

# Westfield Academy - Curriculum Information

In year 13 English Literature, students engage with their set texts on both papers in the form of William Shakespeare's seminal *Othello* and complete their reading of Arundhati Roy's *The God of Small Things*. Students must also take more responsibility for their progress by completing their non exam assessment and will learn how to produce an evaluative academic essay with a bibliography amounting to 2,500 words.

## English Literature A Level

|                                              |                                                                                                                         |                                                                                     |
|----------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>Head of Department</b>                    | N Cowell                                                                                                                |  |
| <b>Head of Department email</b>              | nmc@westfield.academy                                                                                                   |                                                                                     |
| <b>Lessons per 2 week cycle</b>              | 5 (per teacher) amounting to 10 total                                                                                   |                                                                                     |
| <b>Specification/Board details/Key stage</b> | AQA<br>Specification 7712 - Love Through the Ages and Option 2B: Modern times: literature from 1945 to the present day. |                                                                                     |

## Term by term

| Autumn 1                                                                                                                                                   | Autumn 2                                                                                                                                                                    | Spring 1                                                                                                                                                   |
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| Paper 1 - Othello by William Shakespeare<br><br>Paper 2 - The God of Small Things by Arundhati Roy.                                                        | Paper 1 - Othello by William Shakespeare<br><br>Paper 2 - The God of Small Things by Arundhati Roy.<br><br>Mock preparation - both papers                                   | Independent critical study: texts across time.<br>Encourage set text: 'A Doll's House' by Henrik Ibsen.<br><br>Papers 1 and 2 - revision of course content |
| Spring 2                                                                                                                                                   | Summer 1                                                                                                                                                                    | Summer 2                                                                                                                                                   |
| Independent critical study: texts across time.<br>Encourage set text: 'A Doll's House' by Henrik Ibsen.<br><br>Papers 1 and 2 - revision of course content | Revision of course content<br><br>A Level exams                                                                                                                             |                                                                                                                                                            |
| <b>Key Skills developed</b>                                                                                                                                | Throughout this A Level, students learn many transferable skills, including the ability to engage in discourse about power and language and how to refine their written and |                                                                                                                                                            |

|                                             | <p>verbal communication skills in order to produce a coherent and well-reasoned argument. This qualification additionally has a strong focus on independence - students are expected to complete a non-exam assessment in year 13 worth 20% of their qualification with a 2,500 word count called independent critical study: texts across time. Students learn a useful skill for university: how to craft a bibliography and how to cite reliable sources.</p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              |          |            |           |                                                                                                              |                 |                                                                                                                                                                                                    |                          |                                                                                                                                              |                |                          |
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| <b>Useful Websites</b>                      | <p>AQA website<br/> Sparknotes<br/> Cliffnotes<br/> The Royal Shakespeare Company<br/> The Imperial War Museum<br/> The British Library</p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   |          |            |           |                                                                                                              |                 |                                                                                                                                                                                                    |                          |                                                                                                                                              |                |                          |
| Reading/Literacy requirements<br>/Key Words | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Realism</li> <li>2. Moral rectitude</li> <li>3. Bourgeois respectability</li> <li>4. Selfhood</li> <li>5. Recriminations</li> <li>6. Domesticity</li> <li>7. Nuclear family</li> <li>8. Sobering reality vs blind idealism</li> <li>9. Straitened</li> <li>10. Diatribe</li> </ol> <table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>Key Word</th><th>Definition</th></tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Zeitgeist</td><td>The defining spirit or mood of a particular period of history as shown by the ideas and beliefs of the time.</td></tr> <tr> <td>Moral rectitude</td><td>The quality of being morally correct and upright. It implies adherence to moral principles and standards of behaviour. A person with moral rectitude is honest, just, and has strong moral values.</td></tr> <tr> <td>Bourgeois respectability</td><td>A set of social norms and behaviours associated with the middle class, emphasising morality, propriety, and adherence to traditional values.</td></tr> <tr> <td>Verisimilitude</td><td>The idea that literature</td></tr> </tbody> </table> | Key Word | Definition | Zeitgeist | The defining spirit or mood of a particular period of history as shown by the ideas and beliefs of the time. | Moral rectitude | The quality of being morally correct and upright. It implies adherence to moral principles and standards of behaviour. A person with moral rectitude is honest, just, and has strong moral values. | Bourgeois respectability | A set of social norms and behaviours associated with the middle class, emphasising morality, propriety, and adherence to traditional values. | Verisimilitude | The idea that literature |
| Key Word                                    | Definition                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    |          |            |           |                                                                                                              |                 |                                                                                                                                                                                                    |                          |                                                                                                                                              |                |                          |
| Zeitgeist                                   | The defining spirit or mood of a particular period of history as shown by the ideas and beliefs of the time.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  |          |            |           |                                                                                                              |                 |                                                                                                                                                                                                    |                          |                                                                                                                                              |                |                          |
| Moral rectitude                             | The quality of being morally correct and upright. It implies adherence to moral principles and standards of behaviour. A person with moral rectitude is honest, just, and has strong moral values.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            |          |            |           |                                                                                                              |                 |                                                                                                                                                                                                    |                          |                                                                                                                                              |                |                          |
| Bourgeois respectability                    | A set of social norms and behaviours associated with the middle class, emphasising morality, propriety, and adherence to traditional values.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  |          |            |           |                                                                                                              |                 |                                                                                                                                                                                                    |                          |                                                                                                                                              |                |                          |
| Verisimilitude                              | The idea that literature                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      |          |            |           |                                                                                                              |                 |                                                                                                                                                                                                    |                          |                                                                                                                                              |                |                          |

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|                       |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           | should somehow be true to reality: the idea that textual elements—characters, dialogue, setting, images—should be believable, plausible, authentic, lifelike                                                                                                                                                    |
|                       | Selfhood                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  | The experience of being a distinct, holistic entity, capable of global self-control and attention, possessing a body and a location in space and time.                                                                                                                                                          |
|                       | Recrimination                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             | An accusation in response to one from someone else.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             |
|                       | Domesticity                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               | The exploration of domestic life, family relationships, and the home environment.                                                                                                                                                                                                                               |
|                       | Nuclear family                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            | A family unit typically consisting of two parents and their children                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            |
|                       | Sobering reality vs blind idealism                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        | These two concepts represent opposing perspectives on life and the world. Sobering reality involves a realistic and often pessimistic view of the world. Blind idealism on the overhand is association with an overly optimistic and unrealistic view of the world, often ignoring or downplaying its problems. |
|                       | Straitened                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                | Characterised by poverty.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       |
|                       | Diatribes                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 | A forceful and bitter verbal attack against someone or something.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               |
| Homework requirements | It is an expectation at the academy that all sixth form students complete some set pre-reading ahead of their lesson. Teachers will guide this. In terms of homework, for each hour of study, students will be set about one hour's home learning to complete - this can be in the form of extended compositions, redrafting and editing work, rewriting class notes, revising material and/or annotating |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 |

|                              |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          |
|------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
|                              | texts.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   |
| Personal Development Links   | This A Level encourages students to think critically about what they read and to consider the idea of reliability of narrators. Furthermore, students engage with how the socioeconomic status quo of time periods influence the style of and moral codes entrenched in the literature that they read, in order to consider systems of power and who they benefit. Students examine the link between language and power. |
| Trips/Visits (If applicable) | Where possible we try to undertake a theatre trip of an adaptation of a set text (or one within the same genre e.g. war).                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                |