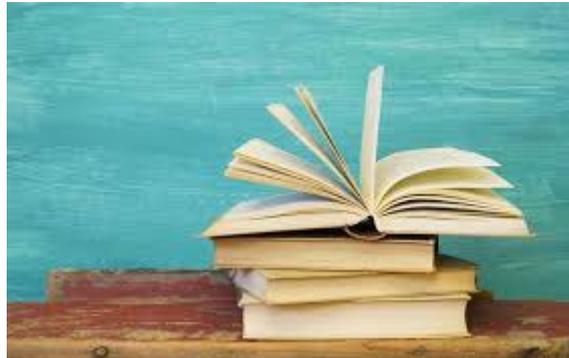


English Secondary PGCE

Useful information to build your subject knowledge before starting the course



Welcome to the English PGCE at Roehampton!

A. Subject knowledge

Use your own subject audit (completed prior to interview) to assess your strengths and areas for development. To get ready for the course, you might want to complete some of the following tasks:

1. **Write** freely for 20-40 minutes about your experience of English as a child. Did you enjoy English lessons? Did you read for pleasure? Were there aspects of the subject that bored or frightened you? When were you inspired? Why do you think it is important to consider your own schooling?

The National Writing Project has lots of inspiration for English teachers, including [daily prompts](#) to get you writing:

2. **Watch** a range of video clips of English lessons and make a note of your responses. Do you think that the lessons you watched are 'good'? What criteria are you using to judge these lessons?

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=mAuV2-eTK2k>

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=1rXMHIt1GGA>

<https://teachlikeachampion.com/resources/sample-videos/>

Watch as much [free online theatre](#) as you can!

3. **Revise** your knowledge of grammar. This [site](#) is a useful starting point for teachers.

4. **Familiarise** yourself with the latest English GCSE and A level exam board 'specifications' and past exam papers:

[AQA GCSE](#) [AQA A Level](#) [Edexcel English Literature GCSE](#) [Edexcel English Language GCSE](#) [Edexcel A level](#)

5. **Read** some [research](#) which has been recommended by the National Association for Teachers of English (NATE).

6. **Visit** the children and young adult section of a book shop and talk to the book seller about what is flying off the shelves. Browse the International Literacy Association's pages to see what some [teens are reading](#).

B. Essential texts for English Subject Studies

The following works will be central to the English PGCE (but don't worry if you can't access them before you enrol!).

[What Matters in English](#) by Barbara Bleiman

[For White Folk who Teach in the Hood and the rest of y'all too](#) by Christopher Emdin

Suggested wider reading

[Black, Listed](#) by Jeffrey Boakye

[Literature: Why it Matters](#) by Robert Eagleston

[Reading Reconsidered](#) by Doug Lemov

A wider reading list will be provided once the course begins. All these works are available in the library at Roehampton. There will be a library orientation tour towards the start of the course to familiarise you with the facilities and services available.