



The British School  
Kathmandu

# AS & A Level Options Booklet 2022-24

# Welcome to Sixth Form

Welcome to your first step towards joining the Sixth Form at TBS. There's a lot of information to take in about your transition from Key Stage 4, so we have collated it all here to help you make your initial options choices. This booklet outlines the key steps in the transition process with lots of information about the subjects that are likely to be available to you.

In this booklet, you will find:

- The key steps in the options process;
- A one page overview of each course we hope to offer next year.

A-levels are challenging, academic courses so it is important that you dedicate time to make careful choices about which subjects are right for you. We are here to help you through this process over the next few months.

	What we will do:	What you should do:
Term 2, Week 8	Options Evening will take place on our school campus. The options booklet will be shared with both students and parents.	Read the booklet carefully and speak to the teachers of the subjects you may wish to study. Begin to discuss as a family which options might be right for you.
Term 2, Week 9	Initial options form is shared with students.	Fill in the subjects you think you want to take. These may not be your final choices as they will need to be discussed by teachers and you will need to gain the entry requirements.
Term 3, Week 1-5	We will check over your subject requests and begin to plan a timetable of offerings for next year.	Speak to the Higher Education Coordinator (Ms. Florence Gurung) if you have any questions about future university pathways and prerequisite (eg. SAT examinations).
Term 3, Week 6-8	During one-to-one conversations, your mentors may discuss your options choices with you.	Talk openly with your mentor about your choices and be prepared to change your subjects if recommended to do so by your teachers.
End of Term 3	We will send out a final options form. We will finalise option blocks and timetables and send out letters to your parents to confirm the choices you have made.	Complete your final options choices, following discussion with your mentor and teachers. Your parents will sign and return the final options letter.
August	We will publish your IGCSE results and your mentors will discuss these with you to check that you have met the entry requirements for your courses.	You will collect your IGCSE results and prepare to begin your Sixth Form courses.

## TBS Sixth Form

The Sixth Form at TBS includes Years 12 and 13 (grades 11 and 12). Most students will eventually qualify with 4 AS Levels and 3 A Levels. A-Levels are internationally recognised university entrance examinations and our students have moved on to universities in the United Kingdom, the United States, Canada and Australia as well as respected institutions across Europe and Asia.

In addition to their A-level subjects, students will also have lessons in PSHE (Personal, Social and Health Education) and physical education. Students will be expected to take part in an expedition and community projects to enhance their personal skills and attributes as well as working with younger students within our school community. Students will also have the opportunity to take part in the prestigious Duke of Edinburgh International Award, with participants being given the opportunity to complete the award to gold level.

A-Levels are academically rigorous courses and, as such, they are not suitable for all students. We therefore require any students hoping to study A-levels at TBS to have achieved at least 5 IGCSEs at a grade C or above. Students who have not gained a C grade or equivalent in English Language,

Mathematics or Science at IGCSE will be required to re-sit these as part of the Year 12 programme, as these will be required for university admittance.

To support the students' personal and academic growth they are assigned a Key Stage 5 mentor who will meet them daily as a group as well as conducting regular one-to-one discussions and supporting students in their university applications. The mentor should be the first point of contact for any concerns that students or parents have as they will be the person who knows students the best.

After IGCSE examinations are finished, students will come back into school (in June) for learning activities that are designed to support their transition into A-Level study. Students will attend 'bridging' lessons for the subjects they have chosen and may have some interaction with their future KS5 mentor and teachers. We understand that progressing from IGCSE to A-level can be a challenging time for families as these are important decisions that have to be made. Therefore, throughout this process, parents and students are welcome to get in touch with the Head of Hey Stage 5, Ms Linda Grieve ([lgrieve@tbs.edu.np](mailto:lgrieve@tbs.edu.np)), if they have any questions about transition.

# Students joining The British School Sixth Form from other schools and educational system

We welcome applications from students who wish to join The British School from other schools. If you have previously studied an iGCSE programme then you will need to complete a CAT test online, which will allow us to calculate your predicted grades. Provided your iGCSE results meet the requirements of the subjects you are hoping to study then processing your application will be very straightforward.

If you have not studied iGCSEs, the subjects that you are hoping to study may ask you to sit some additional assessments. You will not need to study anything in particular prior to these assessments. These tests will be designed to determine if your previous courses have prepared you sufficiently for the academic rigour of A-levels.

All applications to sixth form should go through the school's admissions department, [admissions@tbs.edu.np](mailto:admissions@tbs.edu.np).



# AS/A Level Art and Design

## Course requirements

The course is designed to build upon the foundation of IGCSE Art and Design. Therefore, we recommend that pupils have previously completed the Cambridge IGCSE course in Art & Design or equivalent at A\*-B is highly recommended.



## How is this course assessed?

Cambridge International A Level candidates take three components with AS candidates take Components 1 and 2 only

**Component One:** Coursework (100 marks) Comprising two parts to the coursework; a portfolio and a final outcome. Candidates will research, develop and realise a project or theme from one area of study. Externally assessed by Cambridge. A Level weighting: 25% AS weighting: 50%

**Component Two:** Externally Set Assignment (100 marks) The assignment contains two parts, and candidates chose one starting point to develop into a personal response. A series of supporting studies created during the preparation period and a final outcome, produced during the 15 hours supervised test. Externally assessed by Cambridge. A Level weighting: 25% AS weighting: 50%

**Component Three:** Personal Investigation In the second year of the course candidates investigate a theme, idea or process that is personal to them, through an integrated submission featuring a portfolio of practical work and 1000-1500 written analysis. Externally assessed. A Level weighting: 50%

### Each Assessment Objective is worth 25%

a) **Personal Qualities** Candidates are expected to show an individual, sensitive and creative response to a stimulus; ability to develop an idea, theme or subject; independence in concept and execution.

b) **Manipulative, Artistic and Analytical Skills** Candidates are expected to select and control materials, processes and techniques in an informed

## Syllabus content

Sixth Form Art and Design at The British School is an established course with an excellent reputation for encouraging and guiding students to be confident, independent, imaginative and reflective, and for producing ambitious, exciting and skillfully crafted work.

Students explore a significant range of disciplines and approaches, with an emphasis on Fine Art at the core, and students continue to build on strong IGCSE foundations in drawing, painting, printmaking, sculpture, photography and digital image manipulation. These skills alongside open and personalised themes, enable students to control the creative process, from conception to completion, developing independent decision-making, creative problem-solving skills and resilience throughout the course.

This will include:

- evidence of observations from primary sources
- Present your research, critical evaluation and exploratory work in depth in a sketchbook
- experiment in a range of media with an emphasis on the development of ideas using drawing and painting media
- examples of how you have been influenced by historical, contemporary and cultural factors including seeing the work of artists

and disciplined way to meet an objective; select and record analytically from direct observation and personal experience.

c) **Aesthetic Qualities** Candidates are expected to use and compose formal elements (contour, shape, colour/tone, texture, structure and the relationships between form and space) as appropriate.

d) **Knowledge and Critical Understanding**

Candidates are expected to select and communicate information relevant to an idea, subject or theme and evaluate this in a systematic way; make critical judgements and use personal ideas and images to show they are developing appreciation and cultural awareness.

- an A2 final outcome from one area of study within art, craft or design with supporting studies mounted on A2 card.

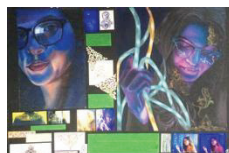
## Why select this subject?

This course provides a balance to your academic subjects at GCSE and is for those who enjoy making and creating Art. You will need to be self-motivated and give over at least 2 hours a week outside of your lessons to keep up with your deadline. produce high quality work and be able to develop your own ideas and themes. IGCSE Art and Design provides a solid foundation if you wish to progress to higher education or employment within the creative industries. The range of creative activities studied will benefit your overall educational development, helping you to cultivate the type of skills and attributes which universities and employers in general are looking for – such as creativity, resourcefulness, problem-solving, adaptability and imagination. Moreover, if you enjoy Art you will certainly gain the most from this course.

## How will this subject help me in the future?

The Sixth Form Art and Design Curriculum provides strong foundations for the further study of Art & Design, and associated courses in higher education - such as Architecture, Graphic Design, Fashion, Illustration, Interior Design, Animation, Photography, Product Design and Digital Design. We assist all students in the creation of a portfolio to support their application for all related courses.

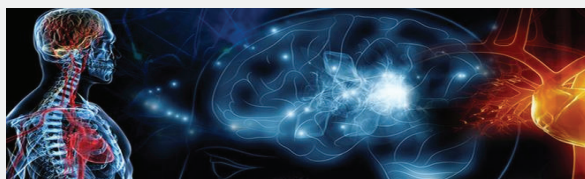
The creative and design industries make up one of the largest and fastest growing employment sectors worldwide and skills taught throughout the A level course, such as creativity, critical thinking and innovation are seen as vital skills for the future employment marketplace.



# AS/A Level Biology

## Course requirements

Grade 6 in IGCSE Biology (or Grade 7 in Co-ordinated Science) and Mathematics.  
5 IGCSEs grade C or above



## How is this course assessed?

### AS: There are 3 papers to sit at AS:

Unit 1 - Multiple Choice paper  
Unit 2 - Structured question paper  
Unit 3 - Structured question paper based on the practical skills of planning, analysis, and evaluation.

### A2: There are 3 papers to sit at A2

Unit 4: Structured question paper  
Unit 5:  
Unit 6: Structured question paper based on the practical skills of planning, analysis, and evaluation.

## Why select this subject?

Biology is a rapidly developing science at the forefront of many important developments in society. Biology at A Level provides an excellent basis for higher education courses as well as providing you with a wide range of useful skills which are transferable to any subject or field of work.

## Syllabus content

### **AS Biology**

Unit 1: Molecules, Diet, Transport and Health

Unit 2: Cells, Development, Biodiversity and Conservation

Unit 3: Practical Skills in Biology I

### **A2 Biology**

Unit 4: Energy, Environment, Microbiology and Immunity

Unit 5: Respiration, Internal Environment, Coordination and Gene Technology

Unit 6: Practical Skills in Biology II

## How will this subject help me in the future?

Biology is a fascinating subject, studying traditional advances in addition to those in cloning, gene technology, drug testing and forensics. It involves the study of a wide range of exciting topics, ranging from Molecular Biology to the study of ecosystems and from microorganisms to mammoths. Biology is never far from the headlines either. The human genome has been sequenced and we know the complete arrangement of the three thousand million bases that make up human DNA. In Kenya, 350 people die every day from AIDS and in Southeast Asia the skies are dark with smoke as the last Bornean rainforests are burned to grow oil palms. Biologists are concerned with all these issues. They work in the fields of cell biology, medicine, food production and ecology and the work they do is vital to us all.

Biology is a desirable qualification for a wide range of degree courses. These include medicine, dentistry, veterinary science, microbiology, genetics, ecology, zoology and sports science. It is also important for allied health careers such as nursing, radiography, pharmacy, physiotherapy, environmental health and medical laboratory work.

# AS/A Level Chemistry

## Course Requirements

Grade 6 in IGCSE Chemistry (or Grade 6 in Dual Award Science) and Mathematics.  
5 IGCSEs grade C or above



## How is this course assessed?

### AS: There are 3 papers to sit at AS:

Unit 1: Structure, Bonding and Intro to Organic Chemistry

Unit 2: Energetics, Group Chemistry, Halogenoalkanes and alcohols

Unit 3: Practical Skills in Chemistry I

### A2: There are 3 papers to sit at A2

Paper 4: Rates, Equilibria and Further Organic Chemistry

Paper 5: Transition Metals and Organic Nitrogen Chemistry

Paper 6: Practical Skills in Chemistry II

All papers are written papers although there are core practicals that will be completed throughout the course that paper 3 and 6 will be based upon.

Units 1 and 4 will be assessed in January, Units 2, 3, 5 and 6 will be assessed in June

Units 1, 2, 4 and 5 consist of a MC section, a mix of long and short structured questions section and a contemporary context/data calculation section

## Syllabus content

### AS Chemistry

Formulae, equations and Amount of Substance, Atomic Structure and the Periodic Table, Bonding and Structure, Introductory Organic Chemistry and Alkanes, Alkenes, Energetics, Intermolecular forces, Redox Chemistry and Group 1, 2 and 7, Introduction to Kinetics and Equilibria, Organic Chemistry: Halogenoalkanes, Alcohols and Spectra

### A2 Chemistry

Kinetics, Entropy and Energetics, Chemical Equilibria, Acid-Base Equilibria, Organic Chemistry: Carbonyls, Carboxylic Acids and Chirality, Redox Equilibria, Transition Metals and their Chemistry, Organic Chemistry: Arenes, Organic Nitrogen Compounds: Amines, Amides, Amino Acids and Proteins, Organic Synthesis

## Why select this subject?

Chemistry gives us valuable insight into how our world works as it is the study of matter and reactions. It is commonly considered the 'central science' as it can be used to explain the processes involved in all the other sciences. It is an interesting subject to take by itself as well as being complementary to a number of other A-Level courses, such as Mathematics, Psychology and, of course, the other sciences.

## How will this subject help me in the future?

Studying an AS or A Level in Chemistry opens up many different career options. The combination of practical work, analysis, critical thinking and technical knowledge of how the world works provide a very broad skill set that applies to many careers and university subjects. It is an essential A Level for many science-based careers such as Medicine, Pharmacy and Environmental Science and is a welcome addition to other subjects such as Engineering, Business and Psychology.

Studying Chemistry provides insight into scientific phenomena and provides a springboard for a range of useful, interesting, and rewarding careers. Even in times of high unemployment rates, the chemist remains one of the most highly sought-after as Chemistry is also a well-respected subject in its own right and suitable for entry into a wide range of professions.



# AS/A Level Computer Science

## Course requirements

IGCSE Maths B recommended  
IGCSE Computer Science B  
recommended



## How is this course assessed?

Two written papers, each worth 50% of the final grade at AS Level and a further two written papers (making all four papers worth 25% each) at A2.

Paper 1 (AS) = 2 hrs

Paper 2 (AS) = 1hr 30 min

Paper 3 (A2) = 2 hrs

Paper 4 (A2) = 1 hr 30 min

## Why select this subject?

### The digital age needs computer scientists

Like it or not you're living in it – this is the Digital Age. Computer programmes have all but infiltrated every aspect of our lives. Computer scientists theorise, design, develop, and apply the software and hardware for the programmes we use day in day out – sounds pretty important to us

### Year abroad opportunities

Computers have gone global, and it would be ridiculous for Computer Science education providers to not reflect this fact. When you apply to university, check the opportunities for overseas study on the courses that interest you. A year abroad will provide you with a deeper understanding of how computers are used around the world, allowing you to experience other cultures, and gain some language skills in the process.

## Syllabus content

### **Section 1 Theory Fundamentals (AS)**

- 1.1 Information representation
- 1.2 Communication and Internet technologies
- 1.3 Hardware
- 1.4 Processor fundamentals
- 1.5 System software
- 1.6 Security, privacy and data integrity
- 1.7 Ethics and ownership
- 1.8 Database and data modelling

### **Section 2 Fundamental Problem-solving (AS)**

- 2.1 Algorithm design and problem-solving
- 2.2 Data representation
- 2.3 Programming
- 2.4 Software development

### **Section 3 Advanced Theory (A2)**

- 3.1 Data representation
- 3.2 Communication and Internet technologies
- 3.3 Hardware
- 3.4 System software
- 3.5 Security
- 3.6 Artificial Intelligence

### **Section 4 Further Problem-solving (A2)**

- 4.1 Computational thinking and problem-solving
- 4.2 Further programming

## How will this subject help me in the future?

### **Computer scientists are needed in every type of industry**

Every industry uses computers, so naturally computer scientists can apply their skills across a wide range of services. Problems in science, engineering, health care, and so many other areas can be solved by computers. It's up to the computer scientist to figure out how, and design the software to apply the solution.

This is reinforced by a recent article in The New York Times which points out that computing is increasingly touching our lives in a number of areas, from science and various industries to our culture and how we interact as a society. The prevalence of technology means that computer science skills will become increasingly important in areas outside the sciences.

Whether your career goals lie in health care, business or the arts, learning more about computer science can provide you with valuable skills that will help you in your chosen career path and keep you marketable in today's increasingly challenging job market.

# AS/A Level Chinese Language

## Course Requirements

Grade B in IGCSE Chinese Foreign Language



## How is this course assessed?

### AS Chinese Language:

1. Reading and Writing (70%)
2. Essay (30%)

### A Level Chinese Language:

1. Reading and Writing (39%)
2. Essay (22%)
3. Literature (39%)

## Why select this subject?

Regarding gaining entry to universities, some Advanced Level subjects are more frequently required for entry to degree courses than others, and these include Chinese. Languages are known as 'facilitating' subjects.

From the individual scholar's viewpoint, however, AS/A Level Chinese allows the student to expand on the basic knowledge gained at IGCSE, developing further insights into Chinese culture and civilisation.

Holistically, positive attitudes to language learning are developed, along with world-mindedness, tolerance and a sympathetic approach to other cultures and civilisations.

## Syllabus content

The course aims to develop a high level of competence in understanding, reading and writing Chinese and a deeper knowledge of Chinese culture and civilisation.

Lessons cover a variety of activities including individual and group work. Students are expected to use as much Chinese as possible in and outside the classroom, and exploit a wide range of sources for in-class and private study (books, videos, magazines, online resources, etc.), as well as maintaining a general interest in all aspects of the language and culture.

## How will this subject help me in the future?

Learning Chinese offers many benefits to personal and professional growth, as well as gaining a better understanding of one of the richest cultures in the world. Here are **3 major reasons** to learn Mandarin (*Why 3? It is because 3 is traditionally believed to be a good number in Chinese culture!*):

### 1. The usage of Mandarin is beyond what you have always imagined

If you think Mandarin is only spoken in China, think twice! Apart from China, Mandarin is spoken in a lot of countries such as Taiwan, Malaysia, Singapore, Indonesia, Thailand, Brunei, Philippines and Mongolia. There are also many large Chinese-speaking diasporas in different parts of the world, including the UK, the US, Canada and Australia. So if you connect with people in these countries, then it would be beneficial to converse in their language. You can also make more new friends with different cultures when you travel, or even online!

### 2. It is never only about the language, but also the culture.

Chinese history and culture is one the richest and certainly the oldest in the world. Everything in Chinese culture, including different regional cuisines, drinks, festivals, calligraphy, poetry, music and philosophy, is deeply embedded and submerged in the language. Using Mandarin as a key to open the chest of Chinese culture is what you can achieve with the AS or AL course.

### 3. It opens the door to more opportunities.

*“Learning another language is like becoming another person.” - Haruki Murakami*

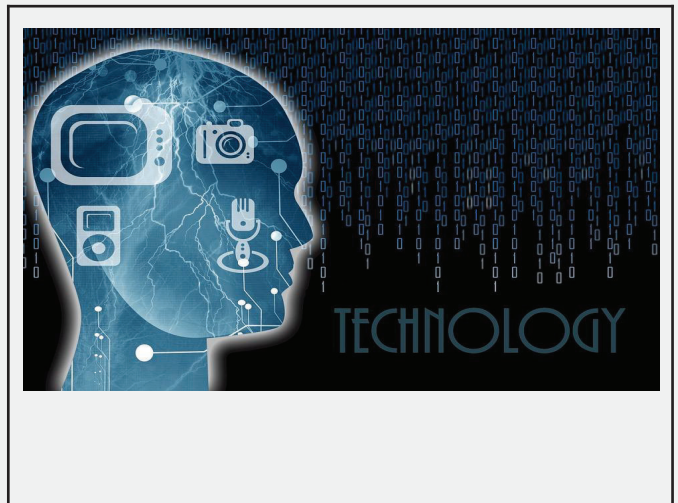
When you allow yourself to be immersed in another language and culture, you are inviting a new self and more great opportunities to your life. The fact that the Chinese language is very distant from other major languages can definitely give you different insights and contexts of how to see our world. Besides, many international companies now recruit Chinese-speaking candidates so that they can cope with the increasing needs from Chinese-speaking countries. No matter which profession you want to take on in the future, knowing Chinese keeps your door open to exciting opportunities of working and living abroad, or working with people from different parts of the world in your own country.

# A Level Design and Technology (Product Design)

## Course requirements

The course is designed to build on the study of Design and Technology at GCSE level, so a GCSE grade of A\*-C is recommended. A C grade in maths is required.

This course is linear, so students must be prepared to study it for the whole two years and will be examined at the end of Year 13. There is no option to complete AS at the end of Year 12.



## How is this course assessed?

### Component 1:

Principles of Design and Technology  
(Paper code: 9DT0/01)\*  
Written examination: 2 hours  
(50% of the mark)

### Component 2:

Independent Design and Make Project (Paper code: 9DT0/02). (50% of the mark).

Students are required to analyse a given contextual challenge on an individual basis, selecting a problem to focus on, they develop a range of potential ideas and then realise one through practical making activities.



## Syllabus content

### Component 1:

Topic 1: Materials  
Topic 2: Performance characteristics of materials  
Topic 3: Processes and techniques  
Topic 4: Digital technologies  
Topic 5: Factors influencing the development of products  
Topic 6: Effects of technological developments  
Topic 7: Potential hazards and risk assessment

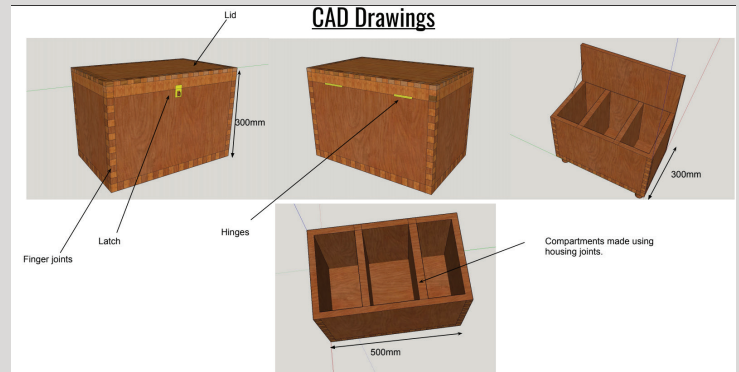
### Component 2:

Part 1: Identifying opportunities for design  
Identification and investigation of a design possibility, investigation of client/end user needs, wants and values, research and production of a specification  
Part 2: Designing a prototype  
Producing different design ideas, review of initial ideas, development of design ideas into a final design, review of development and final idea and communication of design ideas  
Part 3: Making a final prototype  
Design, manufacture and realisation of a final prototype, including tools and equipment and quality and accuracy  
Part 4: Evaluating own design and prototype  
Testing and evaluation.

## Why select this subject?

You don't have to want to be a designer to study Design. Maybe you're thinking about becoming an engineer, an architect, a teacher, a musician, a writer, an economist. Studying Design as a subject at school provides you with life-long skills irrespective of whether or not you embark on a career in Design.

Design education is relevant to those interested in diverse fields, including Engineering, Manufacturing, Internet and Communication Technologies, Architecture, Industrial Design, Town - Planning, Advertising, Brand Development, Marketing, Business Development, Publishing and Interior Design. Choosing Design as a subject can teach you very valuable skills that will prepare you for the world and a wide variety of careers in the future. In other words, Design can help to develop skills that can help you to navigate a very complex world.



## How will this subject help me in the future?

### Skills and qualities gained from studying Design Technology

- You may need particular **technical skills** and specialist knowledge of how things work or need to be designed and built.
- Some jobs particularly require **problem solving skills** and creative thinking to recognise problems and their causes, to identify a range of possible solutions and then assess and decide the best way forward.
- You'll need to be able to plan and schedule work. This could include being able to prioritise what needs to be done and by when to assist your **organisation**.
- If your job requires **verbal communication** you may need to write or give speeches and presentations. For jobs which require written communication skills you will need to write clearly and convincingly – you could be producing or dealing with legal documents or writing articles for a newspaper. You may also require good listening skills, the ability to negotiate or to be persuasive.
- You may need specific artistic or design skills for a job, or you may need to draw on a good imagination to come up with **creative solutions** to business challenges.
- Some jobs require a good understanding of how businesses work and the **management skills** to help the business run smoothly and succeed.
- You'll be collecting and examining information in detail to **analyse** and arrive at a solution, to answer a key question or make an informed decision.
- Any job which involves contact with customers and the public requires good **customer service** skills. Whether it's on the phone or face-to-face it's important to be able to make customers feel welcome, to be polite and listen.
- You need to know and do what is expected of you. This ranges from organising yourself, being on time, to being responsible. Some jobs need particular **discipline skills** such as being able to persevere with the task and plans until you accomplish them, or following strict procedures.

# AS/A Level Drama (EdExcel)

## Course requirements

A desire to create and perform Drama.

A flexibility to learn from mistakes in order to succeed.

An ability to effectively communicate ideas both in written and oral form.

Grade “B” in IGCSE Drama is recommended, or a “B” in English Literature.



## How is this course assessed?

### **Component 1: 80 Marks (40%)**

#### **Group Devised Performance**

This is split into two assessment strands:

- 1) The final performance (20 marks)
- 2) A supporting portfolio document either in written/typed or verbal format (60 Marks)

### **Component 2: 60 Marks (20%)**

#### **Text in Performance (scripted)**

This is split into two assessment strands:

- 1) A monologue/ duologue (24 marks)
- 2) A group performance (36 marks)

### **Component 3: 80 Marks (40%)**

#### **Theatre makers in practice (Written exam)**

This two and a half hour written paper is divided into three sections:

- 1) A live theatre evaluation (20 marks)
- 2) Page to stage: realising a text performance (36 marks)
- 3) Interpreting a performance (24 marks)

## Syllabus content

There are three main areas of focus.

- 1) Interpreting, creating and developing a devised piece from one key extract from a performance text and applying the methods of one practitioner.
- 2) A group performance/design realisation of the devised piece.
- 3) Analysing and evaluating the creative process and devised performance.

## Why select this subject?

In recent years, higher education institutions and employers have consistently flagged the need for students to develop a range of transferable skills to enable them to respond with confidence to the demands of undergraduate study and the world of work.

The A-Level Drama course allows students to develop the following:

- Critical Thinking
- Systems Thinking
- Communication
- Relationship building skills
- Collaborative problem solving
- Adaptability
- Self Management
- Self development

## Content objectives:

AO1: Create and develop ideas to communicate meaning as part of the theatre-making process, making connections between dramatic theory and practice

AO2: Apply theatrical skills to realise artistic intentions in live performance

AO3: Demonstrate knowledge and understanding of how drama and theatre is developed and performed

AO4: Analyse and evaluate their own work and the work of others

## How will this subject help me in the future?

In an ever changing world, we do not know what the jobs of the future will be like, however, having a range of transferable skills that can assist with those jobs is extremely useful.

Drama will aid those careers that need a creative and imaginative mind, as well as jobs that require strength in public presentation and communication.

Students will learn how to work both independently and also as part of a cohesive team, whilst refining skills such as research and reflection when moving towards a common goal.

Students can progress from this qualification to:

- Drama schools and university courses that relate directly to drama and theatre;
- University courses that will benefit from the skills acquired from this A-Level, for example law, human resources, people management;
- Employment where people skills are essential, for example management, retail, nursing, industry and business environments;
- Employment where time management, confidence, the ability to work collaboratively and to meet deadlines are desirable.



# AS/A Level Economics

## Course Requirements

Maths IGCSE B grade recommended along with an appreciation for how resources and worth influence the global community and are influenced by it.



## How is this course assessed?

Component	Weighting	
	AS Level	A Level
<b>Paper 1 Multiple Choice</b> <span style="float: right;"><b>1 hour</b></span> 30 multiple choice questions based on the AS Level syllabus content 30 marks	40%	20%
<b>Paper 2 Data Response and Essay</b> <span style="float: right;"><b>1 hour 30 minutes</b></span> Section A: one data response question (20 marks) Section B: one structured essay from a choice of three (20 marks) Based on the AS Level syllabus content 40 marks	30%	15%
<b>Paper 3 Multiple Choice</b> <span style="float: right;"><b>1 hour 15 minutes</b></span> 30 multiple choice questions based on the A Level syllabus content 30 marks		15%
<b>Paper 4 Data Response and Essays</b> <span style="float: right;"><b>2 hours 15 minutes</b></span> Section A: one data response question (20 marks) Section B: two essays from a choice of six (50 marks) Based on the A Level syllabus content 70 marks		10%
		25%

## Why select this subject?

Economics is the study of how societies, governments, businesses, households, and individuals allocate their scarce resources. The discipline has two important features. First, it develops conceptual models of behavior to predict responses to changes in policy and market conditions. Second, it uses rigorous statistical analysis to investigate these changes.

## Syllabus content

Through the Cambridge International AS and A Level Economics syllabus, learners study how to explain and analyse economic issues and arguments, evaluate economic information, and organise, present and communicate ideas and judgements clearly. The syllabus covers a range of basic economic ideas, including an introduction to the price system and government intervention,

Economists are well known for advising presidents and governments on economic issues, formulating policies at national and international banks, and analysing economic conditions for investment banks, brokerage houses, real estate companies, and other private sector businesses. They also contribute to the development of many other public policies including health care, welfare, and school reform and efforts to reduce inequality, pollution and crime.

The study of economics can also provide valuable knowledge for making decisions in everyday life. It offers a tool with which to approach questions about the desirability of a particular financial investment opportunity, whether or not to attend university or graduate school, the benefits and costs of alternative careers, and the likely impacts of public policies including universal health care and a higher minimum wage.

international trade and exchange rates, the measurement of employment and inflation, and the causes and consequences of inflation.

Learners also study the price system, the theory of the firm, market failure, macroeconomic theory and policy, and economic growth and development.

The AS & A Level syllabus content is divided into five topic areas:

- 1 Basic economic ideas and resource allocation
- 2 The price system and the micro economy
- 3 Government microeconomic intervention
- 4 The macro economy
- 5 Government macroeconomic intervention

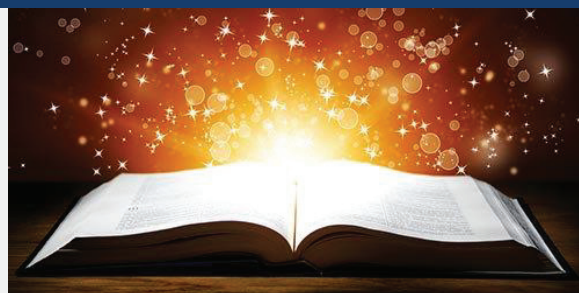
## How will this subject help me in the future?

Indeed, economics is a great foundation for many careers. Having a keen interest in business, economics helps immensely in a range of different university courses and careers. It shows employers that you are interested in the economy, that you have an understanding of how a business works and that you know how to analyse markets. The subject looks impressive on your CV as it displays high levels of both analytical and communication skills and many large companies have said just how important economics is in this current climate. Economics is truly all around us, present in almost every aspect of our lives. Studying the subject gives students a generalist understanding of the world we live in and its inner workings.

# AS/A Level English Literature

## Course requirements

IGCSE English Literature B  
IGCSE English Language B (desirable)  
5 IGCSEs grade C or above



## How is this course assessed?

This course is 100% exam based.

You will complete two modules in Year 12 and two modules in Year 13. In the exams you will have a choice of an essay question and a passage-based question.

## Why select this subject?

*"A reader lives a thousand lives."*

(George R.R. Martin)

You should select this subject if you enjoy reading and debating. Over the two years, you will have the chance to read some excellent works of literature and to study them in greater depth than at IGCSE. If you are considering literature, you probably already understand the enjoyment that reading can offer, but did you also know that studies have shown reading widely can even increase empathy? So literature might make you a better person!

English literature is also great for developing your critical thinking skills and your own personal written style. Your lessons and essays will encourage enthusiastic articulate communication.

## Syllabus content

### Syllabus content

AS Level:

- At AS level, you will study for two exams, 'Prose & Unseen' and 'Drama & Poetry'. For the former, you will read a novel and develop your skills in handling unseen texts. For the latter, you will study a play and a collection of poetry.
- You will build on skills from IGCSE, developing more mature and thorough language analysis and exploring dramatic methods.

A Level:

- At A level, you will study for two more exams: 'Shakespeare & Drama', and 'Pre- and Post-1900 Poetry and Prose'. For the former, you will study a Shakespeare play and a play written by a significant author. For the latter, you will study a novel and a poetry collection.
- At A level there is extra emphasis on informed personal and critical opinions, so you will also study feminist, Marxist and post-colonial criticism. This is an interesting opportunity to explore how literature relates to society.

## How will this subject help me in the future?

The Russell Group of top universities in the UK list English Literature A-Level as one of their 'facilitating subjects': those that are considered academically rigorous and good preparation for degree-level work. It is a great course to support an application for Higher Education, but it can also be very useful for the world of work. It is often a requirement if you are considering Law, English, theatre or creative writing at university, but is also highly recommended as preparation for Business, Humanities and language-based degrees.

English Literature is useful for a variety of careers, the most obvious of which are journalism, law, publishing, politics and business management.

## AS/A Level French Languages/Literature

### Course requirements

Grade B grade in IGCSE French as a Foreign Language required.

Grade B in IGCSE English Language recommended.



### How is this course assessed?

#### AS French Language:

1. Speaking (29%)
2. Reading and Writing (50%)
3. Essay (21%)

#### A Level French Language:

1. Speaking (20%)
2. Reading and Writing (35%)
3. Essay (15%)
4. Literature (30%)

### Why select this subject?

Building on the themes covered in the iGCSE, those who have enjoyed studying a language and have an interest in people, communication and travel should consider selecting this subject.

Languages make you think. Its grammar is excellent for brain-training, its exceptions develop mental elasticity. The cultural aspects and construction of the language studied encourage the student to question one's own perspective and perhaps even change it for life!

### Syllabus content

The course aims to develop a high level of competence in understanding, speaking and writing French and a deeper knowledge of the culture and civilisation of Francophone countries.

Students engage in topical debates pertaining to contemporary francophone societal issues such as the role of social media, immigration, racism and the threat of climate change. Cultural themes are delved into exploring urban French slam poetry, Haitian voodoo and North African art amongst others.

Three French language texts are examined leading to discussions on Enlightenment philosophy, social trends and human rights to name a few. Students are encouraged to use as much French as possible in and outside the classroom, and exploit a wide range of resources including books, videos, vlogs and podcasts.

# How will this subject help me in the future?

## University Entry

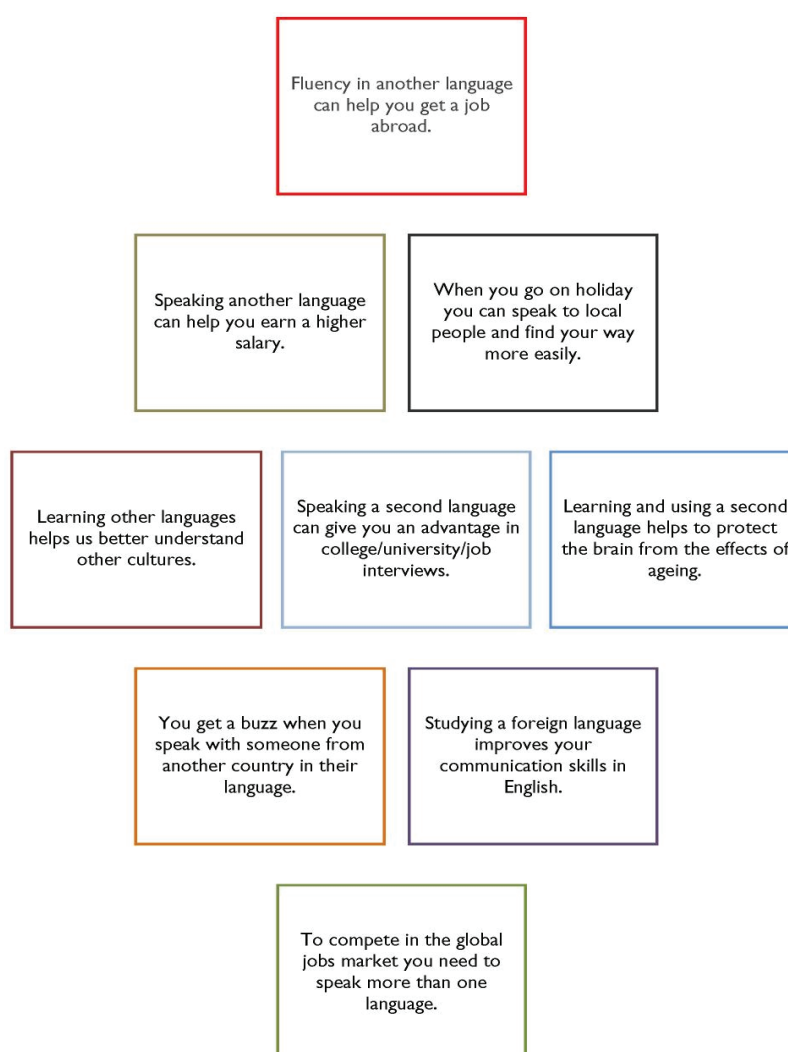
The Russell Group of top universities in the UK list Modern Foreign Languages A-Level as one of their 'facilitating subjects': those that are considered academically rigorous and good preparation for degree-level work. It is therefore a great course to support an application for Higher Education for any academic subject.

## On a professional level

For any student considering a career with an international element, French is hugely beneficial. Spoken by more than 200 million people in 29 countries, a knowledge of French can create opportunities in a range of careers including development, finance, law and activism. It can, of course, open up entire job markets!

## On a personal level

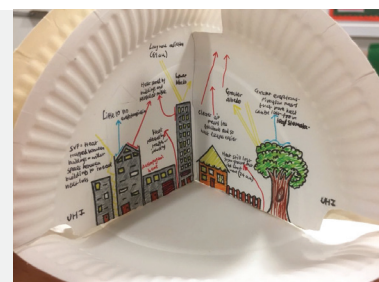
Holistically, world-mindedness, tolerance and curiosity are fostered. An appreciation of art, literature and music are developed along with an openness to engage with people and ask questions. Increased resilience, confidence, empathy and understanding of the world help contribute to an all-rounded and fulfilling life!



# AS/A Level Geography

## Course requirements

IGCSE Geography Grade B recommended



## How is this course assessed?

Paper 1 Core Physical Geography  
Paper 2 Core Human Geography  
Paper 3 Advanced Physical Geography  
Paper 4 Advanced Human Geography  
Papers 1 and 2: AS Level  
Papers 3 and 4 : A2 Level  
Each paper involves a combination of short answer questions, long answer questions and essays.  
For A2 Level, the final grade is a combination on the AS grade awarded and the A2 Grade awarded (50:50)

## Why select this subject?

There has never been a better or more important time to study A level Geography. Dealing with vital issues such as climate change, migration, environmental degradation, social issues and natural hazards, A level Geography is one of the most relevant subjects you could choose to study.

Given its interdisciplinary nature: economics, science and maths to name but a few, universities REALLY like Geography!

## Syllabus content

### AS Geography

1. Hydrology and fluvial geomorphology
2. Atmosphere and weather
3. Rocks and weathering
4. Population
5. Migration
6. Settlement dynamics

### A2 Geography

1. Tropical Environments
2. Hazardous Environments
3. Economic Transition
4. Global Interdependence

## How will this subject help me in the future?

- Research skills, such as using a range of technical methods for the collection and analysis of spatial and environmental data, and undertaking fieldwork;
- Transferable skills, such as teamwork, problem solving, IT skills, communication skills (presentation, writing, debating);
- Intellectual skills, such as critically evaluating theories and judging evidence in order to make informed decisions and to develop reasoned arguments;
- Personal attributes, such as time-management, development of responsibility, coping with uncertainty, self-reflection, motivation, flexibility, and creativity;
- Today, geographers are amongst the most employable graduates.
- Geography is an empirically and conceptually innovative, diverse, vibrant discipline that generates economic benefit, influences government policy and delivery, and improves our overall quality of life.

# AS/A Level History

## Course requirements

A passion for the past and present.

GCSE History: B

OR

GCSE English: B



## Syllabus content

### There are four main areas of study on our curriculum at A Level:

#### **AS Paper 1 Russia in Revolution, 1881 -1917**

This paper examines the events that led to the end of Tsarism in Russia. It is an excellent introduction to studying History at a higher level, with a lot of debates and discussions to sink your teeth into.

#### **AS Paper 2 India, 1857 - 1948: Raj to Partition**

This breadth study examines British involvement in India and the struggle for independence over an almost 100 year period. It allows opportunities for source analysis, and examines some very relevant history of South Asia.

#### **A2 Paper 3 Civil Rights and Race Relations in the USA, 1865–2009**

This paper examines the many challenges that different ethnic groups have had in the USA since the Civil War. It is a highly relevant study in today's world, examining the challenges and struggles people have had to obtain civil rights and the fight for equality that goes on to this day.

#### **A2 Paper 4 The World in Crisis, 1879–1945**

In the final paper of the course we take a deep dive into the world shaping conflicts of the early 20th Century. We will examine the crises of the 'Long 19th Century' which led to the First World War, the war itself, then the destabilisation of Europe which culminated in the Second World War. This unit brings together a multitude of skills and provides a clear perspective on events that have shaped the world we live in today.

## How will this subject help me in the future?

“He who controls the past controls the future” (George Orwell)

Wherever human beings live in the world, and whatever they do for a living, they must interact with other people. This makes History relevant to all areas of work and life. The discipline of History is an enquiry into the motivation for human action, the consequences of those actions and an assessment of their significance.

History helps to improve our understanding of human behaviour and it is this experience of humanity that goes a long way to explaining why it is welcomed within so many fields of employment. Historians prize independence of mind and capability of expression. We aim for balanced conclusions based on evidence as well as effective organisation and communication.

History actively encourages students to think for themselves and to carry out enquiries independently. It encourages oral expression and debate, both of which are valuable confidence builders and, above all, it encourages individuals to be more tolerant. History is not just about acquiring knowledge of facts, but also skills that are of great value to you as you go through life.

On top of this, History has a huge breadth of content: bizarre, dramatic, tragic, wondrous, sometimes hilarious and always human. We are sure that our students will enjoy the A Level course on offer at TBS.

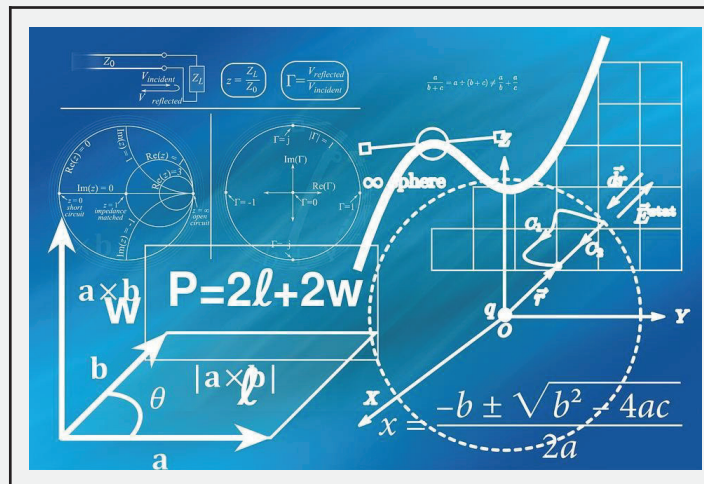
# AS/A Level Mathematics

## Course requirements

**IGCSE Mathematics:** Strong B (essential), A or A\* (recommended).

The course is far more abstract than the IGCSE and so requires a strong understanding of algebra and geometry.

**5 IGCSEs** at Grade C or above



## How is this course assessed?

The **AS course** is assessed through two exams at the end of Year 12.

The **A Level course** is assessed through two exams at the end of Year 13, this result is then *combined with the AS score*.

## Syllabus content

The syllabus is split between pure mathematics and applied. Below shows the breakdown between pure and applied mathematics.

The [full syllabus](#) can be found on the CAIE website, with the course code 9709.

## Why select this subject?

The course will teach you how to analyse data sets in statistics, the motion of a car up a mountain, how maths can be applied to the real world, fundamentals of proof, calculus, advanced trigonometry and imaginary numbers.

### A Level Maths - CAIE 9709

#### AS Only (Year 12)

**P1: Pure Maths** - algebra, number, graphs, geometry, calculus.  
60% of AS grade  
1 hour 45 min (Calculator)  
75 marks

**S1: Statistics and Probability** - analysing data, probability, types of distributions  
40% of AS grade  
1 hour 15 min (Calculator)  
50 marks

#### A Level (Year 12 + 13)

P1 (from Year 12):  
30% of A Level grade

**P3: Pure Maths** -  
30% of A Level grade  
1 hour 45 min exam (Calculator)  
75 marks

S1 (from Year 12):  
20% of A Level grade

**M1: Mechanics** (applied)  
20% of A Level grade  
1 hour 15 min exam (Calc)  
50 marks

## How will this subject help me in the future?

An understanding of mathematics is desired in a wide variety of career choices and is a highly respected A Level. It will improve your critical thinking and problem solving skills as well as provide a good foundation for any science, engineering or mathematical based university course.



# AS/A Level Media Studies

## Course requirements

Required- C grade in English literature and language at IGCSE.

Recommended- B grade in English language at IGCSE.



## How is this course assessed?

The course is assessed by a mix of examination and portfolio submissions. Each year 50% of the course weighting is based on a 2 hour examination. 50% of the course will be assessed by the submission of your own media product and commentaries.

## Syllabus content

At AS level you will study:

- Media texts
- Technical elements of the media
- Media contexts
- Foundational film study

## Why select this subject?

In contemporary society the media is more influential than ever before. As children of the digital age, you are more skilled than any generation before you at navigating the online world, but as a result it's even more important that you think critically about how you do this.

At A level you will study:

- Media regulation
- The postmodern media
- Power and the media
- Media ecology

## How will this subject help me in the future?

Media studies develops lifelong skills, including: practical creative skills; research and evaluation skills; information management and project management skills; and the ability to analyse media products critically.

Media studies provides a suitable foundation for the study of media studies or related courses in higher education. Equally it is suitable for candidates intending to pursue business studies, psychology, English or any social science.

# AS/A Level Music (Edexcel)

## Course requirements

A genuine interest and passion for performing and creating music.

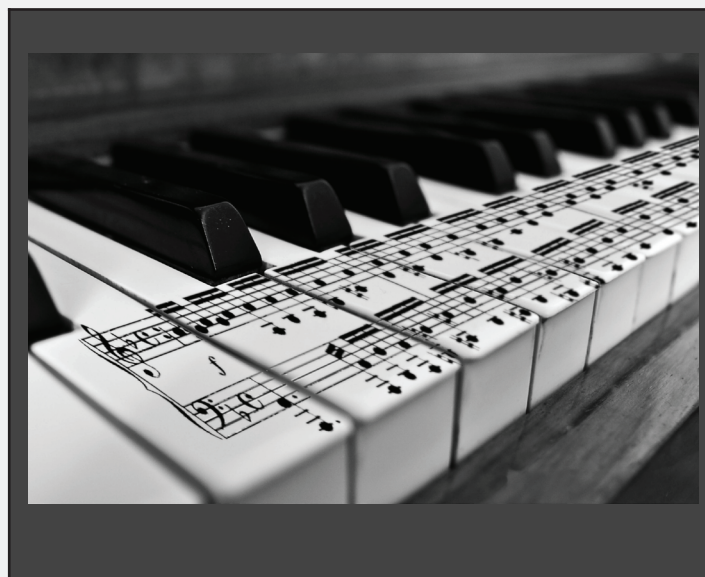
An understanding of time management and self-discipline towards practising and performing an instrument.

A willingness to commit to extra-curricular music clubs and ensembles.

Minimum GCSE Music Grade '6' from Year 11 (Edexcel 9-1 grading system) is recommended.

Be able to perform to at least Grade 5 level on an instrument.

5 IGCSEs grade C or above.



## How is this course assessed?

### **Component 1: Performing**

Non-examined assessment: externally assessed.

30% of the qualification

60 marks

### **Component 2: Composing**

Non-examined assessment: externally assessed.

30% of the qualification

60 marks

### **Component 3: Appraising**

Written examination: 2 hours

40% of the qualification

100 marks

## Syllabus content

Throughout the course, students are encouraged to understand and enjoy Music through:

- developing their approaches to performing in both a solo and ensemble context.
- developing their approaches to composing by expanding their knowledge of compositional techniques.
- extending their knowledge and understanding of musical elements, contexts and language.
- apply their knowledge through the content of six areas of study:
  - Vocal Music
  - Instrumental Music
  - Music for Film
  - Popular Music and Jazz
  - Fusions
  - New Directions

## Why select this subject?

A-Level Music is an engaging and rewarding course that allows students to combine both critical academic study and creative opportunities.

The course is based around three skills; performing, composing and appraising.

Students will:

- Build on their knowledge of musical theory
- Gain a confident understanding of basic principles and technique of performing
- Study and practise composition in different styles and genres
- Expand their knowledge of music history through listening and appraising.

## Content objectives:

While studying A-Level Music, students are expected to demonstrate knowledge of the following:

AO1: Interpret musical ideas through performing, with technical and expressive control and an understanding of style and context.

AO2: Create and develop musical ideas with technical and expressive control and coherence.

AO3: Demonstrate and apply musical knowledge.

AO4: Use analytical and appraising skills to make evaluative and critical judgements about music.

## How will this subject help me in the future?

A-Level Music is an essential choice of subject for students who are considering a career in music. Whether going down an academic or creative path, A-Level Music can give students the opportunity study music further at either a University or Conservatoire.

There are many exciting career pathways in music ranging from becoming a professional musician, a sound technician, a music therapist or a teacher. Studying music can also lead to careers in arts administration, radio and TV, theatre and events management.

However, A-Level Music can also help students develop a wide and versatile range of transferable skills that are invaluable to all kinds of career paths and studies. As well as developing strong teamwork, communication and self-management skills. A-Level Music helps to build students problem solving, researching, analytical and critical thinking skills.

Overall, A-Level Music will help foster a students passion and enjoyment of music while broadening their creative and critical horizons in both music and other areas of study.

# AS/A Level BTEC Music Level 3 International (Pearson)

## Course requirements

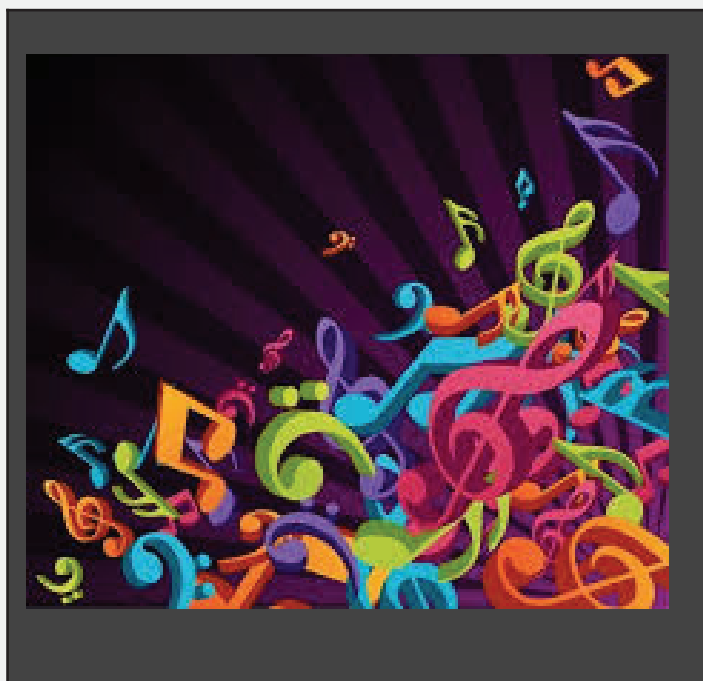
A genuine interest and passion for performing and creating music.

An understanding of time management and self-discipline towards practising and performing an instrument.

A willingness to commit to extra-curricular music clubs and ensembles.

Minimum GCSE Music Grade '6' in Composing and Performing from GCSE.

Be able to perform or sing to at least Grade 5 level on an instrument.



## How is this course assessed?

100% coursework

A combination of set tasks from Pearson and briefs written by the Teacher.

## Why select this subject?

BTEC Music is an engaging and rewarding course that allows students to capitalise creative opportunities and gain other highly transferable skills.

Students will:

- Build on their knowledge of musical theory through performance
- Gain a confident understanding of basic principles and technique of performing
- Study and practise composition in different styles and genres

## Syllabus content

This qualification is designed to support learners who are interested in learning about the music industry alongside other fields of study, with a view to progressing to a wide range of higher education courses, not necessarily in music subjects.

Learners taking this qualification will study from four mandatory learning and teaching modules including:

- Music Skills Development or Music Production Skills Development
- The Global Music Industry
- Personal Music Profile
- Collaborative Music Project.

## How will this subject help me in the future?

BTEC Music is an essential choice of subject for students who are considering a career in music.

There are many exciting career pathways in music ranging from becoming a professional musician, a sound technician, a music therapist or a teacher. Studying music can also lead to careers in arts administration, radio and TV, theatre and events management.

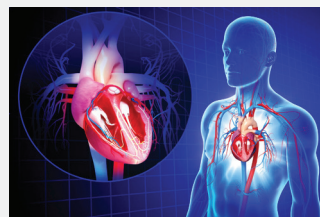
However, BTEC Music Level 3 can also help students develop a wide and versatile range of transferable skills that are invaluable to all kinds of career paths and studies. As well as developing strong teamwork, communication and self-management skills. BTEC Music helps to build students problem solving, researching, analytical and critical thinking skills.

Overall, BTEC Music will help foster a students passion and enjoyment of music while broadening their creative and critical horizons in both music and other areas of study.

# AS/A Level Physical Education

## Course requirements

C at IGCSE Science or PE  
B at IGCSE Science or PE recommended



## How is this course assessed?

### Written Papers (70% of total marks)

Paper 1 -Scientific Principles

Paper 2 -Psychological and Social Principles

### Practical Performance (15% of total marks)

Must perform in 1 sport as a player or coach

### Coursework (15% of total marks)

Analysing your own performance

## Why select this subject?

If you have a keen interest in the theory behind sports, this is definitely the subject for you!

You will receive a well-rounded introduction to the world of PE and Sport Science through a combination of physical performance and academic challenges.

## Syllabus content

### Topic 1 - Anatomy and Physiology

- Muscular Skeletal system
- Cardio-respiratory system
- Neuromuscular system
- Energy Systems

### Topic 2 - Exercise Physiology and applied movement analysis

- Diet and Nutrition
- Training methods
- Linear, Angular and Projectile Motion

### Topic 3 - Skill acquisition

- Memory Models
- Classification and transfer of skills

### Topic 4 - Sport Psychology

- Goal setting
- Arousal, anxiety and motivation

### Topic 5 - Sport and Society

- Globalisation and commercialism of sport
- Development of modern day sport

## How will this subject help me in the future?

Possible careers following A-level PE could include:

- Sports Therapist/Physiotherapist
- Strength & Conditioning Coach/Personal Trainer
- Sports Agent
- Sports Marketing
- Nutritionist
- Sports Psychologist
- Biomechanist
- Sports Journalist
- Sports Coach/Development Officer
- Teaching

SPORTS do not  
BUILD  
CHARACTER,  
they REVEAL it.

# AS/A Level Physics Edexcel International A Level

## Course Requirements

Grade 6 in IGCSE Physics or Dual Award Science and Mathematics. Learners who do not take A Level Mathematics are expected to have achieved at least a grade 6 at IGCSE and to be prepared to develop their mathematical skills.



## How is this course assessed?

In AS there are three papers.  
Paper 1 covering Unit 1, Mechanics and Materials. This exam is taken in January.  
Paper 2 covering Unit 2 Waves and Electricity. This exam is taken in June.  
Paper 3 is a written paper covering practical aspects of the course, it is taken in June.

## Why select this subject?

To study Physics is to seek a better understanding of our universe. Physics is a science that is central to many other scientific disciplines and to all types of engineering; it is the study of force, energy, motion and matter. It explores questions like how did the universe start? How will it end? What is a black hole? Is time travel possible?

If you have an enquiring mind and are always asking why things happen, then Physics will help you find the answers. It forms the basis of most modern technology and holds the future to global well-being.

## Syllabus content

### AS Physics

#### Unit 1

Mechanics covers the equations of motion, projectile motion, momentum, forces, Newton's laws, energy transfers and power.

Materials covers density, upthrust, viscosity, Hooke's Law and Young's Modulus.

#### Unit 2

Waves covers all aspects of sound and light waves including refraction, diffraction, interference, standing waves, the photoelectric effect and wave/particle duality.

Electricity covers DC circuits, internal resistance and resistivity, charge flow and potential dividers.

**Unit 3** is the carrying out of 8 practicals through Y12, knowledge of methods and necessary calculations is examined in Paper 3.

### A2 Physics

Unit 4 Further mechanics, fields and particles, Nuclear Physics

Unit 5 Thermodynamics, Radiation, Oscillations and Cosmology

Unit 6 Another 8 practicals carried out in Y13

## How will this subject help me in the future?

Career opportunities for physicists are excellent. Physics at A-level is useful for any engineering career and essential in some branches of engineering. Radiography and medical imaging, astronomy, the aerospace industry all require Physics. About one third of all physicists work in the public sector, one third in industry and one third in secondary or higher Education. Some physicists work on problems at the frontier of knowledge; others tackle the challenging problems which arise in the application of physical ideas to industrial and engineering problems. Physics graduates also find themselves employed in occupations such as Medicine, Computing and Finance.

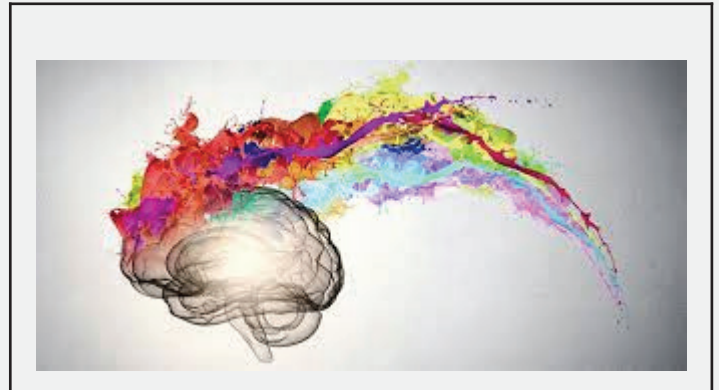


# AS/A Level CIE SP. psychology AS and A2

## Course requirements

C or above in Maths recommended  
B or above in English recommended

The course requires an understanding of data analysis and data representation in graphical form, alongside an understanding of measures of central tendencies and measures of dispersion. There is also an element of extended writing and understanding of analysis and evaluation skills.



## How is this course assessed?

Both years are assessed through 100% external examination. All assessment takes place in the summer series.

### AS: 2 x 1.30 min exam

**Paper 1** = Approaches, issues and debates

**Paper 2** = Research Methods

### A2: 2 x 1.30 mins exam

**Paper 3** = Specialist options: theory

**Paper 4** = Specialist options: application

## Why select this subject?

Studying Psychology develops cross curricular skills that are reflected in many other subjects. Skills are focused on data analysis and interpretation, research skills extended writing and evaluation.

Psychology allows for a better understanding of the brain and behaviour and looks at how an understanding of human and animal behaviour and interaction can positively impact and change the world around us. Teaching and learning techniques and strategies are interactive, co-operative and fun!

## Syllabus content

In **AS Psychology** research methods and core studies underpin the core course content.

The year starts with looking at all the research methods used in Psychology and evaluation of them.

Once students have a fundamental understanding of the key terminology and research methods, they can then apply this to the 4 key approaches and core studies.

### **Social Psychology**

Milgram (Obedience)

Piliavin et al (Subway Samaritans)

Yamamoto et al (Chimpanzee helping behaviour)

### **Cognitive Psychology**

Baron Cohen et al (Eyes Test)

Laney et al (False Memories)

Andrade (Doodling)

### **Learning Approach**

Bandura et al (Aggression)

Saavedra and Silverman (Button phobia)

Pepperberg (Parrot learning)

### **Biological Approach**

Canli et al (Brain scans and emotions)

Dement and Kleitman (Sleeps and Dreams)

Schachter and Singer (Two factor theory of emotion)

Along with a selection of issues, debates and approaches.

### **A2 Psychology**

Research Methods, Issues, Debates and approaches continue.

Plus the following topics:

**Clinical Psychology\***

**Organisational Psychology\***

## How will this subject help me in the future?

As Psychology develops many study skills and life skills it is a beneficial subject to choose that will facilitate success in any area in the future. The key focus is on understanding human behaviour and studying the mind and human interaction, which means it lends itself well to further study and careers in the following areas:

Therapy and Counselling

Clinical Psychologist

Social Services

Teaching Law

Medicine (depending on future plans psychology alone will not be sufficient for a degree in this area)

Psychiatry (depending on future plans psychology alone will not be sufficient for a degree in this area)

Child Care

Teaching

Advertising and Marketing

Business Management

Probation and Parole officer

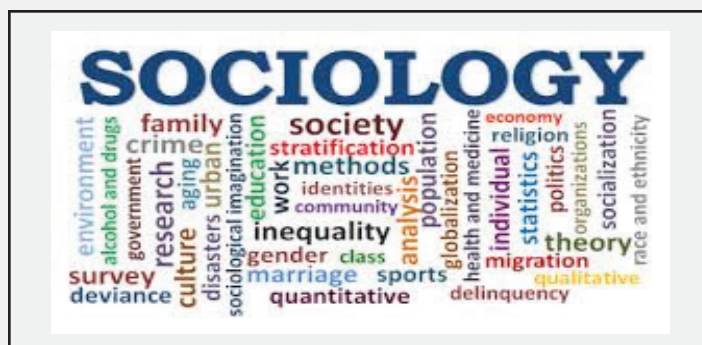
Research assistants

The above list is not extensive as Psychology opens doors in many areas.

# AS/A Level Sociology

## Course requirements

An interest in understanding the world around you.  
5 IGCSEs grade C or above



## Syllabus content

### AS: Paper 1: **Socialisation, identity and methods of research**

Socialisation and the creation of social identity:

- The process of learning and socialisation
- Social control, conformity and resistance
- Social identity and change

Methods of research:

- Types of data, methods and research design
- Approaches to sociological research
- Research issues

### Paper 2: **The Family**

Theories of the family and social change:

- Perspectives on the role of the family
- Diversity and social change

Family roles and changing relationships:

- Gender equality and experiences of family life
- Age and family life

### A2: Paper 3: **Education**

Education and society:

- Theories about the role of education
- Education and social mobility
- Influences on the curriculum

Education and inequality

- Intelligence and educational attainment
- Social class and educational attainment
- Ethnicity and educational attainment
- Gender and educational attainment

### Paper 4: **Globalisation and Religion**

#### **Globalisation**

Key debates, concepts and perspectives

Contemporary issues

#### **Religion**

Religion and social change

The Influence of Religion

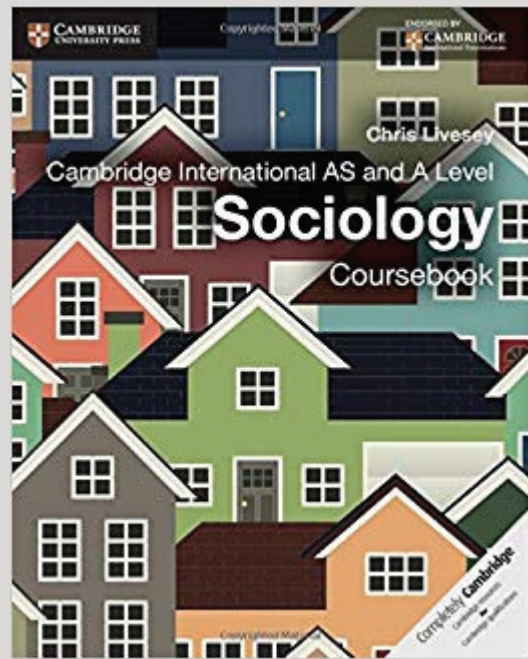
## Why select this subject?

In a rapidly changing world, AS and A Level Sociology offers students the opportunity not only to explore the processes that are shaping current trends, but also to develop an understanding of the complexity and diversity of human societies and their continuities with the past. The study of Sociology should stimulate awareness of contemporary social, cultural and political issues, and focus attention on the importance of examining these issues in a rigorous, reasoned and analytical way. The AS Level provides a solid grounding in the central ideas and approaches in Sociology, including family as well as theory and methods. A Level students can choose to explore a variety of important areas of sociological enquiry including global development, education, religion and media.

## How is this course assessed?

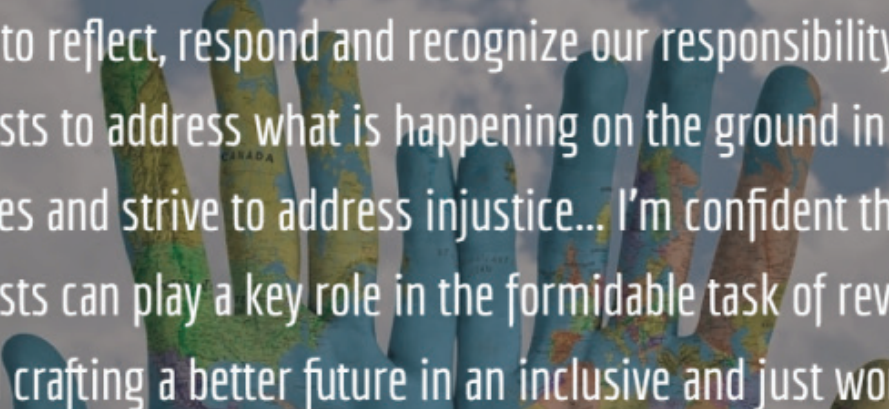
Paper 1 & Paper 2 (AS)  
Paper 3 & Paper 4 (A2)

100% written examination  
Essays & data response questions



## How will this subject help me in the future?

A Level Sociology provides a suitable foundation for the study of Sociology or related courses in higher education, such as Law, International Relations, International Development, Economics, Politics, Journalism, Disaster Management, Government & Policy, Social Research, Social Work, Business & Marketing, Advertising.



We need to reflect, respond and recognize our responsibility as sociologists to address what is happening on the ground in these grim times and strive to address injustice... I'm confident that sociologists can play a key role in the formidable task of reviving hope and crafting a better future in an inclusive and just world.

*Prof Margaret Abraham  
President, International Sociological Association*

 SOCIOLOGY  
AT WORK

# Cambridge International Examinations 8685, 9719 (Spanish)

## AS/A Level European Languages/Literature

### Course requirements

Grade B grade in IGCSE Spanish as a Foreign Language

Grade B in IGCSE English Language recommended



### How is this course assessed?

#### AS Spanish Language:

1. Speaking (29%)
2. Reading and Writing (50%)
3. Essay (21%)

#### A Level Spanish Language:

1. Speaking (20%)
2. Reading and Writing (35%)
3. Essay (15%)
4. Literature (30%)

### Why select this subject?

Building on the themes covered in the iGCSE, those who have enjoyed studying a language and have an interest in people, communication and travel should consider selecting this subject.

Languages make you think. Its grammar is excellent for brain-training, its exceptions develop mental elasticity. The cultural aspects and construction of the language studied encourage the student to question one's own perspective and perhaps even change it for life!

### Syllabus content

This course aims to:

- develop the ability to understand Spanish in a variety of registers
- enable students to communicate confidently and clearly in Spanish
- form a sound base of skills, language and attitudes required for further study, work and leisure
- develop insights into the culture and civilisation of the countries where Spanish is spoken, including the study of literary texts at A Level
- encourage positive attitudes to language learning and a sympathetic approach to other cultures and civilisations
- support intellectual and personal development by promoting learning and social skills.

Topics cover a broad spectrum of social and cultural aspects, building on those studied during the IGCSE course.

## How will this subject help me in the future?

### **University entry**

The Russell Group of top universities in the UK list Modern Foreign Languages A-Level as one of their 'facilitating subjects': those that are considered academically rigorous and good preparation for degree-level work. It is therefore a great course to support an application for Higher Education for any academic subject.

### **On a professional level**

Spanish is the language of an estimated 400 million people worldwide, making it the 4th most spoken language in the world. It is the official language of over 21 countries, as well as being an important language in the United States, making it hugely useful for travel, work and business. Furthermore, learning a language cultivates cultural awareness and communication skills, which represent a valuable skill in the global marketplace.

### **On a personal level**

The interaction and communication that underpins any language course will help you to develop confidence and cultivate curiosity, enriching your experience of life. You will develop the proficiency to enjoy the diverse literature, music, film and other cultural products of the Spanish speaking world, making it enjoyable and rewarding as an intellectual pursuit.

Many people cite *not* learning a foreign language as a regret; perhaps you should consider what opportunities you will lose by not speaking a foreign language!