

AS

At AS, this specification will allow centres to construct a coherent course of study in one of three areas of study: Victorian Literature, World War One Literature or The Struggle for Identity in Modern Literature. Candidates will study three texts (one of each genre) in detail, plus three texts for wider reading and contextual support. A suggested wider reading list is provided.

Unit 1: Texts in Context

Written Exam, 2 hours Open book

60% of total AS marks, 30% of total A Level marks

Two questions:

- One linking wider reading to a given extract
- One on the set poetry text

Available January and June

Subject Content

One set poetry text plus wider reading in **one** of the following areas of study

Option A Victorian Literature

- Selected Poems: John Clare
- Selected Poems: The Brontës ed. Norris
- Selected Poems: Thomas Hardy ed. Page

Option B World War One Literature

- Up the Line to Death: ed. Gardner
- Scars Upon My Heart: ed. Reilly
- The Oxford Book of War Poetry: ed Stallworthy (pp176-225)

Option C The Struggle for Identity in Modern Literature

- And Still I Rise: Maya Angelou
- The World's Wife: Carol Ann Duffy
- Skirrid Hill: Owen Sheers

Unit 2: Creative Study

Coursework

40% of total AS marks, 20% of total A Level marks

Two pieces of work:

- A personal, informed response to the chosen prose text, either a creative interpretation or creative transformational writing
- A piece of writing on the chosen drama text, focusing on the text in context and aspects such as theme, structure, characterisation
- Total 2000-2500 words

Available January and June

Subject Content

Students select:

- One prose text
- One drama text

from a list provided for their chosen area of study (Victorian Literature, World War One Literature or The Struggle for Identity in Modern Literature)

Consortium network

- Local consortium adviser for each centre
- Consortium meetings at least twice a year
- Opportunity to meet other teachers and share ideas and good practice

A2

At A2, the specification synthesises the skills and learning of the whole course. Candidates will prepare for a paper which will contain unprepared passages for close study, comparison and critical commentary on a theme (for the next five years this will be 'Love Through the Ages'). In Unit 4, candidates will be encouraged to reflect on ways of reading and writing about texts.

Unit 3: Reading for Meaning

Written Paper, 2 hours 30 minutes Closed Book

30% of total A Level marks

- Four unseen extracts for close study, comparison and critical commentary

Two compulsory questions:

- One comparing two extracts of the same genre, with close reading of the texts and reference to the wider reading of love poetry
- One comparing two extracts (of the remaining two genres), using wider reading of love through literature to inform interpretations

Available January and June

Subject Content

Students should read at least the equivalent of three texts on the theme of **Love Through the Ages**, including:

- The three genres of prose, poetry and drama
- Literature written by both men and women
- Literature through time (Chaucer to present day)
- Some non-fiction texts

Unit 4: Extended Essay and Shakespeare Study

Coursework

20% of total A Level marks

One piece of work:

- An extended essay (3000 words) comparing three texts and focused on
 - comparison
 - appreciation of the writer's choices of form, structure and language
 - exploring interpretations of text
 - some understanding of the significance of context

Available January and June

Subject Content

Free choice of three texts with a shared theme

- A Shakespeare play (not already studied at AS)
- Any two other texts of any genre (not already studied at AS)

Assessment Objectives

AO1

Articulate creative, informed and relevant responses to literary texts, using appropriate terminology and concepts, and coherent, accurate written expression

AO2

Demonstrate detailed critical understanding in analysing the ways in which structure, form and language shape meanings in literary texts

AO3

Explore connections and comparisons between different literary texts, informed by interpretations of other readers

AO4

Demonstrate understanding of the significance and influence of the contexts in which literary texts are written and received