

EASTBURY SUBJECT CURRICULUM

Subject	English Literature A Level
Year Group	Years 12 and 13
Overview	<p>Why study English Literature at A Level?</p> <p>English Literature at A Level is a subject that is looked upon favourably by all universities. It suggests the student possesses an ability to express themselves fluently, both in oral and written form. It teaches the student to analyse and to search for meanings, meanings that are sometimes hidden in the texts. It requires the confidence to offer interpretation and to pursue an argument. Hence, if you are interested in a future career in law, or journalism or teaching, or any career - even medicine - then English Literature demonstrates that you have the ability to think clearly and to express yourself comfortably. If you simply enjoy the experience of reading texts and relish the pleasure of talk in a focused classroom, then this is the right subject choice. If you are a student who excels at the sciences, English Literature may be an ideal fourth subject choice for you at AS Level, as it would reveal a broad-minded and diverse academic interest.</p> <p>Why study Creative Writing?</p> <p>We also offer the brand new Creative Writing AS and A2 Level, (AQA exam board) which can currently be studied as an enrichment course. The course is commencing in second year in Creative Writing is gaining rapid prominence in Higher Education with entry requirements and numbers of applications rising each year. This is a highly desirable A Level for both Universities and employers and therefore attracts both English Literature students and those studying across a great range of other academic fields.</p> <p>Why study at Eastbury Comprehensive?</p> <p>The English Department at Eastbury Comprehensive is the winner of the Times Educational Supplement 2013 and 2014 English and Literacy Award – recognising us as one of the best English Departments in the country! Over the last few years we have ensured a 100% pass rate in the English AS (OCR syllabus) – every student who picks this subject, passes it! The teachers within the Department are enthusiastic and experienced, and know how to challenge and bring out the very best in their students. Current Year 13 students described English Literature as “fun,” “enjoyable,” “challenging” and “entertaining.”</p>
Autumn	<p><u>English Literature</u></p> <p>During this term, both Year 12 and Year 13 students will be writing their</p>

	<p>coursework, (currently 40% of the final grade). Year 12 students will write a short essay on language and form in K. Hosseini's "The Kite Runner" and then a longer, comparative essay examining aspects of "A Streetcar Named Desire" and "The Great Gatsby."</p> <p>Year 13 students will be writing a 3,000 word comparative essay exploring themes in Carol Duffy's poetry, Harold Pinter's drama "The Homecoming" and K. Hosseini's novel "A Thousand Splendid Suns."</p> <p>Students in both years will be supported fully by their teachers so that they are able to complete well-crafted and competent essays.</p> <p><u>Creative Writing</u> AS Level</p> <p>Students will be introduced to the course through a series of creative writing workshops that equip students with the essential skills they need to become independent writers – they will learn to use writing journals and participate in activities designed to stimulate their creativity and help them explore emerging themes of interest in their writing through research of published work. They will experience reading and writing of a wide range of genres in this term to help them select 2 focus areas in which they will produce their own creative writing coursework pieces. By the end of this term, they will have identified plans for their coursework and compiled a research portfolio documenting the development of their initial ideas and links to real texts.</p> <p>A2 Level begins with the completion of a single creative writing piece of up to 3000 words alongside a 1500 word supporting commentary.</p>
Spring	<p><u>English Literature</u></p> <p>Now attention focuses upon preparing students for the OCR exam.</p> <p>Year 12 students will be studying Mary Shelley's Gothic Horror novel "Frankenstein" and the poetry of W.B. Yeats.</p> <p>Year 13 students will be exploring Shakespeare's awesome tragedy "King Lear," the shocking revenge tragedy "Tis Pity She's a Whore" and the comedy "The Wife of Bath" by Geoffrey Chaucer.</p> <p><u>Creative Writing</u></p> <p>We begin by completing the coursework portfolio begun last term, consisting of 2 creative writing pieces in two different forms (selecting from poetry; non-fiction prose; fiction prose or script), totally 3000 words collectively and supported by a 1500 word commentary detailing wider reading, personal critique of students' own writing methods and intentions, and links to published material.</p>
Summer	<p>After sitting the AS exams, Year 12 students will start the coursework for A2 which will be completed in the Autumn term of Year 13 (both courses).</p>
Homework	<p>Homework is set on a regular basis, but the emphasis is on the students</p>

	<p>making themselves strong and independent learners. Constant guidance and support will be offered by the English teachers whilst the coursework folders are being completed, but we want our students to be resourceful and enthusiastic learners, curious about the texts, who are able to think for themselves and work autonomously.</p>
<p>Additional information</p>	<p>The English Department will offer trips for our A Level students to London theatres, cinemas, museums and Stratford-upon-Avon.</p> <p>As a Learning and Performance Network Hub School, we are partnered with the Royal Shakespeare Company Theatre and work closely with them to provide students with highly trained staff and unique learning experiences.</p> <p>Our dedicated teachers offer revision sessions to students in the run-up to the exams after school, during the school holidays and even on Saturday mornings!</p>
<p>Useful resources</p>	<p>Wider reading is an essential part of each course and students are strongly advised and encouraged to read extensively beyond the minimum course requirement reading lists. Our staff are very willing to help students in finding and obtaining reading material, and the Eastbury library offers personalised advice about borrowing from both the physical and ebook libraries.</p> <p>Why not have looks at some of the following. . . ?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - "How to Read Literature" by Terry Eagleton (2014). - "The Art of Fiction" by David Lodge, (1994). - "And The Mountains Echoed" by Khalid Hosseini, (2013) - Baz Luhrman's 2013 film of "The Great Gatsby," starring Leonardo Di Caprio. - Robert Redford's film of "The Great Gatsby," (1982). - "The Kite Runner," 2008 DVD. - "The Wife of Bath" 2008 BBC DVD, starring Julie Walters. - Elia Kazan's 1951 film version of "A Streetcar Named Desire" starring Marlon Brando. - "King Lear" DVD, 1970. <p>OCR Yeats Revision site: http://aterriblebeautyisborn.com/</p> <p>Tower Poetry competition: http://www.towerpoetry.org.uk/</p> <p>Young Writers Creative Writing competitions: https://www.youngwriters.co.uk/</p>

Poetry by Heart national competition and poetry resource site:
<http://www.poetrybyheart.org.uk/>

Poetry Archive:
<http://www.poetryarchive.org/>

BBC Writers Room
<http://www.bbc.co.uk/writersroom/>

Specifications:
OCR English Literature: <http://www.ocr.org.uk/Images/75115-specification.pdf>

AQA Creative Writing: <http://www.aqa.org.uk/subjects/english/as-and-a-level/creative-writing-2750>