

# St Peter's High School and Sixth Form Centre

## AS/ A-level English Literature (AQA, B)

### English Department

*English Literature* at AS encourages students to develop their interest in a wide range of literature, through reading across centuries, genre and gender, experiencing a range of views about texts and formulating their own independent opinions. Students are expected to write regular essays and to take part in class discussion. Students beginning the course should have grade B or above in both English and English Literature GCSEs.

#### Unit One

##### *Aspects of Narrative*

In this module, students are introduced to the close study of narrative methods in prose and poetry. Students will study two novels (one of which must have been written after 1990) and two collections of poetry.

One text, a modern novel, is analysed in detail (*The Great Gatsby* by F. Scott Fitzgerald) while the narrative methods in the other three texts are compared. Examples of the other texts include *Digging to America* by Anne Tyler and selected poems by Keats and Hardy in an anthology provided by AQA. Texts are allowed in the examination.

## Unit Two

### *Dramatic Genres*

This unit of work enables students to respond to drama with a specific focus on the tragedy genre. Students will complete two coursework essays, one on a Shakespeare tragedy (e.g. *Othello*, *Hamlet*, *King Lear*) and the second on a tragedy by another author (*Death of a Salesman* by Arthur Miller). This unit is assessed through coursework. Students will write two essays, one on each text, one of which may be a 'recreative' essay.



## Progressing to A2

Students who have successfully completed AS will probably wish to study English Literature in Year 13 to achieve A2. In Unit Three, *Texts and Genres*, students will study three texts grouped within the categories *Elements of the Gothic* or *Elements of the Pastoral*. They will answer two questions on one of these areas in an examination.

Lastly, for Unit Four, students will complete a coursework unit (*Further and Independent Reading*), which requires them to write an essay comparing two texts. They will also write an essay applying an aspect of a short critical anthology released by the examination board to a literary text.

Please see Mrs Stephanie Layhe if you require further information.