North Herts
Education Support Centre

Course Title

GCSE English Literature/English Language (KS4)

Overview

At the NHESC, every effort is made to ensure that students are provided with an English curriculum that is comparable to that which is experienced by their peers in mainstream schools. The development of good communication skills, both verbally and in writing is essential to student's success, in their education and in their future careers.
Our students study a variety of different texts suited to their interests, engage in lessons that make use of diverse teaching approaches and learn how to express themselves in an appropriate way. Students have the opportunity to sit mock exams and are provided with feedback so that they can make progress and be prepared to sit their qualifications. The support that we offer can greatly improve levels of attainment for the students in our care.

Outline of the Course

In Year 10, students study for their English Literature GCSE. We currently follow the AQA specification which consists of two written exams which they sit in the Summer Term. Students study a variety of different texts in detail, learning to appreciate the writers use of language and structure, as well as understanding the context and greater cultural significance of each work.
Our chosen texts include; J.B. Priestley's play 'An Inspector Calls', Charles Dickens' famous novella 'A Christmas Carol, Shakespeare's Macbeth and a selection of poetry on the theme of 'Power and Conflict'.

In Year 11, students study for their English Language GCSE. We currently follow the AQA specification which consists of two written exams which they sit in the Summer Term. The first, Writers Viewpoints and Perspectives, asks students to analyse and comment on non-fiction texts as well writing their own non-fiction piece. The second, Explorations in Creative Reading and Writing, affords them the opportunity to explore some literary texts as well as creating their own piece of original fiction.
Students must also produce a separately assessed Spoken Language presentation which allows them to develop speaking and listening skills.

Assessment details

The course is assessed through two terminal examinations in May/June at the end of Year 10 and Year 11 respectively.

English Literature (Year 10)

- Shakespeare and 19thC novel – Shakespeare play *(Macbeth),* The 19th-century novel *(A Christmas Carol)*
- Modern texts and Poetry – Modern drama text *(An Inspector Calls),* The poetry anthology *(Power and Conflict),* Unseen poetry

English Language (Year 11)

- Writers Viewpoints and Perspectives – Read and respond to non-fiction texts: one 19th century non-fiction text, one 20th or 21st century non-fiction text, write one piece of original non-fiction
- Explorations in Creative Reading and Writing – Read and respond to literary prose texts: one text may be literary non-fiction, 20th or 21st century literary prose, write one piece of original creative writing

- Spoken language – A non-exam assessment. Present information and ideas in a spoken presentation and listen and respond to others appropriately

Staff Roles
Teacher – Mr Anson
Equipment/Health and Safety
Class texts and all other necessary equipment is provided by the centre. Including access to ICT resources as necessary. Basic classroom health and safety expectations apply.
How will it be examined
The course is assessed through two terminal examinations in May/June at the end of Year 10 and Year 11 respectively. English Literature (Year 10) • Shakespeare and 19thC novel – 1 hour 45 minutes, 64 marks, 40% of GCSE • Modern texts and Poetry – 2 hours 15 minutes, 96 marks, 60% of GCSE English Language (Year 11) • Writers Viewpoints and Perspectives – 1 hour 45 minutes, 80 marks, 50% of GCSE • Explorations in Creative Reading and Writing – 1 hour 45 minutes, 80 marks, 50% of GCSE
Appeals process
If a learner wishes to appeal their final grade, NHESC can trigger a remarking of their examination paper(s) by AQA. In most circumstances; this will be when the initial mark is within three marks of the next grade boundary.

Curriculum Plan	
This table sets out the intended curriculum plan for GCSE English in Key Stage 4. The plan for each half term is reviewed in advance based on progress, considering the contrasting needs of individuals within each cohort and the impact of external factors on their learning.	
Year 10	
Autumn 1 An Inspector Calls	**Autumn 2** A Christmas Carol
Spring 1 Macbeth	**Spring 2** Poetry Anthology – Power and Conflict
Summer 1 Unseen poetry Exam preparation and revision	**Summer 2** English Literature Exam Preparation for English Language
Year 11	
Autumn 1 Paper 2 Section A – Reading Non-Fiction Texts	**Autumn 2** Paper 1 Section B – Creative Writing
Spring 1 Mock Exam 1 Spoken Language Assessment	**Spring 2** Paper 2 Section B – Writing Non-Fiction Texts
Summer 1 Mock Exam 2 Paper 1 Section A – Reading Fiction Texts	**Summer 2** English Language Exam