

ENGLISH: ADVANCED HIGHER

Entry requirements

- A pass in Higher English at A,B or C
- Enthusiasm for the subject
- Desire to explore a wider range of literature.

Why English?

This course is designed to build on the knowledge and skills that you have gained in Higher English, and allow you to pursue particular interests and strengths in more specialised areas of study. The course presents considerable academic and personal challenges and requires you to think and work independently. It provides a sound base for further study of English and also gives you a high level of linguistic competence, which is extremely valuable for a wide range of other studies and employment situations.

What does the course involve?

Units : English: Specialist Study

In response to an approved topic you will be required to

- select, study, analyse and respond to literary texts of your own choice
- A dissertation of 2500 – 3500 words on your approved topic is required as evidence of attainment in the Specialist Study.

English: Creative Writing

The particular focus of this unit is on language purposes related to the creative expression of feelings and ideas.

You will study and respond to the main concerns and processes of creative writing in a variety of texts, genres and media.

You will be involved in a variety of activities such as

- tutorial groups
- creative writing workshops
- discussion of drafts
- use of stimuli and literary models
- workshops with authors
- constructing and manipulating different forms
- group and personal reading of texts
- analysing literary devices and effects
- experimenting with different forms of writing.

English: Literary Study

In this unit you are required to study and respond to texts from the following categories:

- drama
- poetry
- prose fiction

English: Textual Analysis

This unit is designed to develop your skills in responding critically to unseen literary texts.

You will be required to study and respond to a range of texts from:

- prose fiction
- prose non-fiction
- poetry
- drama

Throughout the course you will be involved in a variety of language/literary activities such as:

- exploratory reading and re-readings of texts
- note-making and 'marking the text'
- identifying, analysing and discussing key features of texts
- exploring critical concepts through reading, discussion and direct teaching
- formulating and presenting critical ideas in discussion papers and essays.
- participating in tutorials, seminars and reading workshops

How is your work assessed?

Units are assessed internally in accordance with SQA guidelines.

Unit 1: Production: Keep a detailed log of written work – analyse the learning process of doing drafts of pieces of work.

Unit 2: Literary Study:

Outcome 1 – Keep a detailed log of the work done towards the writing of the dissertation, including reflection on the lessons learned through undergoing the process.

Outcome 2 – Respond in an analytical way to unseen texts.

The course is assessed externally in an examination and a folio by the SQA. The requirements for this are:

- Specialist Study: submission of dissertation – 30marks
- Creative Writing: submission of a folio of two pieces of creative writing in different genres – 30 marks
- Literature written examination – 1 question – 20 marks
- Textual Analysis: written examination – 1 question – 20 marks