS5 English Literature at Norbury High

The A level courses provide pupils with access to a broad range of texts from the literary canon, building on their knowledge from Key Stage 3 and Key Stage 4. Students will sit OCR H472 A Level English Literature examinations at the end of year 13.

Year 12

Component 2: Comparative and Contextual Study: Students are required to demonstrate close reading skills in analysing unseen prose extracts and entire novels, identifying and considering how attitudes and values are expressed. They must communicate fluently, accurately and effectively their knowledge, understanding and judgement. Additionally, students must read widely and independently in their chosen topic of study. As a centre, we choose either Dystopian or Gothic literature, studying pairings of *The Handmaid's Tale* by Margaret Atwood and *1984* by George Orwell or *Dracula* by Bram Stoker and *The Picture of Dorian Gray* by Oscar Wilde, respectively.

Component 1: Drama and Poetry pre-1900: Students are required to explore contrasts, connections and comparisons between literary texts and explore ways in which texts relate to each other and to literary traditions, movements and genres. They must understand the significance of cultural and contextual influences on readers and writers and identify and consider how attitudes and values are expressed in their chosen texts. As a centre, we study pairings of *A Doll's House* by Henrik Ibsen with either *The Merchant's Prologue and Tale* by Geoffrey Chaucer or Selected Poetry of Christina Rossetti. Students will begin this unit in Year 12 by studying the poetry text.

Component 3: Literature post-1900 Non-exam assessment (NEA): Students are required to show an appreciation of how writers shape meanings in texts through use of language, imagery, form and structure. They must demonstrate an understanding of texts informed by an appreciation of different interpretations. They must also show an ability to explore connections across texts, such as stylistic, thematic or contextual. As a centre for NEA 1, we study the play *A Streetcar Named Desire* by Tennessee Williams and students write a 1000 word essay from a selection of four questions. For NEA 2, we study the prose text *A Thousand Splendid Suns* by Khaled Hosseini and *The World's Wife Poetry Anthology* by Carol Ann Duffy and students write a 2000 word comparative essay from a selection of four questions.

Year 13

Component 1: Drama and Poetry pre-1900

Students begin Year 13 by reading and analysing language, imagery, form and structure in *A Doll's House* by Henrik Ibsen. They will explore and make stylistic, thematic and contextual comparisons with either *The Merchant's Prologue and*

Tale by Geoffrey Chaucer or Selected Poetry of Christina Rossetti which they will have already covered at the end of Year 12.

Component 1: Drama and Poetry pre-1900 - Shakespeare:

Students are required to analyse a chosen Shakespeare play, either *Measure for Measure* or *Hamlet*, in close detail, exploring Shakespeare's use of language and dramatic effects. They must consider issues raised in a specific extract in relation to their understanding of the play as a whole. Students need to explore ways in which the chosen play is/has been interpreted by different audiences, including over time. The Shakespeare play is studied throughout the year.

Component 2: Comparative and Contextual Study: Students revisit and develop their understanding of either Dystopian or Gothic literature, studying pairings of *The Handmaid's Tale* by Margaret Atwood and *1984* by George Orwell or *Dracula* by Bram Stoker and *The Picture of Dorian Gray* by Oscar Wilde, respectively.

Revision of all components: From January onwards, students revise all aforementioned content up to their exams.