

Why study this course?

English Language is an excellent academic qualification which provides a platform for further study in English-based subjects such as journalism, creative writing and English Language and Linguistics, politics and media, as well as scientific subjects like medicine and mathematics, where written and verbal communication are important. Universities and employers respect English Language as a demanding qualification which strengthens written and spoken communication skills. If you enjoy using language in both spoken and written forms and would like to learn more about how our language system works, then this could be the course for you.

What will I learn on this course?

English Language explores how we use language to interact and to socialise and asks what we can learn about our society from the ways in which we speak and write. As well as learning to analyse texts as readers (including some technical analysis of grammar), the coursework encourages independent and creative writing skills, enabling you to develop your skills in a wide range of genres. There are no set texts but you will be introduced to a wide variety of different texts, with some challenging forms and subject matter.

What specific skills will I learn?

The beauty of studying English Language means that you will learn and develop a whole host of fantastic skills that are relevant to all aspects of your education and can also be applied in the real world. Effective written and spoken communication skills, becoming an independent learner and reading and research skills are all part and parcel of English Language at A level.

What career paths could this course lead to?

English Language naturally lends itself to a wide variety of career opportunities including journalism, media, teaching, publishing, creative writing and research, to name a few.

“To write or even speak English is not a science but an art” -

George Orwell



How is the course structured?

Please note this course is a full A level qualification (2 years)

Paper 1 - Language, the Individual and Society

40% of A level

2 hour 30 minutes written examination

Paper 2 - Language Diversity and Change

40% of A level

2 hour 30 minutes written examination

Non-exam assessment

Language Investigation (2,000 words excluding data) and a piece of original writing and commentary (1,500 words total) 20% of A level

Extra opportunities

There are a range of extra-curricular and extension opportunities available. Revision conferences and workshops support the work done in College. There are also opportunities to take part in events such as study days organised by the exam board, and you are also invited to submit work for both On Track and The Voice magazines (the latter run by and for students of English).



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