



---

URSULINE HIGH SCHOOL  
& WIMBLEDON COLLEGE  
SIXTH FORM

---

# ENGLISH LITERATURE

at Ursuline High School

LEVEL: A Level

EXAMINATION BOARD: OCR

SPECIFICATION NUMBER: H472

SEPTEMBER 2021  
URSULINE HIGH SCHOOL  
CRESCENT ROAD  
WIMBLEDON  
LONDON SW20 8HA

020 8255 2688

[enquiries@ursulinehigh.merton.sch.uk](mailto:enquiries@ursulinehigh.merton.sch.uk)

**Deputy Headteacher and Assistant Headteacher Key Stage 5:  
Mr Didier Adam & Mr Ben Barton**

## WHAT WILL I STUDY IN THIS SUBJECT?

There are three components for the two year A Level:

### Component 01: Drama and poetry pre-1900.

- Shakespeare: *Hamlet*
- Drama and poetry pre-1900: *A Good Husband* by Oscar Wilde and *Selected Poems* by Christina Rossetti

### Component 02: Comparative and contextual study.

- Close reading in chosen topic area: The Gothic
- Comparative and contextual study from chosen topic area: The Gothic

### Component 03: Literature post-1900.

- Close reading OR re-creative writing piece with commentary based on a collection of poetry published post 2000
- Comparative essay- comparing a novel with a play.

## WHAT SKILLS AND INTERESTS DO I NEED FOR THIS SUBJECT?

- A passion for reading and discussing all forms of Literature.
- A willingness to read widely outside of the course.
- The ability to make comparisons between texts.
- The ability to analyse and evaluate a wide variety of texts.
- An interest in the social and historical contexts in which texts are produced.
- The ability to write clearly structured, analytical responses to a wide variety of texts.

## HOW WILL I BE ASSESSED?

Component	Mode	Assessment	Weighting	
01	Drama and poetry pre-1900	Written paper 60 marks Closed text 2 hours 30 minutes	40% of total A level	
02	Comparative and contextual study	Written paper 60 marks Closed text 2 hours 30 minutes	40% of total A level	
03	Literature post-1900	40 marks Non examined assessment	20% of total A level	

## FIELDWORK/TRIPS

- Theatre trips, where possible, of plays being studied. This year we will be seeing both “Hamlet” and “All my Sons”.
- Lectures.
- Trip to Strawberry Hill House.

## WHAT OTHER SUBJECTS COMBINE WELL WITH THIS SUBJECT?

It may be taken by scientists, and those who intend to study Medicine, Accountancy or Law, as well as those applying for an Arts degree.

## TO WHAT FURTHER OR HIGHER EDUCATION COURSES COULD THIS SUBJECT LEAD?

- à English Literature
- à American Studies
- à Communication Studies
- à Media Studies
- à Any non-school subject e.g. Law

## WHAT CAREERS COULD THIS SUBJECT LEAD TO?

Many varied careers including:

- Publishing
- Advertising
- Television
- Teaching
- Law

## RECOMMENDED READING

The OCR A Level in English Literature qualification will build on the knowledge, understanding and skills established at GCSE, introducing students to the discipline of advanced literary studies, and requires reading of all the major literary genres of poetry, prose and drama.

Students are required to study a minimum of eight texts at A level, including at least two examples of each of the genres of prose, poetry and drama across the course as a whole.

- *Frankenstein*-Mary Shelley
- *The Bloody Chamber*-Angela Carter
- *A Good Husband*: Oscar Wilde
- Poems by Christina Rossetti
- *Gothic: A New Critical Idiom*- Fred Botting.
- A wide variety of literature across time and genres.

A full reading list is published in September.

## ENTRY CRITERIA

Please refer to the Entry Criteria Insert to understand the Pathway requirements.

The entry criteria for this subject is: Grade 6 in English Language OR English Literature.