

## **Is this subject right for you?**

Do you enjoy reading a broad range of texts, exploring and analysing ideas, themes and language?

Do you enjoy argument and discussion, writing essays and finding your own interpretation of a text?

Are you prepared to undertake extensive individual reading, research and thought?

## **Why study this subject?**

English Literature continues to be one of the most popular subjects for A level and for good reason. Encompassing a very broad range of texts and ideas, English Literature gives students a unique opportunity to hone their skills of analysis and argument, as well as challenging them to question their own and others' ideas. You will meet highly skilled and enthusiastic teachers on your course here, and we hope that you will also bring your own passion and enjoyment for the subject to your studies.

The English Literature course at BHASVIC will introduce you to some of the great writers of recent time – you will meet writers in your first year such as F. Scott Fitzgerald, Christina Rossetti, Arthur Miller and more, as well as continuing to deepen your understanding and appreciation of Shakespeare. In your second year, the course encompasses a diverse range of topics and ideas, providing students with an excellent grounding for University – you will explore the conventions of different genres, be introduced to ground-breaking critical ideas and have the opportunity to explore texts independently in coursework.

English Literature at A level is primarily focused on scrutinizing texts and then discussing the ideas, images and themes they contain. If you relish class discussion, asking and answering searching questions and exploring a broad range of interpretations, then you will be well suited to this A level. We place a lot of emphasis on class discussion and debate, encouraging you to formulate your own opinions and interpretations, rather than just learning the correct answer.

A level English Literature students are highly prized by both Universities and employers, as articulate, fluent thinkers able to discuss and debate issues, whilst maintaining a sharp eye for detail in written texts. A very high proportion of our students go on to University and then to careers in teaching, journalism, the media, law, marketing and corporate business.

Students study English Literature for many reasons: some because of their passion for reading, others as a way to hone academic abilities. Whatever your reasons for choosing English Literature, we aim to provide you with a challenging and interesting time.

## **How is the course assessed?**

In both the first and second year, you will be assessed through coursework and examination. Throughout your studies, your teachers will provide you with a range of assessment modes, providing careful feedback related to assessment objectives and with clear strategies for improvement.

## **What are the entry requirements?**

A minimum of grade C in either English Language or English Literature

## **Other Information**

We also aim to offer a wide range of Enrichment activities throughout the year, including journalism, creative writing, reading groups and theatre trips.

## What is the course content?

### Year One – AS Level

Unit One	Aspects of Narrative	Two modern novels and two poets (1800 – 1945) in the context of narrative techniques.	Exam (60%)
Unit Two	Dramatic Genres: Tragedy	Two essays; one on Othello by Shakespeare and one on a modern tragedy.	Coursework (40%)

### Year Two – AS Level

Unit Three	Texts and Genres	Four texts; one from 1300-1800 focused on a particular genre (Gothic or Pastoral)	Exam (60%)
Unit Two	Independent Coursework	Critical Anthology coursework applying a critical viewpoint to a text. Comparative coursework comparing two texts.	Coursework (40%)

# English Literature AS/A Level