A Level English Literature

Ofsted Outstanding Provider

Course Level: Level 3 | **Campus: Newcastle** | **Subject Type: English & Languages**

Course Overview:

Explore the power of storytelling with our A Level English Literature course.

This engaging program introduces students to a wide range of literary texts, from Shakespearean drama to modern fiction, inviting them to explore the ways in which literature reflects and shapes the world around us. Through close reading, literary analysis, and creative writing, students develop the skills to interpret texts in their historical, cultural, and political contexts.

What's Covered:

If you enjoy reading, analysing, comparing literary texts and evaluating your ideas then this is the course for you. By studying English Literature, you will learn the vital skills of close textual analysis and literary criticism as you compare and contrast a range of exciting, challenging, and stimulating works from 1600-2021.

You will consider the historical and cultural contexts of a range of texts and unpick the ways writers create meaning using literary techniques and explore how human behaviour and social context adds dimension to literary criticism.

This course will allow you to gain critical appreciation of literary texts through methods of analysis and detailed and critical essays as you read various literary texts from Renaissance plays to twentieth century poetry, evaluating interpretations from a range of texts from Shakespeare to Sylvia Plath.

We aim to provide a stimulating, personally enriching experience of literature and encourage extensive wider reading on your own part to enable you to make the most of your abilities and derive the best from the course.

During the course, we will cover work of Drama Pre 1900 including Othello and A Doll's House. We will delve into Gothic literature as we read The Bloody Chamber and The Picture of Dorian Gray and in component 3, you will study the work of Sylvia Plath and many others.

100%

pass rate

71.1%

achieved A*-B in 2026

Entry Requirements:

You will need a minimum of five GCSEs at grade 5 or above including maths and English Language, in subjects relevant to your A Level or A+ Programme subject choices.

Assessment Information:

Assessment is comprised of two examinations and one piece of coursework at the end of two years of study.

Progression to Year 2 will be dependent on successful completion of the first year taking into account Internal Progression Examination results and the Key Assessment Profile throughout the first year.

Fees and Financial Support:

This course is free for anyone aged 16 – 18.

College Maintenance Allowance (CMA):

Anyone with a gross household income under £35,000 can receive financial support to cover college related costs such as transport, meals, course equipment and uniform. Bursary support is based on individual circumstances and will be allocated to best suit your individual needs. A range of other financial support is available depending on your personal circumstances. For more details visit nscg.ac.uk/finance

Progression:

On successful completion of your A Level programme, you can progress to university or employment. Careers such as publishing, marketing, editing, teaching and journalism, amongst others, appeal to students with A Level English Literature.

What else do I need to know?

There will be trips and visits throughout the course to various locations including London and the British Library. We also have links with local theatres including The New Vic where learners will have the opportunity to attend workshops here at NSCG and also at Keele University where you will develop subject expertise at a higher level.

We encourage you to take part in our enrichment activities which include a vibrant and active book club and having the opportunity to write for our popular student blog.

Think of what you're capable of. Then think beyond it.

Step up to a top university or move into a competitive programme like Medicine or Law with our Honours Programme. Perfect for ambitious and high-achieving students.

The Honours Programme is an additional pathway for students whose aspirations are to progress onto highly competitive courses at top universities, such as those in the Russell Group. Once accepted onto the programme, you'll be expected to commit extra time every week to this intensive support pathway.

Find out more
here

How do I find out more?

If you wish to find out more you can contact Stuart Last, Head of A Level English, by e-mailing: stuart.last@nscg.ac.uk