

**AS**

At AS, Unit 1 will introduce candidates to the central position of narrative in the ways in which literary texts work, involving many different aspects of literary representation. Unit 2 will introduce candidates to aspects of genre. For the first three years of this specification the dramatic genre to be studied will be tragedy.

**A2**

At A2, Unit 3 teaches candidates to develop ideas on the significance of genre. Texts will be grouped within the categories: Elements of the Gothic and Elements of the Pastoral. In Unit 4, candidates will study a wide range of texts, the different ways of reading texts and critical ideas applied with discrimination to literary texts.

## Unit 1: Aspects of Narrative

**Written Paper, 2 hours Open book**

**60% of total AS marks, 30% of total A Level marks**

Two sections:

- Section A – close analysis of narrative method in one text
- Section B – comparing an aspect of narrative across three other texts

Available January and June

### Subject Content

- Four texts must be studied, two from Section A and two from Section B
- Section A – at least one text written post 1990 must be studied
  - Prose pre 1990: Jane Austen, Charles Dickens, James Joyce, F Scott Fitzgerald
  - Prose post 1990: Arundhati Roy, Ann Tyler, Khaled Hosseini, Andrea Levy, Ian McEwan, Sebastian Faulks, Mark Haddon
- Section B – Poetry 1800 – 1945: Tennyson, Browning, Coleridge, Keats, Auden, Hardy and Rossetti

## Unit 2: Dramatic Genres

**Coursework**

**40% of total AS marks, 20% of total A Level marks**

Two pieces:

- a study of an aspect of the dramatic/tragic genre with regard to a Shakespeare play (1200-1500 words)
- a study of an aspect of the dramatic/tragic genre with regard to another play (1200-1500 words)

Available January and June

### Subject Content

- at least two plays within the dramatic genre of tragedy. At least one of the plays must be by Shakespeare
- Ongoing advice for this coursework unit on suitable texts and tasks will be given through Principal Moderator's reports, standardising materials, standardising meetings and contact with the centre's coursework adviser

## Unit 3: Texts and Genres

**Written Paper, 2 hours Closed book**

**30% of total A Level marks**

Two sections:

- Section A – text specific question
- Section B – comparing an aspect of the chosen topic across at least three texts

Available January and June

### Subject Content

Candidates will study a minimum of three texts. At least one of these texts must be taken from the groups labelled 1300 – 1800

- Elements of the Gothic – 1300 – 1800: Shakespeare, Marlowe, Webster, Milton, Chaucer
- Post 1800: Mary Shelley, Emily Bronte, Bram Stoker, Angela Carter
- Elements of the Pastoral – 1300 – 1800: various including Shakespeare, Goldsmith and Blake
- Post 1800: various including Twain, Hardy, Waugh and Potter

## Unit 4: Further and Independent Reading

**Coursework**

**20% of total A Level marks**

Two pieces

- A comparative study of an aspect of two texts (1500-2000 words)
- An application of an aspect of pre-released critical anthology to a literary text (1200-1500 words)

Available January and June

### Subject Content

- A study of at least three texts, one of which will be a pre-released anthology of critical writing applied to a piece of literature
- Ongoing advice for this coursework unit will be given as for AS

## Assessment Objectives

**AO1**

Articulate creative, informed and relevant responses to literary texts, using appropriate terminology and concepts, and coherent, accurate written expression

**AO2**

Demonstrate detailed critical understanding in analysing the ways in which structure, form and language shape meanings in literary texts

**AO3**

Explore connections and comparisons between different literary texts, informed by interpretations of other readers

**AO4**

Demonstrate understanding of the significance and influence of the contexts in which literary texts are written and received