University Courses and Careers

Studying the English A: Literature course will open the door to a wide range of careers including journalism, publishing and other forms of media communication, internet content writing, teaching and social work.

In addition, it provides the necessary skills to alternative areas such as law, business, accountancy, technical writing, advertising copywriter, corporate blogger, public relations and marketing.

Contact us

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GROUP 1:
ENGLISH A: LITERATURE
INTRODUCTION
The Anglo-Chinese School (Independent) Language A: Literature Syllabus is a Literature based course studied in the first language of the student. Students in the ACS (Independent) IBDP have the option of studying this course, to fulfill the International Baccalaureate Diploma requirement for a Group 1 subject. ACS (Independent) will offer the Group 1: English A: Literature course in English in both Higher Level (HL) and Standard Level (SL).

Objectives of Syllabus
The ACS (Independent) English A: Literature programme will encourage and give students opportunities to develop their ability to:
1. Enjoy the reading of literature and appreciate its contribution to aesthetic and imaginative growth
2. Explore areas of human concern, leading to a greater understanding of themselves and the world around them and
3. Read, understand and respond to various literary genres to appreciate the different styles of writing.

The programme fully supports the IBO commitment to internationalism, the promotion of intercultural awareness and understanding. The syllabus also aims to educate the whole person, emphasising intellectual, personal, emotional and social growth. Finally, the syllabus will also develop in our students, inquiry and thinking skills, and the capacity to reflect upon and to evaluate actions critically, enabling them to be successful citizens of the world.

Course Content & Outline
English A: Literature syllabus comprises four main sections each with its own mode of assessment. Students study a range of texts in different Genres from almost every major continent in the world.

Higher Level (HL): 13 works
Standard Level (SL): 10 works

Part 1: Literature in Translation
One Day in the Life of Ivan Denisovich  Alexander Solzhenitsyn SL/HL
The Metamorphosis  Franz Kafka SL/HL
Snow Country  Kawabata Yasunari HL

Part 2: Detailed Study
King Lear  William Shakespeare SL/HL
I Know Why the Caged Bird Sings  Maya Angelou HL
Poems  Wilfred Owen SL
Poems  Seamus Heaney HL

Part 3: Literary Genres
Master Harold and the Boys  Athol Fugard SL/HL
Death of a Salesman  Arthur Miller  SL/HL
A Streetcar Named Desire  Tennessee Williams SL/HL
The Homecoming  Harold Pinter HL

Part 4: Options / Individual Oral Presentation
No Other City  Pang & Lee (eds.) SL/HL
The Art of Travel  Alain de Botton SL/HL
The Interpreter of Maladies  Jhumpa Lahiri  SL/HL

During lessons, students in this course will be exposed to a wide range of assessment modes and teaching strategies, including individual/group oral presentations and commentary, formal written essays, and student seminars and discussion tutorials.

Assessment
1) External Assessment 70%
   a) Written Paper Component (45%)
      Two written examination papers externally set and externally assessed.
   b) Literature in Translation Written Assignment (25%)
      One assignment written during the course and externally assessed
2) Internal Assessment 30%
   (Oral Component)
   Two compulsory oral activities consisting of an Oral Presentation and Oral Commentary internally assessed by the teacher and externally moderated by the IBO.