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In addition to the subjects above, the Extended Project Qualification (EPQ) is offered to all students who request it.

Examination boards are identified on each subject page. Other boards may be offered on request.

AT LSI INDEPENDENT SIXTH FORM COLLEGE, WE ARE COMMITTED TO ENSURING EACH AND EVERY STUDENT REACHES THEIR POTENTIAL. OUR SMALL CLASS SIZES, CLOSE ACADEMIC SUPERVISION AND EMPHASIS ON PASTORAL CARE ENSURE WE FOCUS ON STUDENTS AS INDIVIDUALS. WE BELIEVE THAT THE PATH TO ACADEMIC AND PERSONAL SUCCESS VARIES FROM STUDENT TO STUDENT, SO OUR PROGRAMME PROVIDES THE FLEXIBILITY NEEDED TO WORK WITH ALL OF OUR STUDENTS, ADAPTING TO DIFFERENT SKILL SETS, NEEDS AND GOALS.



Art

ART PROVIDES ENGAGING AND INNOVATIVE CREATIVE LEARNING EXPERIENCES, WHERE ART, CRAFT AND DESIGN PRACTICE IS INTEGRATED WITH THEORETICAL KNOWLEDGE AND UNDERSTANDING.

Overview

Art A level develops a broad foundation of critical, practical and theoretical skills at AS level, culminating in greater specialism and achievement at A level. This discipline encourages creativity, sustained investigation and analysis, experimentation, design and making as a means of developing technical and expressive skills. It gives learners the opportunity to follow a programme of study which extends experience and personal response as well as developing imagination and critical and reflective thinking.

Board

Edexcel

Course Structure

Teaching begins in September (January for 18 month courses). In the first year you will cover the following:

- Exploration of themes and subject matter chosen by the student
- Production of an extended project /portfolio which should demonstrate critical thinking, practical and theoretical knowledge

The second year then builds on this foundation for the completion of the full A level. In the second year you will focus on the following:

- An in-depth critical, practical and theoretical investigative project/portfolio and outcome/s based on themes and subject matter that have personal significance
- An extended written element of 1000 words minimum, relating to the practical and theoretical work

Art One-Year A level

The board, format and content are the same as the two-year programme, but the course is covered in the space of one year.

Exam Structure

A level Exam Format

Component 1

Personal investigation.
Internally and externally moderated.
60% of total qualification

Component 2

Externally set assignments.
Assessed by teacher and externally moderated.
40% of total qualification

Programme Requirements

Students do not need a previous qualification in art, but an aptitude for the subject and a genuine interest are desirable.

Related Further Study and Careers

Art A level prepares students for a wide range of creative courses, including Art, Interior Design and Fashion. It can also serve as a good companion qualification for students who intend to study subjects such as architecture at university. Art A level requires students to work independently, introducing innovations and adapting their work, all qualities valued in higher education and by employers alike.

Biology

BIOLOGY INVOLVES THE STUDY OF A WIDE RANGE OF PHYSICAL PHENOMENA, FROM MOLECULAR PROCESSES THROUGH TO ECOSYSTEMS; MICRO-ORGANISMS TO MAMMALS.

Overview

A level Biology is available as a one or two year course, depending on prior learning. The programme is taught by a combination of theoretical seminars and practical laboratory work. Our teachers use interactive materials to engage students with current theory and research, covering a wide range of exciting topics.

Board

OCR A

Course Structure

Teaching begins in September (January for 18 month courses). In the first year you will cover the following topics:

- Development of Practical Skills in Biology
- Foundations in Biology
- Exchange and Transport
- Biodiversity, Evolution and Disease

Students may take the AS exam at the end of the first year of the programme. The second year then builds on this foundation for the completion of the full A level. In the second year you will focus on the following topics:

- Communication, Homeostasis and Energy
- Genetics, Evolution and Ecosystems

Biology One-Year A level

The board, format and content are the same as the two-year programme, but the course is covered in the space of one year. The stand-alone AS papers would not be sat.

Exam Structure

A level Exam Format

Paper 1	Paper 2	Paper 3
Biological Processes <i>2 hours and 15 minutes</i>	Biological Diversity <i>2 hours and 15 minutes</i>	Unified Biology <i>1 hour and 30 minutes</i>

In addition, students must complete a minimum of 12 practical activities to demonstrate practical competence, which are separately assessed.

Programme Requirements

Students need at least grade C at GCSE Biology, Dual Award Science, or equivalent.

Related Further Study and Careers

While biology is often chosen alongside at least one other science subject or mathematics, it can accompany a wide range of other disciplines. If it is chosen alongside other sciences, it prepares students for degree courses such as Biological Sciences, Medicine, Dentistry, Veterinary Science, Ophthalmology and sciences in general. It is seen as a facilitating subject and biology graduates can progress on to many fields other than the sciences.

Business

A LEVEL BUSINESS DEVELOPS KNOWLEDGE OF CURRENT BUSINESS MODELS, THEORIES AND TECHNIQUES TO SUPPORT THE ANALYSIS OF POTENTIAL BUSINESS ISSUES AND SITUATIONS.

Overview

Topics covered include business ethics, globalisation, management and leadership, feasibility and risk assessment and digital technology. During the course students develop key skills in critical thinking, informed decision making and data analysis. Course content will include a series of case studies of real life business situations. A level Business requires 1 to 2 years of study.

Board

AQA

Course Structure

Teaching begins in September (January for 18 month courses). In the first year you will cover the following six main topics:

- What is Business?
- Managers, Leadership and Decision Making
- Decision Making to Improve Market Performance
- Decision Making to Improve Operational Performance
- Decision Making to Improve Financial Performance
- Decision Making to Improve Human Resource Potential

Students may take the AS exam at the end of the first year of the programme. The second year then builds on this foundation for the completion of the full A level. In the second year you will focus on the following topics:

- Analysing the Strategic Position of a Business
- Choosing Strategic Direction
- Strategic Methods
- Managing Strategic Change

Business One-Year A level

The board, format and content are the same as the two-year programme, but the course is covered in the space of one year. The stand-alone AS papers would not be sat.

Exam Structure

A level Exam Format

Paper 1	Paper 2	Paper 3
Business 1 <i>2 hours</i>	Business 2 <i>2 hours</i>	Business 3 <i>2 hours</i>

Programme Requirements

Students do not need prior knowledge of business studies, but they need to demonstrate an interest in the subject and a good level of English.

Related Further Study and Careers

Business is often studied by students wishing to study business or management at university. It can also be useful for students who are already considering a career in business beyond their degree courses.



DURING THE COURSE STUDENTS DEVELOP
KEY SKILLS IN CRITICAL THINKING,
INFORMED DECISION MAKING AND
DATA ANALYSIS.



CHEMISTRY IS SEEN AS A FACILITATING SUBJECT AND CHEMISTRY GRADUATES CAN PROGRESS ON TO MANY FIELDS OTHER THAN THE SCIENCES.

Chemistry

CHEMISTRY IS THE STUDY OF THE BASIC ELEMENTS AND THEIR COMPOUNDS THAT MAKE UP THE MATERIAL OF OUR WORLD.

Overview

Understanding the properties of the basic elements, developing drugs to battle diseases or developing new technologies to make better use of our natural resources are all applications of this critical subject. Through a combination of theoretical seminars and practical laboratory work, the A level and AS level programmes provide an in-depth look into the current principles and understanding of chemistry, as well as an introduction into the recent areas of research and development shaping our world today.

Board

OCR A

Course Structure

Teaching begins in September (January for 18 month courses). In the first year you will cover the following four main topics:

- Development of Practical Skills in Chemistry
- Foundations in Chemistry
- Periodic Table and Energy
- Core Organic Chemistry

Students may take the AS exam at the end of the first year of the programme. The second year then builds on this foundation for the completion of the full A level. In the second year you will focus on the following topics:

- Physical Chemistry and Transition Elements
- Organic Chemistry and Analysis

Chemistry One-Year A level

The board, format and content are the same as the two-year programme, but the course is covered in the space of one year. The stand-alone AS papers would not be sat.

Exam Structure

A level Exam Format

Paper 1	Paper 2	Paper 3
Periodic Table, Elements and Physical Chemistry <i>2 hours and 15 minutes</i>	Synthesis and Analytical Techniques <i>2 hours and 15 minutes</i>	Unified Chemistry <i>1 hour and 30 minutes</i>

In addition, students must complete a minimum of 12 practical activities to demonstrate practical competence, which are separately assessed.

Programme Requirements

Students need at least grade C at GCSE Chemistry, Dual Award Science, or equivalent.

Related Further Study and Careers

While chemistry is often chosen alongside at least one other science subject or mathematics, it can accompany a wide range of other subjects. If it is chosen alongside other sciences, it prepares students for degrees courses such as Chemistry, Medicine, Dentistry, Veterinary Science, Pharmacology, Forensic Science and sciences in general. It is seen as a facilitating subject and chemistry graduates can progress on to many fields other than the sciences.

Computer Science

COMPUTER SCIENCE IS THE STUDY OF ALGORITHMS, PROGRAMMING LANGUAGES, ORGANIZING AND RETRIEVING DATA AND APPLICATIONS.

Overview

The study of computer science requires an ability to organize and to think both creatively and logically. This subject is becoming more multifaceted, with an increasing number of interdisciplinary studies involving computer science being offered and in its applications in the wider world, such as the modelling of climate change. As computer science provides training in analytical thinking, it can also be used as a foundation for careers in other areas such as management, law and medicine. There is a long-term requirement by small and large companies for programmers in different areas.

Board

AQA

Course Structure

Teaching begins in September (January for 18 month courses). The following topics are covered at both AS and A levels:

- Fundamentals of programming
- Fundamentals of data structures
- Systematic approach to problem solving
- Theory of computation
- Fundamentals of data representation
- Fundamentals of computer systems
- Fundamentals of computer organisation and architecture
- Consequences of uses of computing
- Fundamentals of communication and networking

Students may take the AS exam at the end of the first year of the programme. In addition, students on the A level course will prepare their final project and cover the following topics:

- Fundamentals of algorithms
- Fundamentals of databases

- Big Data
- Fundamentals of functional programming
- Non-exam assessment – the computing practical project

Computer Science One-Year A level

The board, format and content are the same as the two-year programme, but the course is covered in the space of one year. The stand-alone AS papers would not be sat.

Exam Structure

A level Exam Format

Paper 1	Paper 2	Non-exam assessment
On-screen exam <i>2 hours and 30 minutes</i>	Written exam <i>2 hours and 30 minutes</i>	Internally assessed, externally moderated <i>20% of A level</i>

Programme Requirements

Students would normally be expected to have gained grade C at GCSE Physics, or equivalent.

Related Further Study and Careers

Computer Science prepares students for a wide variety of course and careers in computing, technology and engineering. Computer scientists have internationally recognized qualifications which open up great career opportunities around the world. In many cases, international students can master the computer languages used in computer science prior to mastering the English language.



COMPUTER SCIENTISTS HAVE
INTERNATIONALLY RECOGNIZED
QUALIFICATIONS WHICH OPEN UP
GREAT CAREER OPPORTUNITIES
AROUND THE WORLD.



ECONOMICS A LEVEL IS HIGHLY VALUED BY UNIVERSITIES BECAUSE STUDENTS LEARN HOW TO EVALUATE DATA BOTH MATHEMATICALLY AND THROUGH WRITTEN ANALYSIS.

Economics

ECONOMICS IS THE STUDY OF HOW MONETARY RESOURCES ARE ORGANISED AND ALLOCATED.

Overview

From micro-scale local business decisions, through to the macro-scale actions of governments, the influence of economics is profound and far-reaching. For example, the interaction between micro and macro economics can be seen in the 2008 US housing crash and the subsequent crisis in global financial institutions. Economics A level is highly valued by universities because students learn how to evaluate data both mathematically and through written analysis. The programme will focus on key economic concepts that remain relevant to the world today.

Board

Edexcel

Course Structure

Teaching begins in September (January for 18 month courses). In the first year you will cover the following two topics:

- Theme 1: Markets and Market Failure
- Theme 2: UK Economy – Performance and Policies

Students may take the AS exam at the end of the first year of the programme. The second year then builds on this foundation for the completion of the full A level. In the second year you will focus on the following themes:

- Theme 3: Business Behaviour and the Labour Market
- Theme 4: A Global Perspective

Economics One-Year A level

The board, format and content are the same as the two-year programme, but the course is covered in the space of one year. The stand-alone AS papers would not sat.

Exam Structure

A level Exam Format

Paper 1	Paper 2	Paper 3
Themes 1 and 3 2 hours	Themes 2 and 4 2 hours	Synoptic Paper 2 hours

Programme Requirements

Students do not need prior knowledge of economics, but they need to demonstrate a strong interest in the subject. In addition, they need a good level of English and mathematics.

Related Further Study and Careers

Many A level Economics students go on to read economics or a subject combination involving economics, such as management or PPE at university. In addition, finance-related subjects at university also welcome students who have studied A level Economics.

English Literature

ENGLISH LITERATURE DEVELOPS SKILLS OF CRITICAL ANALYSIS, CLOSE READING AND EFFECTIVE COMMUNICATION OF CONCEPTS.

Overview

The English Literature A level course requires students to: read widely and independently, self-selected and set texts; engage critically and creatively with texts and ways of responding to them; develop and effectively apply their knowledge of literary analysis and evaluation; explore the contexts of the texts they are reading and others' interpretations of them; and undertake independent and sustained studies to deepen their appreciation and understanding of English literature, including its changing traditions.

Board

Edexcel

Course Structure

Teaching begins in September (January for 18 month courses). In the first year you will cover the following topics:

Prose and Drama

- Selection of poetry from a post-2000 text
- One chosen drama from a prescribed list (either tragedy or comedy)

Prose

- Two prose texts from a chosen theme. At least one of the texts must be pre-1900

Students may take the AS exam at the end of the first year. The second year then builds on this foundation for the completion of the full A level. In the second year you will focus on the following topics:

Drama

- One Shakespeare play and one other drama, tragedy or comedy
- Critical essays related to Shakespeare play

Prose

- Two prose texts from a chosen theme. At least one text must be pre-1900

Poetry

- Poetic form, meaning and language
- Specified range of poetry from either a literary period or a named poet

English Literature One-Year A level

The board, format and content are the same as the two-year programme, but the course is covered in the space of one year. The stand-alone AS papers would not be sat.

Exam Structure

A level Exam Format

Component 1	Component 2	Component 3
Drama <i>2 hours and 15 minutes</i>	Prose <i>1 hour</i>	Poetry <i>2 hours and 15 minutes</i>

Non-exam assessment

Extended comparative essay using two different texts not otherwise covered.
Internally assessed, externally moderated.

Programme Requirements

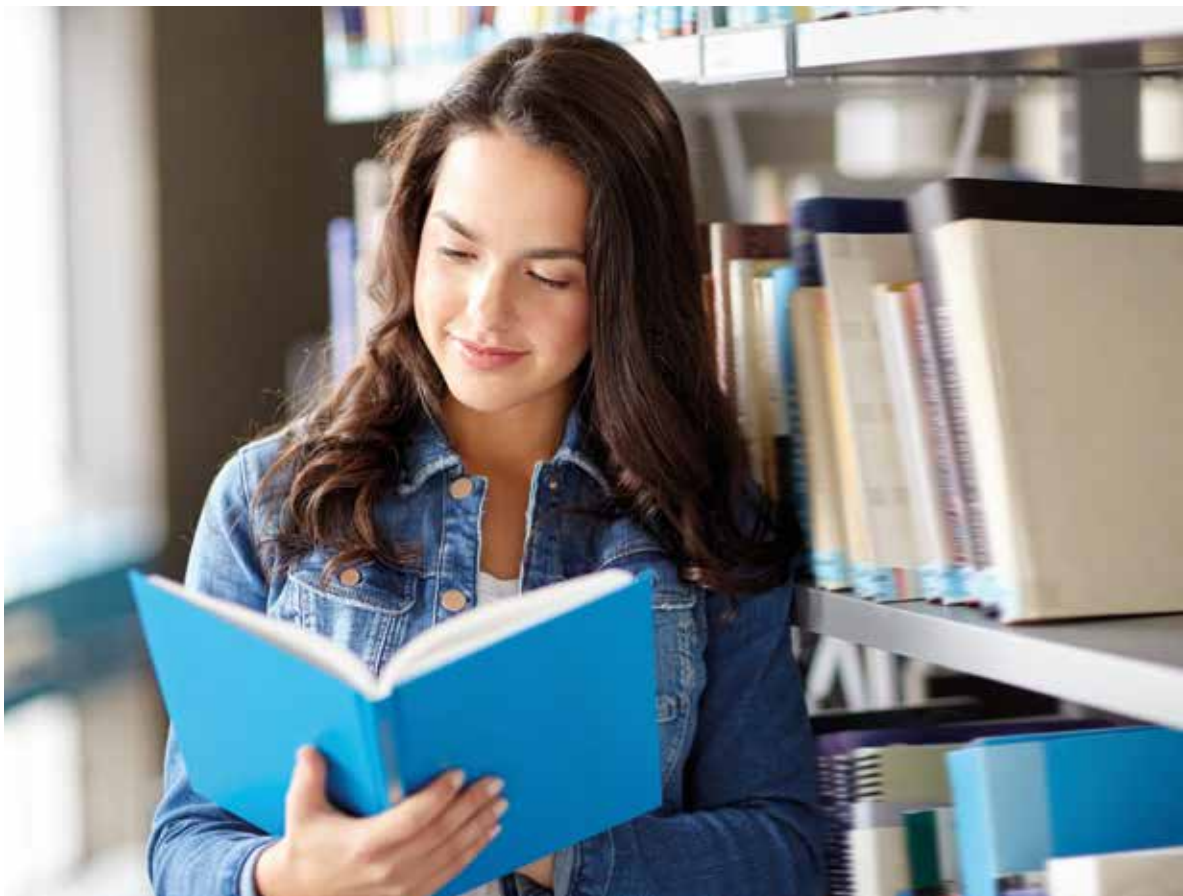
Students are normally required to have at least grade C in English Language and English Literature or equivalent.

Related Further Study and Careers

English literature opens up a wide range of university and career options. Seen as a facilitating subject by universities, this discipline develops the knowledge, skills and understanding that will

be required for many undergraduate programmes including English Literature. In addition, it prepares students well for many other essay-based degree courses. The analytical and literary skills acquired are attractive to employers in a wide range of fields.

SEEN AS A FACILITATING SUBJECT BY UNIVERSITIES, THIS DISCIPLINE DEVELOPS THE KNOWLEDGE, SKILLS AND UNDERSTANDING THAT WILL BE REQUIRED FOR MANY UNDERGRADUATE PROGRAMMES.



French

THE LANGUAGE OF VOLTAIRE AND JEAN-PAUL SARTRE, FRENCH IS ONE OF THE WORLD'S MOST WIDELY SPOKEN LANGUAGES, WITH 110 MILLION NATIVE SPEAKERS WORLDWIDE AND A FURTHER 200 MILLION PEOPLE WHO SPEAK IT AS A SECOND LANGUAGE.



Overview

French is an official language in 29 countries and has a rich literary tradition spanning many different cultures. The French A level and AS level courses teach students how to communicate to a high level in all language skills; listening, speaking, reading and writing. Studying this beautiful and rich language provides access to some of the most important cultural milestones of global culture.

Board

Edexcel

Course Structure

Teaching begins in September (January for 18 month courses). In the first year you will cover the following themes:

- Theme 1: Les changements dans la société française (Les changements dans les structures familiales; L'éducation; Le monde du travail)
- Theme 2: La culture politique et artistique dans les pays francophones (La musique; Les médias; Les festivals et les traditions)

Students may take the AS exam at the end of the first year of the programme. The second year then builds on this foundation for the completion of the full A level. In the second year, the previous topics are covered in greater depth as well as the following themes:

- Theme 3: L'immigration et la société multiculturelle française (L'impact positif de l'immigration sur la société française; Répondre aux défis de l'immigration et l'intégration en France; L'extrême droite)
- Theme 4: L'Occupation et la Résistance (La France occupée; Le régime de Vichy; La Résistance)

French One-Year A level

The board, format and content are the same as the two-year programme, but the course is covered in the space of one year. The stand-alone AS papers would not be sat.

Exam Structure

A level Exam Format

Paper 1	Paper 2	Paper 3
Listening, Reading and Translation <i>2 hours</i>	Written Response to Works and Translation <i>2 hours and 40 minutes</i>	Speaking, internally conducted and externally assessed <i>21 - 23 minutes, including 5 minutes of formal preparation time</i>

Programme Requirements

Students need at least C grade at GCSE French or equivalent. Alternatively, they may be French speakers.

Related Further Study and Careers

All modern foreign languages A levels, including French, are considered as facilitating subjects and, as such, are viewed as invaluable to a student's A level profile. A level French is usually a prerequisite for studying the language or a combined degree with French at university. Being proficient in another language is becoming increasingly important in our globalized world and many employers are seeking graduates who have knowledge of at least one language other than their native tongue.

THE FRENCH A LEVEL AND AS LEVEL COURSES TEACH STUDENTS HOW TO COMMUNICATE TO A HIGH LEVEL IN ALL LANGUAGE SKILLS; LISTENING, SPEAKING, READING AND WRITING.

History

HISTORY RECORDS AND INTERPRETS PAST EVENTS ESPECIALLY IN RELATION TO PARTICULAR PEOPLE, PLACES AND TIME PERIODS.

Overview

History involves the use of critical thinking, analysis, essay writing, reading and assessment of sources. All of these skills are transferable and highly valued by both employers and universities. The use of source materials and classroom seminars form the basis of the course.

Board

OCR

Course Structure

Teaching begins in September (January for 18 month courses). In the first year you will cover the following topics:

- Britain 1930 - 1997
- The French Revolution and the rule of Napoleon 1774 - 1815

The second year then builds on this foundation for the completion of the full A level. In the second year you will focus on the following:

- Russia and its Rulers 1855 - 1964
- Coursework Assignment (4000 words)

History One-Year A level

The board, format and content are the same as the two-year programme, but the course is covered in the space of one year. The stand-alone AS papers would not be sat.

Exam Structure

A level Exam Format

Paper 1	Paper 2	Paper 3	Non-exam assessment
British Period Study and Enquiry <i>1 hour, 30 minutes</i>	Non-British Study Period <i>1 hour</i>	Thematic Study and Historical Interpretations <i>2 hours, 30 minutes</i>	Topic-Based Essay

Programme Requirements

Candidates should have a C grade at GCSE or equivalent. Overseas and UK students who have not studied history previously may still be considered, but they will need to have a strong interest in the subject and may be expected to demonstrate knowledge and understanding of historical concepts and methods. History students will also need to demonstrate a strong command of the English language.

Related Further Study and Careers

History is a valued A Level subject, and is particularly popular amongst applicants for Law degrees as well as a wide range of humanity degrees.



HISTORY PREPARES STUDENTS
FOR A WIDE RANGE OF
HUMANITIES AND OTHER
SUBJECTS, INCLUDING LAW.

Mathematics

MATHEMATICS IS A SCIENTIFIC DISCIPLINE THAT DEVELOPS THE ABILITY TO THINK IN THE ABSTRACT, REQUIRING BOTH A LOGICAL MIND AND GOOD PROBLEM SOLVING SKILLS.

Overview

Mathematics can be split into three core areas: pure mathematics (geometry, trigonometry, algebra and calculus); statistics (probability, estimation, correlation and regression, sampling, hypothesis testing); mechanics (kinetics, dynamics and statics).

Board

Edexcel

Course Structure

Teaching begins in September (January for 18 month courses). In the first year you will cover the following topics:

Pure Mathematics

- Proof, algebra and functions, coordinate geometry in the (x,y) plane, sequences and series, trigonometry, exponentials and logarithms, differentiation, integration, vectors

Statistics

- Statistical sampling, data presentation and interpretation, probability, statistical distributions, statistical hypothesis testing

Students may take the AS exam at the end of the first year of the programme. The second year then builds on this foundation for the completion of the full A level. In the second year you will focus on the following topics in greater depth:

Pure Mathematics

- Proof, algebra and functions, coordinate geometry in the (x,y) plane, sequences and series, trigonometry, exponentials and logarithms, differentiation, integration, vectors

Statistics

- Statistical sampling, data presentation and interpretation, probability, statistical distributions, statistical hypothesis testing

Mechanics

- Quantities and units in mechanics, kinematics, forces and Newton's Laws, moments

Mathematics One-Year A level

We follow the Edexcel legacy syllabus for resit candidates.

Exam Structure

A level Exam Format

Papers 1 & 2	Paper 3
Pure Mathematics <i>2 hours each paper</i>	Statistics and Mechanics <i>2 hours</i>

Programme Requirements

Students are normally required to have at least grade A at GCSE Mathematics, or equivalent.

Related Further Study and Careers

Mathematics is essential for those who want to read mathematics at university, but it is also highly suited to further study in other numerate subjects such as engineering or physics. Many students who take A level Mathematics also go on to study degrees in economics or finance.

Further Mathematics

FURTHER MATHEMATICS IS THE STUDY OF INCREASINGLY ADVANCED AND SOPHISTICATED CONCEPTS IN PURE AND APPLIED MATHEMATICS.

Overview

This challenging discipline extends and deepens a student's knowledge and understanding beyond the standard A level Mathematics and, in cases where the two A levels are being studied together, helps to boost exam results in the standard A level Mathematics.

Board

Edexcel

Course Structure

Teaching begins in September (January for 18 month courses). In the first year you will cover the following topics:

Core Pure Mathematics

- Proof, complex numbers, matrices, further algebra and functions; further calculus; further vectors

Further Mathematics Options

Students take **one** of the following ten options:

- Further Pure Mathematics 1 & 2; Further Pure Mathematics 1 and Further Statistics 1; Further Pure Mathematics 1 and Further Mechanics 1; Further Pure Mathematics 1 and Decision Mathematics 1; Further Statistics 1 and Further Mechanics 1; Further Statistics 1 and Decision Mathematics 1; Further Statistics 1 & 2; Further Mechanics 1 and Decision Mathematics 1; Further Mechanics 1 & 2; Decision Mathematics 1 & 2

Students may take the AS exam at the end of the first year of the programme. The second year then builds on this foundation for the completion of the full A level. In the second year you will focus on the following topics:

Core Pure Mathematics

- Proof, complex numbers, matrices, further algebra and functions, further calculus, further vectors, polar coordinates, hyperbolic functions, differential equations

Further Mathematics Option 1

- **One** of Further Pure Mathematics 1, Further Statistics 1, Further Mechanics 1, Decision Mathematics 1

Further Mathematics Option 2

- **One** of Further Pure Mathematics 1, Further Statistics 1, Further Mechanics 1, Decision Mathematics 1, Further Statistics 2, Further Mechanics 2, Decision Mathematics 2

Further Mathematics One-Year A level

We follow the Edexcel legacy syllabus for resit candidates.

Exam Structure

A level Exam Format

Papers 1 & 2	Papers 3 & 4
Core Pure Mathematics <i>1 hour and 30 minutes each paper</i>	Further Mathematics: Options 1 & 2 <i>1 hour and 30 minutes each paper</i>

Programme Requirements

Students are normally required to have at least grade A at GCSE Mathematics, or equivalent.

Related Further Study and Careers

Further mathematics is very useful for those who want to read mathematics at university, but it is also highly suited to those who want to study other numerate subjects such as engineering or physics. Mathematics is often studied by those who want to pursue economics or finance-related subjects.

Physics

THE UNDERSTANDING OF THE WORLD AROUND, INSIDE AND BEYOND US, PHYSICS ENCOMPASSES THE STUDY OF THE UNIVERSE FROM THE LARGEST GALAXIES TO THE SMALLEST SUBATOMIC PARTICLES.

Overview

From the very smallest scale, such as the laws of quantum mechanics that govern the behaviour of sub atomic particles, to the largest scale, such as the effects of massive stars on space and time, physics examines and seeks to explain the very nature of our universe. During the course, you will gain a greater understanding of waves, fields, mechanics, electricity and nuclear physics, as well as the opportunity to focus on a special area of physics.

Board

AQA

Course Structure

Teaching begins in September (January for 18 month courses). In the first year you will cover the following topics:

- Measurements and their errors
- Particles and radiation
- Waves
- Mechanics and materials
- Electricity

Students may take the AS exam at the end of the first year. The second year then builds on this foundation for the completion of the full A level. In the second year you will focus on the following topics:

- Further mechanics and thermal physics
- Fields and their consequences
- Nuclear physics

Students will also be entered for **one** of the following options:

- Astrophysics
- Medical physics

- Engineering physics
- Turning points in physics
- Electronics

Physics One-Year A level

The board, format and content are the same as the two-year programme, but the course is covered in the space of one year. The stand-alone AS papers would not be sat.

Exam Structure

A level Exam Format

Papers 1, 2 & 3

2 hours each paper

Programme Requirements

Students need at least grade C at GCSE Physics, Dual Award Science, or equivalent.

Related Further Study and Careers

While physics is often chosen alongside at least one other science subject or mathematics, it can accompany a wide range of other subjects. If it is chosen alongside other sciences and/or mathematics, it prepares students well for degree courses in engineering, medicine and sciences in general. Students wishing to read architecture at university usually need to study physics. It is seen as a facilitating subject and physics graduates can progress on to many fields other than the sciences. Employers see it as a very good A level to have.

Politics

A LEVEL POLITICS DEVELOPS KNOWLEDGE AND UNDERSTANDING OF POWER STRUCTURES IN THE UK AND CORE AND NON-CORE POLITICAL IDEAS, IN THE UK AND ABROAD.

Overview

Students are encouraged to use critical thinking to interpret, evaluate and debate the nature of politics and explore differences in other political systems. This subject is best suited to students who have an interest in politics and current affairs and who read extensively to broaden their knowledge.

Board

Edexcel

Course Structure

Teaching begins in September (January for 18 month courses). In the first year you will cover the following topics:

UK Politics

- Democracy and participation, political parties, electoral systems, voting behaviour and the media

UK Government

- The Constitution, Parliament, Prime Minister and executive, relationships between the branches

Students may take the AS exam at the end of the first year. The second year then builds on this foundation for the completion of the full A level. In the second year you will focus on the following topics:

UK Politics

- Political Participation: democracy and participation; political parties; electoral systems; voting behaviour and the media
- Core Political Ideas: conservatism; liberalism; socialism

UK Government

- The Constitution, Parliament, Prime Minister and executive, relationships between the branches
- Non-core Political Ideas: choose **one** from anarchism, ecologism, feminism, multiculturalism, nationalism

Comparative Politics

- USA: the US Constitution and federalism; US Congress; US presidency; US Supreme Court and civil rights; democracy and participation; comparative theories
- Global: sovereignty and globalisation; global governance; political and economic, global governance; human rights and environmental, power and development; regionalism and the European Union; comparative theories

Politics One-Year A level

We follow the Edexcel legacy syllabus for resit candidates.

Exam Structure

A level Exam Format

Component 1	Component 2	Component 3
UK Politics <i>2 hours</i>	UK Government <i>2 hours</i>	Comparative Politics <i>2 hours</i>

Programme Requirements

You do not need to have studied politics before, but a genuine interest in the subject is essential.

Related Further Study and Careers

A Level Politics prepares students well for a wide range of social science and humanities courses at university. It is a useful A level for students who are intending to read politics or a related subject at tertiary level. It can be good preparation for degree courses such as International Relations, Law and PPE.

Psychology

PSYCHOLOGY IS THE SCIENTIFIC STUDY OF HOW PEOPLE BEHAVE, THINK AND FEEL.

Overview

The A level covers the following aspects of psychology: cognitive, developmental, social and psychopathology. This discipline involves the formulation of theories and testing of hypotheses through a series of observations and experiments; the statistical analysis of important findings and evaluation of data in written reports. During class activities, the role of the psychologist will be examined and original research replicated.

Board

AQA A

Course Structure

Teaching begins in September (January for 18 month courses). In the first year, students cover two units:

- Introductory topics in psychology: social influence, memory, attachment
- Psychology in context: approaches in psychology, biopsychology, psychopathology, research methods, scientific processes, data handling and analysis

Students may take the AS exam at the end of the first year of the programme. The second year then builds on this foundation for the completion of the full A level. In the second year, the previous topics are covered in greater depth as well as a third unit:

- Introductory topics in psychology: social influence, memory, attachment, psychopathology
- Psychology in context: approaches in psychology, biopsychology, research methods, scientific processes, data handling and analysis, inferential testing
- Issues and Options in Psychology and Research Methods

Psychology One-Year A level

The board, format and content are the same as the two-year programme, but the course is covered in the space of one year.

Exam Structure

A level Exam Format

Paper 1	Paper 2	Paper 3
Introductory topics in psychology <i>2 hours</i>	Psychology in context <i>2 hours</i>	Issues and options in psychology <i>2 hours</i>

Programme Requirements

Students do not need prior knowledge of psychology, but they do need to demonstrate an interest in the subject. In addition, they need a good level of English and mathematics.

Related Further Study and Careers

A level Psychology is well regarded by universities because of its academic rigour. It has a good balance of science and the humanities. As well as preparing students for reading psychology at degree level, it can prepare students for a wide range of other degrees in the sciences or humanities.



A LEVEL PSYCHOLOGY IS WELL
REGARDED BY UNIVERSITIES
BECAUSE OF ITS ACADEMIC RIGOUR.

Spanish

SPANISH IS ONE OF THE MOST WIDELY SPOKEN LANGUAGES IN THE WORLD – ALMOST HALF A BILLION PEOPLE IN EUROPE, LATIN AMERICA, THE USA AND ELSEWHERE USE SPANISH EVERY DAY.

Overview

Studying Spanish opens up many doors, providing access to future employers that use or value Spanish in the work place and to the vibrant and passionate cultures of Spain and South America. The A level and AS level programmes teach students how to communicate in Spanish to a high level in each language skill; listening, speaking, reading and writing.

Board

Edexcel

Course Structure

Teaching begins in September (January for 18 month courses). In the first year you will cover the following themes:

- Theme 1: La evolución de la sociedad española (El cambio en la estructura familiar; El mundo laboral; El impacto turístico en España)
- Theme 2: La cultura política y artística en el mundo de habla español (La música; Los medios de comunicación; Los festivales y las tradiciones)

Students may take the AS exam at the end of the first year of the programme. The second year then builds on this foundation for the completion of the full A level. In the second year, the previous topics are covered in greater depth as well as the following themes:

- Theme 3: La inmigración y la sociedad multicultural española (La inmigración históricamente y contemporáneamente; La integración y el multiculturalismo)
- Theme 4: La dictadura franquista y la transición a la democracia (La dictadura franquista; El paso de la dictadura a la democracia)

Spanish One-Year A level

The board, format and content are the same as the two-year programme, but the course is covered in the space of one year. The stand-alone AS papers would not be sat.

Exam Structure

A level Exam Format

Paper 1	Paper 2	Paper 3
Listening, Reading and Translation <i>2 hours</i>	Written Response to Works and Translation <i>2 hours and 40 minutes</i>	Speaking, internally conducted and externally assessed <i>21 - 23 minutes, including 5 minutes of formal preparation time</i>

Programme Requirements

Students need at least C grade in GCSE Spanish or equivalent. Alternatively, they may be Spanish speakers.

Related Further Study and Careers

All of the modern foreign languages, such as Spanish, are seen as facilitating subjects and are thus seen as valuable in a student's A level profile. A level Spanish is usually a prerequisite for studying the language or a combined degree with Spanish at university. Being proficient in another language is becoming increasingly important in our globalized world and many employers are seeking graduates who have knowledge of at least one language other than their native tongue.



THE A LEVEL AND AS LEVEL PROGRAMMES TEACH STUDENTS HOW TO COMMUNICATE IN SPANISH TO A HIGH LEVEL IN EACH LANGUAGE SKILL; LISTENING, SPEAKING, READING AND WRITING.

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