

I. Course description and aims

The Language A: Literature aims at exploring the various manifestations of literature as a particularly powerful mode of writing across cultures and throughout history. The course aims at developing an understanding of factors that contribute to the production and reception of literature—the creativity of writers and readers, the nature of their interaction with their respective contexts and with literary tradition, the ways in which language can give rise to meaning and/or effect, and the performative and transformative potential of literary creation and response. Through close analysis of a range of literary texts in a number of literary forms and from different times and places, students will consider their own interpretations as well as the critical perspectives of others, to explore how such positions are shaped by cultural belief systems and to negotiate meanings for texts.

The aims of studies in language and literature courses are to enable students to:

1. engage with a range of texts, in a variety of media and forms, from different periods, styles and cultures
2. develop skills in listening, speaking, reading, writing, viewing, presenting and performing
3. develop skills in interpretation, analysis and evaluation
4. develop sensitivity to the formal and aesthetic qualities of texts and an appreciation of how they contribute to diverse responses and open up multiple meanings
5. develop an understanding of relationships between texts and a variety of perspectives, cultural contexts, and local and global issues, and an appreciation of how they contribute to diverse responses and open up multiple meanings
6. develop an understanding of the relationships between studies in language and literature and other disciplines
7. communicate and collaborate in a confident and creative way
8. foster a lifelong interest in and enjoyment of language and literature.

II. Curriculum model overview

The recommended teaching time is 150 hours to complete the standard level (SL) course and 240 hours to complete the higher level (HL) course.

Readers, writers and texts

50 recommended teaching hours at Standard Level.

80 recommended teaching hours at Higher Level.

Time and space

50 recommended teaching hours at Standard Level.

80 recommended teaching hours at Higher Level.

Intertextuality: connecting texts

50 recommended teaching hours at Standard Level.

80 recommended teaching hours at Higher Level.