

Advanced Higher English



Course Outline

Course aims

The Course aims to provide opportunities for learners to develop the ability to:

- critically analyse and evaluate a wide range of complex and sophisticated literary texts, as appropriate to purpose and audience
- apply critical, investigative and analytical skills to a literary topic of personal interest
- create a range of complex and sophisticated texts, as appropriate to different purposes and audiences
- apply knowledge and understanding of complex language in a wide range of contexts and use creative and critical thinking to synthesise ideas and arguments. The Course also develops high levels of analytical thinking and understanding of the impact of language.



Course Assessment

The Course assessment will take the form of:

- Two exam question papers
 - critical essay on drama, poetry, prose fiction or prose non fiction (20%)
 - textual analysis on drama, poetry, prose fiction or prose non fiction (20%)
- a portfolio, which will contain two pieces of writing (completed prior to exam) (30%)
- a project–dissertation (completed prior to exam) (30%)



Course Structure

Miss McIntosh's classes will cover:

- Textual Analysis
- Prose Fiction (Margaret Atwood)
- Dissertation

Mrs Inglis' classes will cover:

- Creative writing (folio)
- Poetry (Sylvia Plath)
- Dissertation

Your tasks will include:

- Dissertation reading/research and writing
- Portfolio writing and redrafting
- Homework relating to class work.



Literary Study

Structure and coverage of the Course assessment

Component 1 — question paper (Literary Study)

The purpose of this question paper is to assess candidates' ability to apply the skills of critical analysis and evaluation to previously studied literary texts.

- ◆ Candidates will choose one question from a range of questions and write a critical essay in response to it.
- ◆ Candidates will select from poetry, prose, prose non fiction or drama. This will have 20 marks (20% of the total mark).

The texts chosen must not be the same as those used in the dissertation.



Textual Analysis

Component 2 — question paper (Textual Analysis)

The purpose of this question paper is to assess candidates' ability to apply the skills of critical analysis and evaluation to an unseen literary text.

- ◆ Candidates will choose one question on an unseen literary text and write an extended critical analysis of it.
- ◆ Candidates will select from poetry, prose, prose non fiction or drama. This will have 20 marks (20% of the total mark).

The candidates are free to select the same genre in each question paper.



Portfolio

Component 3 — portfolio–writing

This portfolio will give candidates an opportunity to demonstrate the following skills, knowledge and understanding:

- ◆ writing in different genres for a range of purposes and audiences

Candidates will produce two pieces of writing for two different purposes and audiences. The writing can be from any of the following types:

- ◆ persuasive
- ◆ informative
- ◆ argumentative
- ◆ personal/reflective
- ◆ poetry
- ◆ prose fiction
- ◆ drama

There is no requirement to write both creatively and discursively.

This Component will have 30 marks (30% of the total mark). Up to 15 marks will be awarded for each piece of writing selected for the portfolio.

Dissertation

Component 4 — project–dissertation

This dissertation will give candidates an opportunity to demonstrate the following skills, knowledge and understanding:

- ◆ independent planning, research and presentation of their knowledge and understanding of an aspect or aspects of literature

The text(s) chosen must not be the same as those used in the Literary Study question paper.

This dissertation will be between 2,500 and 3,000 words long and will have 30 marks (30% of the total mark).



Year outline

	DISSERTATION	TEXTUAL ANALYSIS	LITERATURE	CREATIVE WRITING	LITERATURE
June	Choose text	Introduction	Literature Skills	Poetry workshops	Literature Skills
August	Reading texts	Poetry	Plath	Poetry workshops	Atwood- Handmaid's Tale
September	Outline hypothesis Supervisors allocated	Poetry Textual Analysis on Poetry completed	Plath DEADLINE: Critical Essay	Poetry workshops DEADLINE: Poetry first draft Wed 25th September	Atwood- Handmaid's Tale
October	Note-taking and planning Working with supervisors / AM/AI	Short Story	Plath	Redrafting workshops DEADLINE: Poetry redraft Wed 23rd October	Atwood- Handmaid's Tale
November	DEADLINE: 1st draft <u>Thursday 7th November</u>	Short Story Textual Analysis on Short Story completed	Plath	Short Story workshops	Atwood- Handmaid's Tale DEADLINE: Critical essay
December	Secondary Sources DEADLINE: UASP	Exam Prep	Plath	Short story workshops DEADLINE: Story first draft Wed 18th December	Atwood – Heart Goes Last
January	Working with supervisors / AM/AI	Exam prep	Plath DEADLINE: Critical Essay	Editorial workshops	Atwood – Heart Goes Last
February	Working with supervisors / AM/AI	Exam Prep	Exam Prep	Editorial 1st draft	Atwood – Heart Goes Last
March	Working with supervisors / AM/AI	Exam Prep	Exam Prep	Reflective writing 1st draft	DEADLINE: Critical Essay
April	DEADLINE: Final Draft SUBMISSION <u>Thursday 2nd April</u>	Exam prep	Exam prep	Complete Folio	Exam prep
May		EXAM	EXAM	FOLIO SUBMISSION	EXAM

Why pick AH English?

- You LOVE reading?
- You are thinking of studying English at higher education?
- You enjoyed Higher?
- You hope to pursue a career related to English?
- The idea of more independent study appeals to you?



Reading

- **HUGE** part of the course
- You should enjoy spending hours with your book and a cuppa, pouring over the connotations, themes, imagery and symbolism in front of you.
- What have you read recently? What is your all time favourite read?

