

Higher English

Why English?

Being competent in English is the key to success in many aspects of life and work. Skills in English language and communication are important in many school, college and university courses and essential in many occupations. A qualification in English is often required for entry to further and higher education. This course aims to improve and extend learners' experience of English literature in prose, poetry, drama and media.

Purpose and aims of the Course

The Course offers learners opportunities to develop and extend a wide range of skills. In particular, the Course aims to enable learners to develop the ability to:

- listen, talk, read and write, as appropriate to purpose, audience and context
- understand, analyse and evaluate texts, including Scottish texts, as appropriate to purpose and audience in the contexts of literature, language and media
- create and produce texts, as appropriate to purpose, audience and context
- apply knowledge and understanding of language

Course Assessment

Exam

Component 1 (70%) — close reading paper (30 marks): critical reading (40 marks)

Folio

Component 2 (30%) — portfolio: 2 pieces of writing – 1 broadly creative; 1 broadly discursive

Total marks: 100 marks

Assessment

A new performance spoken language component has been introduced. The new performance-spoken language component will assess the skills of talking and listening and will be assessed during normal class time through group work and individual presentations on the texts being studied. The performance-spoken language will be assessed as 'achieved' or 'not achieved' and will be based on existing standards. Candidates will need to achieve the minimum requirements of this component to gain the course award.