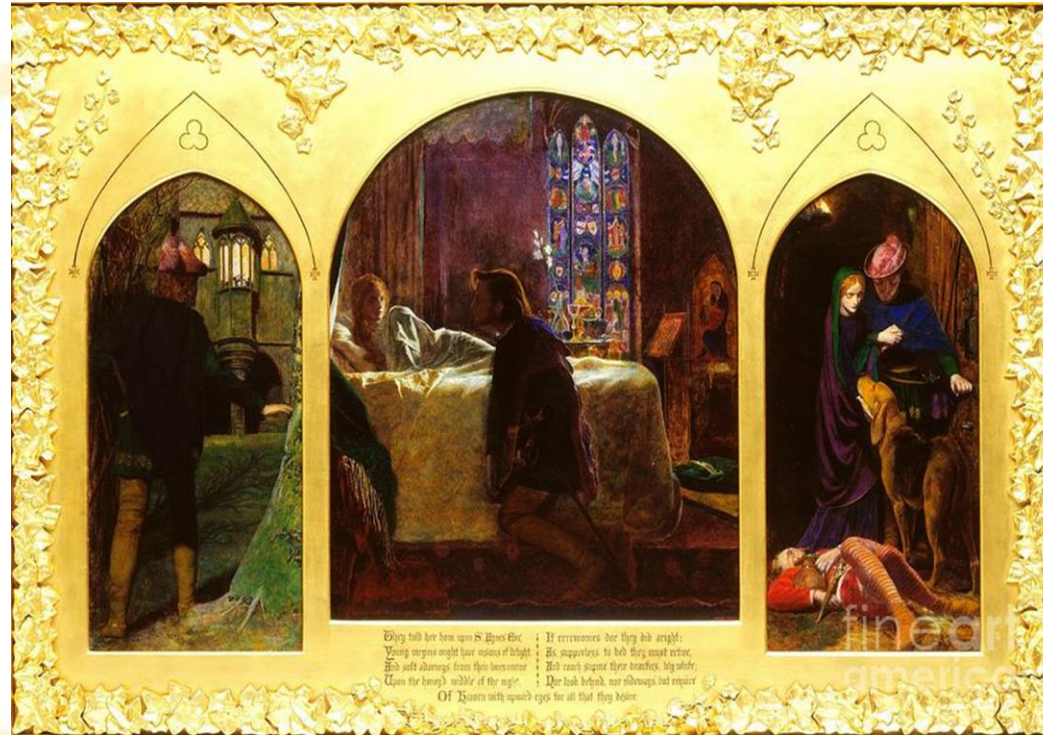
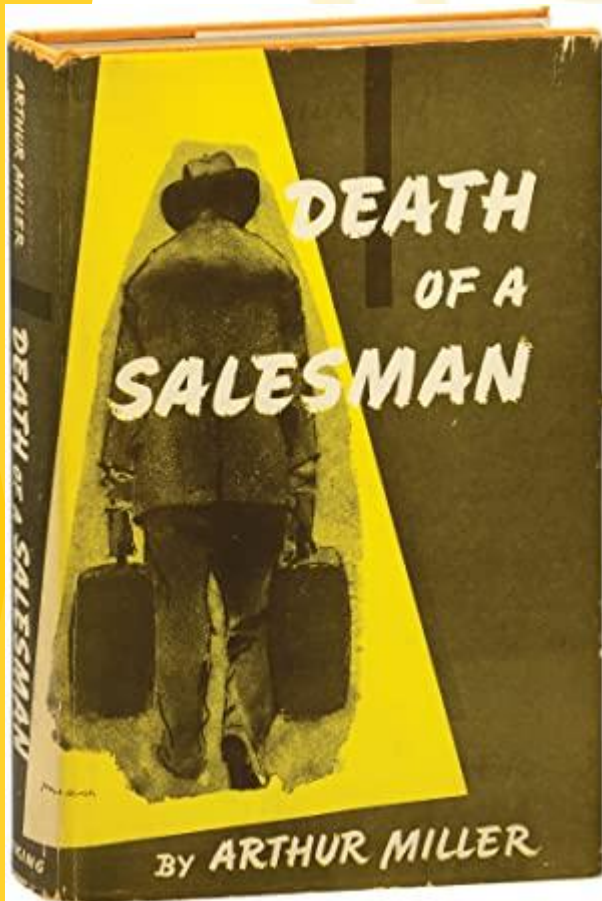


# English Literature at St Francis of Assisi



The course:

2 years

3 units are studied for the whole A Level:  
Aspects of Tragedy, Elements of Crime  
Writing and NEA



# Year 12

## Aspects of Tragedy – Drama and Poetry

At SFA, we study *Othello* and *Death of a Salesman* for drama and *Keats* for poetry

## Elements of Crime Writing – prose

At SFA, we study *The Murder of Roger Ackroyd* by Agatha Christie



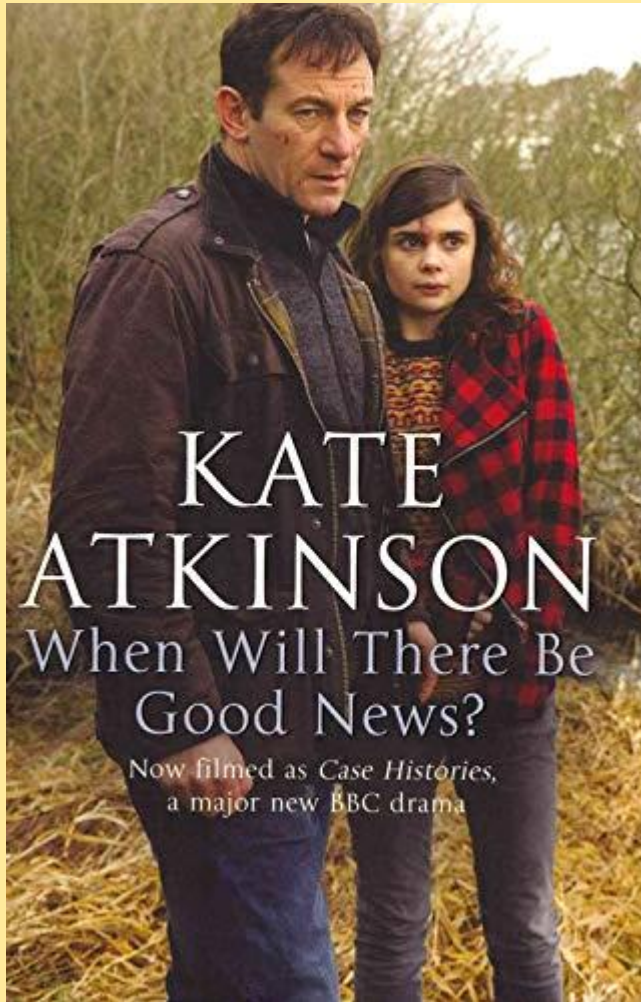
We explore aspects of tragedy, or their absence, within all of the texts. Students learn about how tragedy works across a range of texts.

In *Othello*, the tragic hero is typical in his elevation to a position of nobility; he is general of the Venetian army and his skill at rhetoric is undeniable. In *Death of a Salesman*, the hero is Willy Loman (or low man), a common man.

Keats' poems are interesting in their presentation of tragic figures against a backdrop of the supernatural.



## Year 13 Texts



### Elements of Crime Writing

A collection of crime poetry from  
Browning, Crabbe and Wilde

In addition to an unseen crime  
extract

## Year 12-13

While studying texts for Tragedy, students will also be taught sections of critical anthology, covering subjects such as:

- ▶ narrative theory
- ▶ feminist theory
- ▶ Marxist theory

This will be extended later by the study of

- ▶ eco-critical theory
- ▶ post-colonial theory
- ▶ literary value and the canon



## Year 12-13

- ▶ Wider, independent reading is vital from early in Y12
- ▶ Students should enjoy reading if they choose to study English Literature
- ▶ The best students read widely throughout the course
- ▶ ‘Reading’ encompasses both fiction and wider, critical reading.



## Year 12-13

- ▶ The A Level involves 2 pieces of NEA
- ▶ Students write about two different literary texts: one prose and one poetry.
- ▶ Each text must be linked to a different section of the Critical anthology. Students begin work on this during Year 12.
- ▶ Students cannot choose texts from any of the A-Level exam set text lists and will be given a booklet to support them through this independent study.





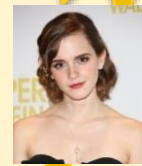
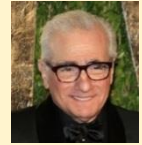
# Recent results

(English literature)

- Average grade = B
- In the past 2 years, 80% of our students achieved grades A-B



Where can English Literature take you?



Journalists

Directors and Writers

Actors

English Literature graduates become...

Ambassadors

Researchers

Public relations and Marketing

Teachers – in the UK and overseas!



English Literature is valued as one of the facilitating subjects by universities because of the skills it develops within students, such as:

- ▶ Essay writing skills
- ▶ The ability to construct an argument
- ▶ Analytical skills
- ▶ Appreciation of our heritage
- ▶ Presentational skills
- ▶ The ability to work with others



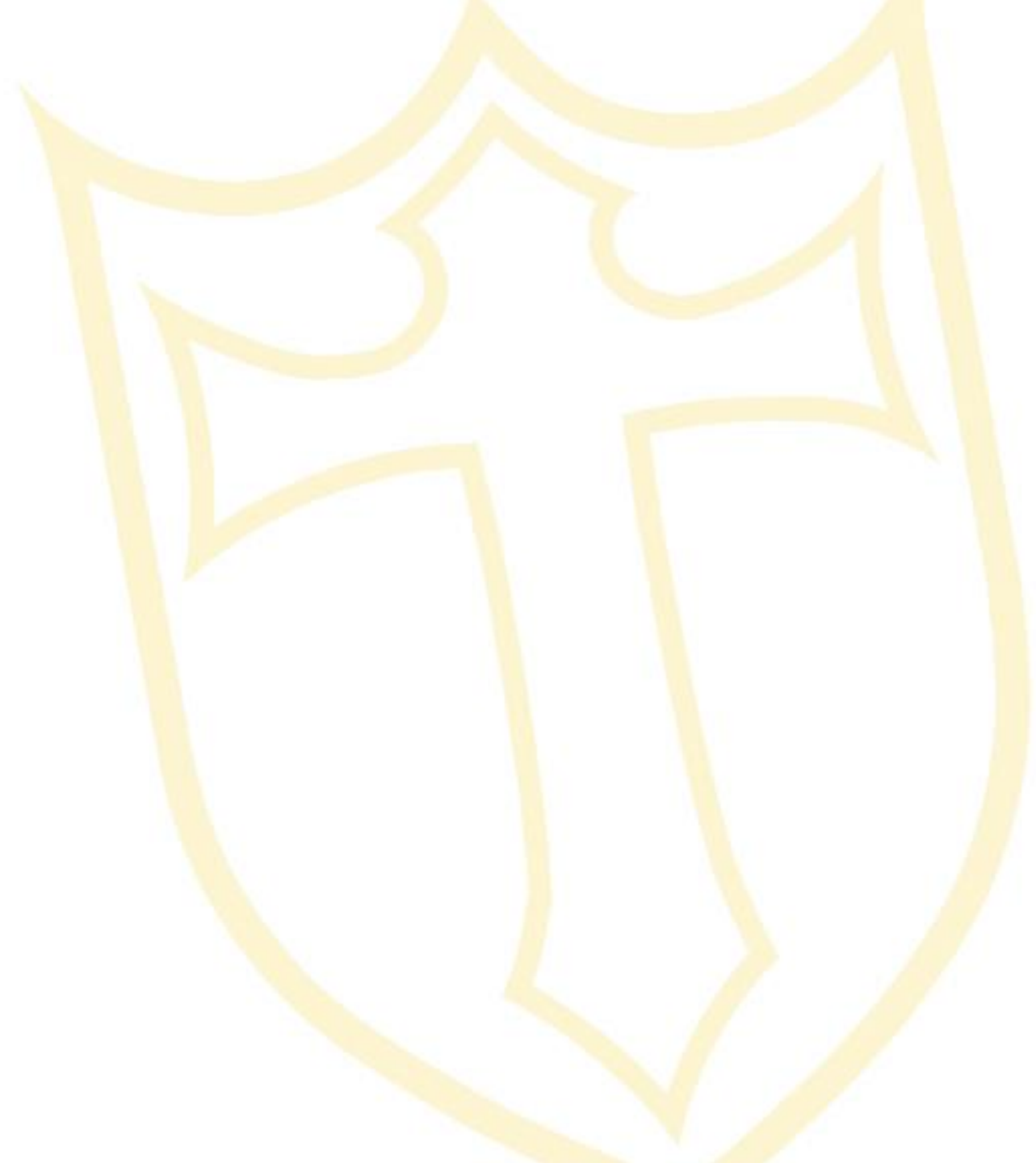
English Literature is valued as a subject by employers because of these skills but also because Literature students tend to be:

- ▶ Good listeners
- ▶ Good speakers
- ▶ Organised
- ▶ Good writers
- ▶ Good readers
- ▶ Skilful analysts

In recent years, students gained places at university to study courses such as the following:

- History (at Oxford)
- Linguistics
- Business
- Primary Teaching
- Languages
- Creative writing





## Some student thoughts....

- ▶ English literature is a subject I chose because it offers transferable skills. It is very interesting and it offers a lot of opportunities for example going on school trips to see drama plays of the text's that are being studied. I think it would be a good study for A Level.



## Some student thoughts....

- ▶ I have enjoyed literature especially the classical texts such as *Othello* and Keats. I particularly like studying the crime section as it has opened a new perspective on literature. Thoroughly recommend taking Literature at A level.



## Some student thoughts....

- ▶ I enjoy literature as a whole, in particular contemporary texts such as *When Will There Be Good News* . I also appreciate listening to others opinions and interpretations of texts.





## Some student thoughts....

- ▶ I chose English literature at A level because I like the subject as a whole, I very much enjoy reading and being able to further study the subject is a great way to engage more with texts and the subject as a whole.



## Some student thoughts....

- ▶ I chose to do English Literature because I have always enjoyed reading and through Literature I have learned a lot about authors and the contexts they were writing in. Studying Literature has allowed me to learn about Shakespearean tragedies like Othello.



## Some student thoughts....

- I chose English Literature because I enjoy reading and looking at these texts from different perspectives. I enjoyed studying texts such as *Othello* written by William Shakespeare and *Death of a salesman* by Arthur Miller.



## Some student thoughts....

- ▶ I chose English Literature purely as I felt comfortable and confident in the subject due to achieving an A at GCSE, English Literature has helped my wider reading, as I have read books I would have never normally chosen on the shelf, due to this English Literature has helped me develop my writing skills.

