

3D Art and Design



Exam Board:	AQA	Level of Course	AS and A2 levels
Prior Learning Required:	Preferably an arts background because an ability to draw, an appreciation of form and materials and some understanding and knowledge of art ideas, meanings and developments is an advantage.		

Reasons why you might consider taking this course and what activities are you likely to do in or outside lessons to support your learning:

This course is for students with a passion, interest and drive to explore a range of media, techniques and processes to create sculpture, installations, jewellery, ceramic works, product, theatre, landscape design and architecture. This course focuses on 'the making' as you will learn to develop ideas using a range of materials and techniques in 3D. You are also strongly encouraged to record your ideas in writing, drawing and photographs as you will explore your own interests and develop them through related research based on visits to museums, galleries and knowledge of art, architecture and design. For those who wish to follow architecture or design as a career, you are encouraged to take an academic subject such as mathematics, IT or science based to increase your chances of entry into a university course directly after completion of the A level.

Outline of Modules:

AS Unit 1: Portfolio –(complete a portfolio of work connected to a topic chosen internally)

AS Unit 2: Externally Set Assignment – (issued February and completed May)

A2 Unit 3: Personal Investigation –(topic chosen by student based on idea, issue, concept or theme supported by 1000-3000 words)

A2 Unit 4: Externally Set Assignment – (issued February and completed May)

How the Course is assessed:

The coursework is internally marked and then moderated by AQA

Unit 1- 50% of total AS mark, 25% of total A Level mark

Unit 2- 50% of total AS mark, 25% of total A Level mark

Unit 3- 50% of total AS mark, 25% of total A Level mark

Unit 4- 50% of total AS mark, 25% of total A Level mark

Essential equipment and useful websites:

Pencil Case containing as a minimum- pencils (HB,2B, 4B), eraser, pencil sharpener, compass, ruler, 2 fine black pens,1 large glue stick, small watercolour set with brush (8-10 colours not tubes), small scissors

Digital Camera (not phone) with lead and/or card reader for downloading to a PC

Websites: www.designmuseum.org/design/ -The Design Museum

www.tate.org - Art Museum in Britain

Books you may want to buy

Useful books to read/buy:-

Twenty-First Century Design –Marcus Fairs-ISBN 101844422690

Art of the 20th Century, Art of the 21st Century -Taschen Series

Higher Education Routes for the Future – what you can do with this qualification:

For those pursuing an Art based career path the A level will lead to onto an art based Foundation Course in Art e.g. Art and Design, Fine Art, Theatre Design, Interior Design, Ceramics, Fashion

For those who wish to pursue an Architecture and or Design Career, a strong related portfolio in A level would take you directly into the first year of university courses e.g. Product Design, Design and Technology, Interior Design, Architecture.

SPANISH



Exam Board:	EDEXCEL	Level of Course	A LEVEL
Prior Learning Required:	GCSE GRADE C OR AT LEAST 2 -3 YEARS OF SPANISH AND / OR CONVERSATIONAL SPANISH		

Reasons why you might consider taking this course and what activities are you likely to do in or outside lessons to support your learning:

Spanish is the second world language as a vehicle of international communication. You can communicate with nearly 500 million people in the world! You will have a greater number of possibilities in the labour market. Another language adds value to your UCAS application. When possible, cinema, music and theatre trips/arts exhibitions and lectures in Spanish. Full membership of CU Hispanic Society at Cambridge University.

Outline of Modules:

At AS you will practice conversation, reading, writing to be ready for your exams. You will improve grammar by doing interactive exercises, watch Spanish films, listen to music and talk about Spanish culture.

How the Course is assessed:

A-Level Speaking exams, Listening, reading and writing exam papers.

Useful Revision materials and websites:

www.terra.es

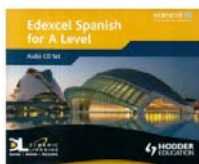
<http://cvc.cervantes.es/oreador>

www.elpais.es

<http://red2000.com/spain/region>

www.elmundo.es

Books you will need to buy – please pay at Bursary on arrival, take the receipt to your Tutor and they will give you the books



[Edexcel Spanish for A Level Student's Book with Dynamic Learning Home Edition CD-ROM](#)
[Mike Thacker](#), [Monica Morcillo](#)

Higher Education Routes for the Future – what you can do with this qualification:

Any A Level in any language is considered as an academic subject by universities, it adds great value to your application even if you only get a C grade. Oxbridge Candidates should consider taking an A level in Spanish. German students wishing to apply for a German university often need to have a second language like Spanish.

The number of universities offering Spanish as a language is increasing every year. This is in response to demand - students may not be studying Spanish as a single subject, but are offering students the opportunity to study Spanish along with another subject. Common combinations are Spanish with Economics / Business Studies / Management, Spanish with History / English, Spanish with another language. Jobs using Spanish:

- [business](#) - import/export, tourism/travel, marketing, computers, public relations, management, transportation, investment.
- [communication and media](#) - international advertising, radio & TV, film making & distribution, writing, translating, publishing, foreign correspondent.
- [publishing, research and education](#) - libraries, foundations, schools and universities, museums.
- [translation and/or interpreting](#) - international organizations, parliamentary, freelance, literary, commercial,

technical.

Russian



Exam Board:	Edexcel	Level of Course	A Level
Prior Learning Required:	GCSE grade C or above intermediate skills of speaking, listening, writing, reading		

Reasons why you might consider taking this course and what activities are you likely to do in or outside lessons to support your learning:

- Potential to focus on an area that students find engaging
- To expand knowledge on Russian language, literature, culture, film and history
- In- depth study of some of the Russian writers and their principal work
- To develop a better understanding of contemporary Russia
- To add value to UCAS application

Outline of Modules:

- A level facilitates speaking, listening, reading and writing skills through interactive exercises and audio-video materials
- You will be offered an introduction to the broad spectrum of Chekhov's, Pushkin's and Dostojevsky's evolution as writers through the study of a representative selection of some of their principal works
- You will be working with Russian websites and other materials carrying out a research in an area of your choice
- This course will help you to improve your grammar, to expand your knowledge on contemporary Russia and the 19th century literature

How the Course is assessed:

A2 : research-based essay writing, translation, oral topic
AS: listening and writing, reading and writing

Useful Revision materials and websites:

<http://www.edexcel.com/resources/publications/Pages/home.aspx>

Russian media online

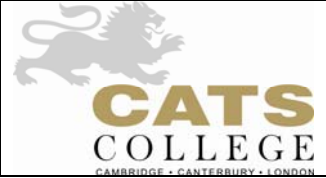
Books you will need to buy – please pay at Bursary on arrival, take the receipt to your Tutor and they will give you the books

Stephen Webber & *Teach Yourself World Cultures: Russia* (Teach Yourself, 2005)

Higher Education Routes for the Future – what you can do with this qualification:

The prospects for using Russian in a career have never been so good. Russian language is widely spoken and as Economics develops it becomes a valuable asset. Russian AS/A2 can promote you to take a degree with Russian and lead to a career in whole range of fields, such as journalism, the civil service, business and finance.

Psychology



Exam Board:	AQA Specification A	Level of Course	A2
Prior Learning Required:	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• AS Psychology• Sufficient knowledge of the English language to cope with concepts and examples presented in English		

Reasons why you might consider taking this course and what activities are you likely to do in or outside lessons to support your learning:

Psychology A2 extends the work completed in AS and allows students to extend their knowledge of psychological perspectives to more specific areas of psychology. Student will investigate a range of issues and debates such as Gender bias, Cultural bias, Nature and Nurture debate, Determinism and free will, Reductionism and ethical issues in psychology. Students will undertake some of their own research in order to familiarise themselves with the range of methods used to collect data and the statistical test used to analyse findings. Students will also evaluate and analyse theory, method, evidence and both quantitative and qualitative research evidence. They will also apply their knowledge to real situations such as education, eating disorder, aggressive behaviour; sleep disorders, issues with relationships, and understanding of gender issues all within a social and cultural context.

Outline of Modules:

Unit 3 – PSYA3 Topics in Psychology

There are eight topics in this section and students are required to study **three** from Biological rhythms and sleep; Perception; Relationships; Aggression; Eating Behaviour; Gender; Intelligence and learning; Cognition and Development. Theory, explanations and research are covered and their application to real situations.

Unit 4 – PSYA4 Psychopathology, Psychology in Action and Research Methods

In Psychopathology the section is divided into three sections of Schizophrenia, Depression and anxiety disorders. Students are required to cover **ONE** of these disorders.

In Psychology in Action there are three topics of Media psychology, Psychology of addictive behaviour and anomalous psychology. Students are to cover **ONE** of these topics.

Research Methods – In this section there are no choices all questions are compulsory and students are required to extend their AS knowledge of research to cover inferential statistics and psychology as a science, the scientific method, interpretation of quantitative and qualitative data.

How the Course is assessed:

Assessment is made from two public examinations, the first of 90 minutes duration and the second of 120 minutes duration.

PSYA3 requires students to answer THREE essay style questions, approximately 30 minutes per question

PSYA4: There are three sections in this paper

Psychopathology – students to answer one topic question from three topics

Psychology in actions – students to answer one topic question from three topics

Research Methods – Students to answer all the questions based on source material given. They are then given another piece of source material and asked to design and outline a research proposal based on the source material given.

This is a synoptic paper and students must demonstrate links across the AS and A2 syllabus content.

Although research methods are specifically assessed in PSYA4 knowledge of the psychology of science and the scientific method must be demonstrated throughout both units.

Useful Revision materials and websites:

A2 Level Psychology: the study guide, Nigel Holt and Rob Lewis, Crown House publishing Ltd. ISBN: 978-184590101-1

There are numerous websites by relevant psychologist studied in the course and YouTube has some excellent video clips of research conducted.

Books you will need to buy – please pay at Bursary on arrival, take the receipt to your Tutor and they will give you the books

A2 Level Psychology – the student's text book, Nigel Holt and Rob Lewis, Crown House publishing Ltd. ISBN 978-184590093-9

Higher Education Routes for the Future – what you can do with this qualification:

An A2 qualification in Psychology can be used in conjunction with AS and A2 examinations as an entry route to almost any undergraduate higher education course. Psychology is now part of the science curriculum and many universities will accept psychology as a science entry qualification.

PHOTOGRAPHY



Exam Board:	AQA	Level of Course	AS and A2 Levels
Prior Learning Required:	GCSE background in Photography and experience with using an SLR camera, showing an understanding of how to use an SLR camera.		

Reasons why you might consider taking this course and what activities are you likely to do in or outside lessons to support your learning:

This course is designed to give students an insight into both traditional and digital forms of Photography, using both darkroom and film facilities and also photo shop processes in the students work. Students will gain technical understanding of how to use SLR film and digital cameras both on location and also in the studio environment. As well as practical experiences within photography students will build upon their theory based knowledge through researching contemporary photographers, visiting exhibitions and local gallery visits.

Outline of Modules:

AS Unit 1 Portfolio (complete a portfolio of ideas under a topic chosen internally)

Unit 2 Externally set assignment (assignment issued in Feb and completed in May)

A2 Unit 3 Personal Investigation (topic chosen by student and investigation supported by images and 1000-3000 words)

Unit 4 Externally set assignment issued in Feb and completed in May

How the Course is assessed:

The coursework is internally marked and then moderated by AQA.

Unit 1 50% of total AS marks 25% of total A Level

Unit 2 50% of total AS marks 25% of total A Level

Unit 3 25% of total A Level Marks

Unit 4 25% of total A Level Marks

Useful Revision materials and equipment:

SLR camera with a standard lens. Film or digital.

Camera bag.

Photographers gallery in London.

Books you will need to buy – please pay at Bursary on arrival, take the receipt to your Tutor and they will give you the books

Starting Photography Michael Langford

Collins complete photography course John Garrett

Higher Education Routes for the Future – what you can do with this qualification:

Progression on to Photography foundation courses and subsequent higher educational courses at University.

MUSIC A-LEVEL



Exam Board:	EDEXCEL	Level of Course	AS and A2
Prior Learning Required:	Approximately grade five theory and practical skills. Must have taken lessons in one instrument.		

Reasons you might consider taking this course and what activities are you likely to do in or outside lessons to support your learning:

This subject is for music students interested in pursuing Music at higher education or simply for their own enjoyment. The course demands a lot of students in terms of study and practice hours, content and expectations, so students must love their music and be willing to work hard. Students will be able to share some classes and performances with our Music Foundation students and will receive a one-on-one instrumental lesson for an hour every week. Students will listen, compose, perform, analyse and discuss music for all genres.

Outline of Modules:

There are six units taken over two years (three AS and three A2):

Unit One - Performance

This unit gives students the opportunities to perform as soloists and/or as part of an ensemble. Teachers and students can choose music in any style. Any instrument(s) and/or voice(s) are acceptable as part of a five-six minute assessed performance. Notated and/or improvised performances may be submitted.

Unit Two – Composition

This unit encourages students to develop their composition skills leading to the creation of a three-minute piece in response to a chosen brief. Students also write a CD sleeve note to describe aspects of their final composition and explain how other pieces of music have influenced it.

Unit Three – Developing Musical Understanding

This unit focuses on listening to familiar music and understanding how it works. Set works provide the focus for the first two sections, through listening and studying scores. In the third section, students use a score to identify harmonic and tonal features and then apply this knowledge in the completion of a short and simple passage for SATB.

Unit Four – Extended Performance

This unit gives students opportunities to extend their performance skills as soloists and/or as part of an ensemble. Teachers and students can choose music in any style. Any instrument(s) and/or voice(s) are acceptable as part of a 12-15 minute assessed performance of a balanced programme of music. Notated and/or improvised performances may be submitted.

Unit Five – Composition and Technical Study

This unit has two sections: composition and technical study. The composition section further develops students' composition skills, leading to the creation of a final three-minute piece in response to a chosen brief. The technical study section builds on the knowledge and awareness of harmony gained in Unit 3 section C through the medium of pastiche studies. Students must complete two tasks in this unit choosing from *either* one composition and one technical study *or* two compositions *or* two technical studies.

Unit Six – Further

This unit focuses on listening to music, familiar and unfamiliar, and understanding how it works. Between works students should also listen to a wide range of unfamiliar music which relates to the two compulsory areas of study. They should learn how to compare and contrast pairs of excerpts, contextualise music and identify harmonic and tonal features.

How the Course is assessed:

Through performance, coursework and written exam. Both internal and external assessment.

Useful Revision materials and websites:

www.edexcel.com – Specifications, student guides and timelines.

Rough Guides to Classical music / Jazz / Popular music

What to Listen for In Music – Copland

Compulsory texts listed below.

Books you may need to buy – see your Teacher

All compulsory texts are from Rhinegold Publishing:

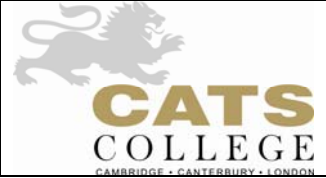
A Student's Guide to Music AS; A Student's Guide to Music A2; Listening Test Books for each subject are also required.

The department has a good range of course related books that students may sign out and borrow for a week at a time. The department is continually building on its resources, so the collection is continually added to.

Higher Education Routes for the Future – what you can do with this qualification:

Students completing this course have gone on to do a wide variety of studies. Progression from this course includes Higher Education at Conservatoires, Classical and Contemporary Music Degrees, Audio Engineering Diplomas, or other industry courses. Students may also feel prepared, as some previous students have, to begin working professionally in their own studio or performing live.

Media Studies



Exam Board:	OCR	Level of Course	AS/A Level GCE
Prior Learning Required:	5.5 IELTS or a C grade or above at GCSE Eng.Lit would help		

Reasons why you might consider taking this course and what activities are you likely to do in, or outside, lessons to support your learning:

- It will help you to understand and enjoy TV and film even more
- This subject is all about things you already use and know like iPods, the web, rock and pop music and computers
- You will have a great time devising and producing your own video programmes or websites
- There are many options so you can study those aspects of the media that interest you most (make a rock video or a horror film sequence)
- 50% coursework means more fun and creativity and less exam stress!

Outline of Modules:

AS Level Modules

G321: Foundation Portfolio in Media

This is a coursework unit where candidates produce a short video or printed text, audio piece or website. This process involves progression from a pre-production, preliminary exercise to a more fully realised piece. Candidates present their research, planning and evaluation on a blog.

G322: Key Media Concepts (TV Drama)

This written paper has two questions. One on Textual Analysis and Representation (section A) and one on Institutions and Audiences (section B). In section A you will watch a clip from a TV drama and answer questions about it, in section B you will write an essay about your study TV of an aspect of the Media industry today.

A2 Level Modules

G324: Advanced Portfolio in Media

Building on your work in the foundation module (G322) you will devise and produce a media text to a professional standard, again presenting your research, planning and evaluation electronically on-line.

G325: Critical Perspectives in Media

This written paper covers the two areas of Theoretical Evaluation of Production alongside a study of Contemporary Media Issues. In Section A, candidates describe and evaluate their skills development in their production work and then select one production to evaluate in relation to a media concept. In Section B, candidates choose one topic and then demonstrate their understanding of a contemporary issue through a range of texts, institutions, audiences and debates.

How the Course is assessed:

50% coursework Units G321 and G324 which are internally assessed and externally moderated

50 % exam Units G324 and G325 externally assessed

Useful Revision materials and websites:

The web has thousands of sites that are directly relevant to this course. Web based research into new digital technology and its relevance to today's Media Institutions and Audiences is a key aspect of the course.

Books you will need to buy – please pay at Bursary on arrival, take the receipt to your Tutor and they will give you the books

OCR Media Studies for AS (third edition) - Julian McDougall – ISBN 978-0-340-95898-8

OCR Media Studies for A2 (third edition) - Julian McDougall – ISBN 978-0-340-95871-1

Higher Education Routes for the Future – what you can do with this qualification:

This qualification is ideal for those who are concerned about the media and how it affects our society today or who want to embark on a career in film, media or journalism.

However it will give anyone who studies it a broader version of conventional literacy, including all visual, aural and digital forms. It will enable you to become more thoughtful producer and interpreter of media.

MATHEMATICS



Exam Board:	Edexcel	Level of Course	A-level
Prior Learning Required:	Grade B or better at GCSE, preferably on the higher tier exams. Or an equivalent qualification from overseas. The ability of new students will be assessed by an input test.		

Reasons why you might consider taking this course and what activities are you likely to do in or outside lessons to support your learning:

A knowledge of maths and a good level of ability in the subject can be considered as essential skills in studying other subjects at university level, not just in science and engineering. Many degree courses use maths extensively in further study. Economics and Actuarial science are examples here. The statistics modules of the syllabus have extensive use in the social and life sciences while mechanics is applied directly in engineering. The newer decision maths topics have direct relevance to computer science or software engineering.

The pure maths content forms the base for the course with additional applied modules being studied as appropriate to the interests of the students. As well as classroom teaching there may be opportunities to take part in national maths competitions and Olympiads, and to join in activities organised by the Millennium Maths Project which is run by Cambridge university.

Outline of Modules:

The pure maths content is contained in four compulsory modules, which all students must take.

These are Core Maths 1-4. The main areas covered are algebra, sequences and series, logarithms and exponentials, trigonometry, differentiation and integration.

In addition 2 applied maths modules must be taken. There may be several options here, depending on demand from the students, chosen from the following;

Statistics 1 and 2

Mechanics 1 and 2

Decision maths 1. PLEASE ALSO SEE THE COURSE OUTLINE FOR FURTHER MATHS.

How the Course is assessed:

AS maths (first year of two). Three exams, Core Maths 1 and 2, plus 1 applied module, usually Statistics 1, although others may be possible.

A2 maths (second year). Three exams, Core Maths 3 and 4, plus a second applied module, usually Statistics 2, Mechanics 1 or Decision Maths 1.

NOTE THAT THIS IS ALSO AVAILABLE AS A ONE YEAR COURSE FOR CANDIDATES WITH A HIGH LEVEL OF ABILITY IN THE SUBJECT. IF FURTHER MATHS IS TO BE STUDIED IN THE SECOND YEAR, THEN THE ABOVE SIX MODULES MUST FIRST BE COMPLETED. A GRADE OF AT LEAST 'B' IS EXPECTED IN MATHS A-LEVEL TO PROGRESS TO FURTHER MATHS, WHICH IS MUCH MORE DEMANDING.

Useful Revision materials and websites:

The textbooks used have 'active book' content on disc, giving worked answers to questions from the text, as well as links to useful websites including the edexcel exam board site. There are many other useful websites including the Millennium Maths site which gives links to many other areas. For higher ability students the sites linked to the Cambridge STEP exams are a good source of more difficult problems.

Books you will need to buy – please pay at Bursary on arrival, take the receipt to your Tutor and they will give you the books

In college we use the series of texts written specifically for this Edexcel syllabus. These are distributed by Heinemann (www.Heinemann.co.uk) with specific volumes for each module. The series director/editor is Keith Pledger and details of all volumes are available on either the Heinemann or Edexcel websites.

Higher Education Routes for the Future – what you can do with this qualification:

Mathematics A-level is highly regarded as a component of any university application and indicates a good level of ability in logical thinking and application of complex methods. It is an essential adjunct to the study of sciences or economics for many university courses but will distinguish those students with higher levels of ability who wish to apply to the upper ranking universities.

JAPANESE



Exam Board:	EDEXCEL	Level of Course	A Levels
Prior Learning Required:	GCSE GRADE C OR AT LEAST 2 -3 YEARS OF JAPANESE AND / OR CONVERSATIONAL JAPANESE		

Reasons why you might consider taking this course and what activities are you likely to do in or outside lessons to support your learning:

- Choosing a less commonly learned language will stand out on your UCAS application and add value to it.
- It will increase your employability.
- It makes travelling more enjoyable and allows you to make friends with a wider audience.
- A knowledge of the language will give you direct access to Japanese film or drama, animations, comic books (manga), and computer games.

Outline of Modules:

At AS level you will practice extended conversation, the reading of Japanese literature and newspaper articles and writing essays to be ready for your exams
You will improve your grammar by doing interactive exercises, watching Japanese films, listening to music and talking about Japanese culture.

How the Course is assessed:

A-Level reading and writing exam papers.

Useful Revision materials and websites:

<http://www.rikai.com/perl/Home.pl>

<http://thejapanesepage.com/grammar>

Books you will need to buy – please pay at Bursary on arrival, take the receipt to your Tutor and they will give you the books

TBC

Higher Education Routes for the Future – what you can do with this qualification:

Any A Level in any language is considered as an academic subject by universities; it adds great value to your UCAS application even if you only get a C grade.
Oxbridge Candidates should consider taking an A level in Languages.
The number of universities offering Japanese as a language is increasing every year. This is in response to demand - students may not be studying Japanese as a single subject, but are offering students the opportunity to study Japanese along with another subject. Common combinations are Japanese with Economics, Business Studies, Management, Japanese with History, Oriental art, Tourism, English or other languages.

ITALIAN



Exam Board:	EDEXCEL	Level of Course	A LEVEL
Prior Learning Required:	CGSE GRADE C OR AT LEAST 2 – 3 YEARS OF SPANISH AND / OR ADVANCED CONVERSATIONAL ITALIAN		

Reasons why you might consider taking this course and what activities are you likely to do in or outside lessons to support your learning:

The Italian language is set within contemporary European and world contexts, because it offers candidates ample opportunities to explore and understand a wide range of spiritual, moral and cultural issues. The nature of Italian makes it an ideal vehicle to assist candidates to develop the Key Skills of Communication, Information Technology, Working with Others and Improving own Learning and Performance and produce evidence of their application. Another language adds value to UCAS application. Full membership of CU Italian Society at Cambridge University gives opportunity to participate at Italian events and meet famous Italian characters of the Cultural and Art Italian society.

Outline of Modules:

At A level you will practice conversation and discussion on particular issues of the Italian society and culture. You will be able to read from Italian newspapers, magazines and books. You will consolidate the Italian grammar by doing interactive exercises, watch Italian films, listen to music and talk about Italian culture. By the end of the course, you will be able to express yourself and interact into the Italian language at an advanced level in any social and cultural Italian contexts.

How the Course is assessed:

A- Level Speaking exams, Listening, Reading and Writing exam papers

Useful Revision materials and websites:

[Italian Bookshop 7 Cecil Court London](#) / www.edexcel.org.uk / www.beniculturali.it

www.google.it / www.iltrovatore.it / www.italiansrus.com / www.corriere.it

www..repubblica.it / www.radio.rai.it / www.rainews24.it / www..museionline.it

[Italian Cultural Institute 39 Belgrave Square London](#) (www.icilondon.esteri.it

Books you will need to buy – please pay at Bursary on arrival, take the receipt to your Tutor and they will give you the books

Edexcel Italian for A Level student's book with CD-Rom
"Progetto Italiano 3" - Edilingua

Higher Education Routes for the Future – what you can do with this qualification:

Any A Level in any language is considered as an academic subject by universities, it adds great value to your application even if you only get a C grade. Oxbridge Candidates should consider taking an A level in Italian. The number of universities offering Italian as a language is increasing every year due to the popularity of the Italian Culture and Art. This is in response to demand – students may not be studying Italian as a single subject, but offering students the opportunity to study Italian along with another subject. Common combinations are Italian with History / Classical Studies / Business Studies / Economics (Fashion World, for example)/ European Management / Italian with another language.



ICT



Exam Board:	AQA	Level of Course	A-Level
Prior Learning Required:	No prior knowledge is required for this course although basic numeracy, literacy and ICT skills are particularly relevant		

Reasons why you might consider taking this course and what activities are you likely to do in or outside lessons to support your learning:

ICT is concerned with the appropriate use of a whole variety of hardware and software tools to capture, process, store and present data. The department offers AQA ICT at AS and A2 level. The course aims to encourage students to develop:

- the capacity to think creatively, innovatively, analytically, logically and critically
- the skills to work collaboratively
- the ability to apply skills, knowledge and understanding of ICT in a range of contexts to solve problems
- an understanding of the consequences of using ICT on individuals, organisations and society and of social, legal, ethical and other considerations on the use of ICT
- an awareness of emerging technologies and an appreciation of the potential impact these may have on individuals, organisations and society

Students will develop a range of skills applicable to other academic disciplines.

Outline of Modules:

AS outline

At AS, there are 2 complementary units concerned with applying ICT to solve problems and the study of the opportunities for and effects of using ICT in the world today.

Candidates have the opportunity to put into practice a wide range of software and hardware to create solutions to solve problems:

- INFO1: Practical Problem Solving in the Digital World
- INFO2: Living in the Digital World. A2 outline

At A2

Students study the concepts associated with the use of ICT in the 21st century. They also have opportunities for acquiring skills needed in the IT profession such as co-operative working and project management.

These practical skills can be developed in areas of ICT that are of interest to them. Students can also use these newly acquired skills as a springboard into other qualifications and working environments:

- INFO3: The Use of ICT in the Digital World
- INFO4: Coursework: Practical Issues Involved in the Use of ICT in the Digital World.

How the Course is assessed:

In the first year you'll sit two papers, one on each of the themes you've studied. Each paper accounts for 50% of your marks for the year.

A pass is recognised with an AS level.

In the second year you'll have just one paper to sit. This lasts for two hours and accounts for 60% of your marks for the year.
The other 40% is based on your practical project.

Useful Revision materials and websites:

www.toftscot.blogspot.com and www.toftcot.byethost11.com for detailed information on course content.

Books you will need to buy – please pay at Bursary on arrival, take the receipt to your Tutor and they will give you the books

AQA Information and Communication Technology AS
Author(s): Diane Spencer, Stuart McNee
Published 16/05/2008

Higher Education Routes for the Future – what you can do with this qualification:

ICT prepares students for a variety of degree level courses in ICT or Computer Science.
Students who take ICT often also take Business Studies, Design & Technology, the Sciences or Arts courses. An AS qualification in ICT can be used in conjunction with AS and A2 examinations as an entry route to almost any undergraduate higher education course.

HISTORY



Exam Board:	OCR	Level of Course	AS and A2
Prior Learning Required:	GCSE History can be useful but is not essential.		

Reasons why you might consider taking this course and what activities are you likely to do in or outside lessons to support your learning:

The course develops key powers and skills of analysis and evaluation, together with communication skills (written and oral). It enhances knowledge and understanding and contributes towards an A Level Subject that is highly regarded (see below). You have the opportunities to study individuals as well as groups, their ideas and motives and actions, all in context. You can look at how countries were shaped in their development at key moments. Nationalism, wars, different forms of government rule, the powerful and the apparently powerless, those at the top of society and those below (the masses), all feature. Common themes are addressed, irrespective of time and place; special and unique features are assessed. The very essence of History (What is History?) is considered. Lessons revolve around discussion, reading, work in pairs or groups. Outside of lessons you can work in pairs and research materials. There is plenty of scope for independent learning while, at the same, focusing on the key needs of examinations. Powers of critical thinking, assessing evidence, considering explanations, are all engaged.

Outline of Modules:

At **AS**, you study an Enquiries Unit (currently Italian Unification 1815-70) and this is based around studying selected documents; also a Period Study Unit (currently England 1035-87) and this is based around the skills of writing two essays. Both Units embrace topic knowledge and analysis and evaluation.

At **A2**, you study one chosen topic area that is tested by two different forms of Coursework, done internally, marked internally, then moderated externally; these forms focus on the investigation and interpretation of historical arguments linked to topic knowledge, analysis and evaluation. You also study a Themes Unit (currently Russia 1855-1964) and write two essays that require you to compare and contrast over time, looking at similarities and differences; these essays embrace powers of synthesis and synopsis; these are linked, in turn, to analysis and evaluation.

How the Course is assessed:

At **AS**, by two external Exams, each lasting 1 hour 30 minutes. Each carries the same weighting of marks.

At **A2**, by two internally marked and externally moderated pieces of Coursework and one externally marked Exam, lasting 2 hours. The Exam carries a greater weighting of marks.

That means three written Exams and two pieces of Coursework (each is 2000 words long).

Useful Revision materials and websites:

OCR has much useful material on its general websites.

In addition, The Historical Association, History Today and History Review all have various materials.

Revision materials are plentiful; some are customized; others are accessible through Hodder and Stoughton (Access to History) and Philip Allan websites.

Revision is supported by seminars led by Cambridge academics, focusing on key topic areas + themes

Books you will need to buy – please pay at Bursary on arrival, take the receipt to your Tutor and they will give you the books

Andrea Stiles and Robert Pearce, Italian Unification 1815-1870 (Hodder and Stoughton).

Martin Collier, The Unification of Italy 1815-1870 (Heinemann).

Derek Beales and Eugenio Biagini, The Risorgimento and the Unification of Italy, 2nd edition (Longman)

Toby Purser, England 1042-1228 (Heinemann).

Richard Huscroft, Ruling England 1042-1217 (Longman). A2 texts will be recommended later in the first year.

Higher Education Routes for the Future – what you can do with this qualification:

History is a very good preparation for a range of university courses, including not only History itself, but also Law, Politics, English Literature and the Social Sciences. At many universities, it can be studied with a combination of other subjects. It is a well-regarded subject and opens a wide range of career prospects

HISTORY of ART



Exam Board:	AQA	Level of Course	AS and A2
Prior Learning Required:	No previous knowledge of History of Art is required but a good ability in written and spoken English is essential.		

Reasons why you might consider taking this course and what activities are you likely to do in or outside lessons to support your learning:

You are interested in art and probably also history, literature and the arts, generally. You enjoy discussing your experiences with others and writing about them in both descriptive and analytical ways. You enjoy visiting art galleries and museums and should try to do so as much as possible in your own time to support your learning.

Outline of Modules:

AS course 2009 - 10

HART 1 Unit 1 Visual analysis and Interpretation (40% of AS)

HART 2 Unit 2 Themes in History of Art (60% of AS)

A2 course 2010 – 11

HART 3 Unit 3 Investigation and interpretation (1) Choice out of 4 possible topics, probably Art and architecture in Europe and America 1946 -2000 (50% of A2)

HART 4 Unit 4 Investigation and interpretation (2) Choice out of 4 possible topics, probably Art and architecture in Europe and America 1900 -1945 (50% of A2)

All the units are examined in formal written examinations. There is no coursework.

How the Course is assessed:

AS; two examinations, one for Unit 1 and one for Unit 2

A2; two examinations, one for Unit 3 and one for Unit 4

Useful Revision materials and websites:

There are countless websites on art and the history of art. Wikipedia is often a good place to start, but bear in mind that the entries are not always reliable or of good quality.

AQA website has past papers and mark schemes www.aqa.org.uk

Depending on the class size, some books may be available for long-term borrowing. Otherwise you will need to buy them – please pay at Bursary on arrival, take the receipt to your Tutor and they will give you the books

For AS 'The World History of Art' by Honour and Fleming
Dictionary of Art Terms (publisher Thames & Hudson)

Higher Education Routes for the Future – what you can do with this qualification:

History of Art is an excellent basis for the study of any Arts/Humanities subject or, if you wish to continue the subject at Higher Education level, you can study History of Art on its own or in combination with many other Arts subjects such as Fine Art, Film and Media Studies, Philosophy, History, Modern languages.

Graphic communication



Exam Board: AQA		Level of Course	AS and A2
Prior Learning Required:	DRAWING /PAINTING EXPERIENCE AN ADVANTAGE		

Reasons why you might consider taking this course and what activities are you likely to do in or outside lessons to support your learning:

This course is aimed at students who have a keen interest in the art of visualizing ideas and the creative process of communicating those ideas through imagery and typography (where necessary). Students will be encouraged to visit galleries and museums to inspire and further their own work and to record their findings in a portable sketchbook. Homework should be a natural progression from class-work and vice-versa.

Outline of Modules:

AS UNIT 1 PORTFOLIO (complete a portfolio of ideas under a topic heading chosen internally).
UNIT 2 Externally set assignment (assignment issued in FEBRUARY and completed in MAY)

.....
A2 UNIT 3 PERSONAL INVESTIGATION (topic chosen by student, an investigation supported by images and 1000-3000 words.)

.....UNIT 4 Externally set assignment issued in February and completed in MAY.

How the Course is assessed:

The coursework is internally assessed and then moderated by AQA by a visit to the centre.

UNIT 1-50% OF TOTAL AS MARKS 25% OF TOTAL A LEVEL

UNIT 2 " " " " " " "

UNIT 3 25% OF TOTAL A LEVEL MARKS

UNIT 4 " " "

: ESSENTIAL EQUIPMENT:

PENCIL CASE. PENCILS (2B.4B), 1 ERASER, 1 PENCIL SHARPENER,2 BLACK DRAWING PENS(1 FINE . 1 THICK), IGLUE STICK (LARGE),1 PACK OF GOOD QUALITY CRAYONS , 1 PAIR OF MEDIUM SCISSORS.

Books recommended:

THE STORY OF ART E. GOMBRICH, GRAPHIC DESIGN, P.JOPLING, HAND TO EYE; CONTEMPOARY ILLUSTRATION HYLAND, A AND BELL R., A CENTURY OF GRAPHIC DESIGN-J.AYNSLEY

Higher Education Routes for the Future – what you can do with this qualification:

Progression to arts foundation course and subsequent arts courses at degree level or equivalent.

German



Exam Board:	EDEXCEL	Level of Course	AS/A2
Prior Learning Required:	GCSE at c-level. Suitable for German native speakers.		

Reasons why you might consider taking this course and what activities are you likely to do in or outside lessons to support your learning:

German is the official language in Germany, Austria, Switzerland and Luxembourg. One quarter of Europeans speak German and German ranks among the top 10 most frequently spoken languages in the world. On the Internet German ranks as the second most frequently used language. Germany has the largest economy in the European Union and the third largest in the world. It is the world's leading exporter and importer. German is a leading language of science, literature, philosophy, history, music and the arts. Millions of people visit German-speaking countries every year, to see the Austrian and Swiss Alps or the beautiful river Rhine or to experience the German beer at the Oktoberfest in Munich.

Outline of Modules:

Edexcel's A-level course comprises four units: speaking, reading, writing and listening. The full Advanced GCE A-level award consists of the two AS units (Units 1 and 2), plus two A2 units (Units 3 and 4) which make up the other 50 per cent of the Advanced GCE. Students wishing to take the full Advanced GCE must, therefore, complete all four units. You will be studying topics and texts, watch German movies.

How the Course is assessed:

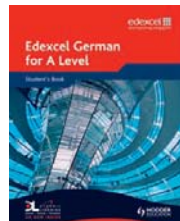
At the end of the AS course students will be tested under exam conditions in their spoken expression and response in German and on their understanding and written response in German. At the end of the A2 course students will be assessed on understanding and spoken response in German and on research, understanding and written response in the target language. Speaking exams are teacher conducted.

Useful Revision materials and websites:

Bellnet.com; Goethe.de; abacho.de; dino-online.de; web.de; lycos.de

Books you will need to buy – please pay at Bursary on arrival, take the receipt to your Tutor and they will give you the books

The Edexcel AS/A2 student book.



Higher Education Routes for the Future – what you can do with this qualification:

The A-level German is highly regarded by Universities in general. German students wishing to apply for a German university may need German as a foreign language in order to go back into the German system. Knowledge of German improves your chances of employment. German companies abroad and foreign companies in Germany seek experts with knowledge of German. Staff in international companies enjoy an advantage if they know German. In the European Union there are interesting training, study and employment opportunities for specialists with this knowledge.

FURTHER MATHS



Exam Board:	Edexcel	Level of Course	A-level
Prior Learning Required:	At least a grade B in the full maths A-level is expected before commencing the Further Maths course. Students with lower grades are likely to find the course very difficult.		

Reasons why you might consider taking this course and what activities are you likely to do in or outside lessons to support your learning:

Further Maths provides a second full A-level for those students who have a high level of ability in the subject. It is an essential requirement for the study of Maths at university level and is highly regarded as a third or fourth subject when applying to study Economics, Engineering or Physics. Courses such as Actuarial Science also need high standard mathematicians. The course is taken in the second year of study, following on from the standard A-level maths syllabus taken in year one, It is not possible to take this course as part of a year twelve course since it follows on from the first year material. Students can take advantage of activities organised by the Millennium Maths project in Cambridge as well as use support offered by the Further Maths network based at the University maths department.

Outline of Modules:

Students must complete three additional pure maths modules, Further Pure Maths 1/2/3. These introduce many new ideas as well as the study in more depth of the topics initiated in the normal A-level syllabus. Six modules in total have to be taken for the complete qualification so that three applied maths modules need to be added to the above FP 1/2/3. These can be either a statistics based route including Statistics 2/3/4 or for students aiming at engineering or physics an alternative could be Mechanics 2/3/4. Decision Maths may be available as an alternative to the S4 or M4 exams.

How the Course is assessed:

Six modular exams, each of duration 1hr 30min, need to be taken during the year and two or three will be taken in January with the remainder taken in the final summer exam session in June. In addition some universities may request that applicants for maths degree courses take the University of Cambridge STEP papers, which consist of more difficult questions but based on the same syllabus content. These latter test mathematical aptitude at a very high level.

Useful Revision materials and websites:

The textbooks used all include an "active book" on disc which gives access to worked solutions to many problems as well as links to useful websites. The Edexcel exam board website also has links to other maths revision and help sites. The Millennium Maths project and Further Maths network as well as sites dedicated to the STEP exams give constructive help to higher level students.

Books you will need to buy – please pay at Bursary on arrival, take the receipt to your Tutor and they will give you the books

We use the set of texts written specifically for the Edexcel syllabus and distributed by Heinemann (www.heinemann.co.uk) The series editor is Keith Pledger and the modular texts use the titles of the modules given above.

Higher Education Routes for the Future – what you can do with this qualification:

Many top tier universities recognise the ability and talent needed to successfully complete the Further Maths course and taken as either a third or fourth A-level subject it greatly enhances the profile of a candidate. However it is also important that a subject which requires extended written answers is included as well as a high level score in IELTS. The Further Maths qualification cannot be seen as an entrée to the best universities without the essential English language skills. Economics, Actuarial Science and certain Business and Management courses can be highly mathematical subjects where having the experience of this course will prove useful, and options such as Maths with Management, Chemistry with Maths and many other options can be open to candidates offering good grades in the "Double Maths" A-levels.

FRENCH



Exam Board:	EDEXCEL	Level of Course	A LEVEL
Prior Learning Required:	GCSE GRADE C OR AT LEAST 2 -3 YEARS OF FRENCH AND OR CONVERSATIONAL FRENCH		

Reasons why you might consider taking this course and what activities are you likely to do in or outside lessons to support your learning:

Another language adds value to your UCAS application
It increases your employability/make relocation and pay rises easier to get.
It makes travelling more enjoyable, you make friends of other nationalities more easily.

Outline of Modules:

At AS you will practice conversation, reading, writing to be ready for your exams
You will improve grammar by doing interactive exercises, watch French films, listen to music and talk about French culture.

How the Course is assessed:

AS-A2 Speaking exams, Listening, reading and writing exam papers.

Useful Revision materials and websites:

www.bonjourdefrance.com

www.polarfle.com

www.s-cool.co.uk

Books you will need to buy – please pay at Bursary on arrival, take the receipt to your Tutor and they will give you the books



[Edexcel French for A Level Student's Book with Dynamic Learning Home Edition CD-ROM](#)

Robert Bayliss, Christiane Salvador, Tim Swain

Lett's Education Revision book AS French

Lett's Education Revision book A2 French

Higher Education Routes for the Future – what you can do with this qualification:

Any A Level in any language is considered as an academic subject by universities, it adds great value to your application even if you only get a C grade.

Oxbridge Candidates should consider taking an A level in French.

German students wishing to apply for a German university often need to have a second language like French .

Fine Art



Exam Board : AQA		Level of Course	AS and A2
Prior Learning Required:	Drawing/painting experience an advantage		

Reasons why you might consider taking this course and what activities are you likely to do in or outside lessons to support your learning:

The course is designed to improve the students powers of observation through direct observational drawing, painting and mark making. It will encourage you to develop ideas from given starting points into personal responses through exploration of self and a variety of media. The course focuses primarily on the practical side of Fine Art by learning and using new techniques, materials and methods. It will also require the student to build on their knowledge of art history by visiting museums, galleries and local exhibitions to help progress their own development as an artist.

Outline of Modules:

AS-UNIT 1 Portfolio (complete a portfolio of ideas under a topic chosen internally)
UNIT 2 Externally set assignment (assignment issued in Feb and completed I May)

.....

A2 UNIT 3 Personal Investigation (topic chosen by student and investigation supported by images and 1000-3000 words)
UNIT 4 Externally set assignment issued in Feb and completed in May

How the Course is assessed:

The coursework is internally marked and then moderated by AQA.

UNIT 1 50% OF TOTAL AS MARKS 25% OF TOTAL A LEVEL
UNIT 2 50% OF TOTAL AS MARKS 25% OF TOTAL A LEVEL
UNIT 3 25% OF TOTAL A LEVEL MARKS
UNIT 4 25% OF TOTAL A LEVEL MARKS

Essential equipment and useful websites:

Pencil case, Pencils, HB, 2B and 4B. 1 x Eraser, 1 x Pencil Sharpener, small ruler, 1 x Large glue stick. A standard digital camera will be required (Not camera phone)

Useful Websites;
www.tate.org.uk www.artchive.com www.artcyclopedia.com

Books you may need to buy

A History of the 21st Century Art, Blistine,B (2001) Flammarion Beaux Arts SA

Higher Education Routes for the Future – what you can do with this qualification:

Progression to Art Foundation course and Subsequent higher educational courses at University.

FILM STUDIES



Exam Board:	WJEC	Level of Course	A2
Prior Learning Required:	AS Film Studies. Or if taken in one year with AS you will ideally need English Literature or Media Studies at GCSE level or Film Studies at GCSE level		

Reasons why you might consider taking this course and what activities are you likely to do in or outside lessons to support your learning:

This will progress your studies at AS to a more advanced level. You will engage with a wide range of different kinds of films, developing skills of observation, critical analysis and personal reflection. You will have the opportunity to develop your creativity and practical skills, either by producing your own films or film scripts.

Through the study of film you will also consider individual, moral, ethical, social, cultural and contemporary issues in an exciting, stimulating and creative environment. You will watch and study and discuss a lot of films. Practical tasks include research, presentations and discursive essay writing.

Outline of Modules:

In the second year, you will study:

Film Research and Produce a creative project – a short film, a screenplay or a documentary – this will be course work.

For the exam you will study Issues and Debates in Cinema. This will include the following three areas of study:

World Cinema – this is international film styles and could be Neo-Realism or Soviet Cinema

Spectatorship – this could include Horror, Spectacle such as Lawrence of Arabia or documentary film – Michael Moore or Nick Broomfield

+ a Single Film Critical study in depth – choices include The Battle of Algiers or Alfred Hitchcock's thriller Vertigo

How the Course is assessed:

Half of the course is assessed by course work – practical, theoretical and written. This assessed by your CATS Tutor. The other half of the course is a single written examination.

Useful Revision materials and websites:

There is a CATS Film Studies Web site: <http://filmcats.wordpress.com/>

Exam Board web site: <http://www.wjec.co.uk/index.php?subject=54&level=15>

+ many other web sites which are topic specific if you Google

Books you will need to buy – please pay at Bursary on arrival, take the receipt to your Tutor and they will give you the books

A Level Film Studies for WJEC: Hodder Arnold Author: Tanya Jones ISBN: 9780340885918

A2 Film Studies: The Essential Introduct.: Routledge

Author: Sarah Casey ISBN: 9780415399562

Higher Education Routes for the Future – what you can do with this qualification:

A BA degree in Media Studies and /or Film Studies, Film Production or Marketing and Promotion

ENGLISH LITERATURE



Exam Board:	EDEXCEL	Level of Course	AS/A2
Prior Learning Required:	5.5 IELTS or a C grade at GCSE would help		

Reasons why you might consider taking this course and what activities are you likely to do in, or outside, lessons to support your learning:

- * Your vocabulary and general spoken and written fluency will increase
- * The above may help you in your other subjects and raise your IELTS score
- * We don't just read - we draw, write ourselves, make posters, have quizzes and talk a great deal.
- * We go to the theatre, watch scenes from film interpretations of Shakespeare and documentaries.
- * We think about the wider picture. What makes a text a work of Art? Why is it worth studying literature?
- * You will probably gain a lifetime interest.

Outline of Modules:

Unit 1 – Section A : 3 short answers on either prose or poetry you have not seen before.	20 marks
Section B : choose one of two essays on a selection of early and modern poems.	40 marks
Section C : choose one of two essays comparing our chosen pair of novels	40 marks
Unit 2 Coursework. 2,000 words comparing a Shakespeare play with another of our choice	
One creative piece (500 words) and one piece a conventional essay (1,500 words)	80 marks
Unit 3 Section A : choose to explore a poem OR a prose piece you have not seen before.	40 marks
Section B : choose one of two essays comparing two of our three texts - prose & poetry	60 marks
Unit 4 Coursework. 2,500 words – one long or two short pieces. Free choice of texts (2/3)	80 marks

How the Course is assessed:

60% exam	We must use literary terms, display written fluency and show we know how the historical context of the text influenced the writer. We must show how readers and audiences have viewed the texts over the years.
40% coursework	
AS exam – 135 minutes	
A2 exam - 165 minutes	

Useful Revision materials and websites:

I will give you revision booklets.
Search engines need only the name of our writer or the text to give us much material. We can watch Youtube clips of plays and poetry readings.

Books you will need to buy – please pay at Bursary on arrival, take the receipt to your Tutor and they will give you the books

The first 4 texts are for AS. The last 3 are for A2
Pride and Prejudice – a novel by Austen (Penguin Classics, 2,003 ISBN – 10 0099478331)
The Yellow Wallpaper – a very short novel by Gilman (Virago, 1981 ISBN – 13 978 0860682011)
Othello – a play by Shakespeare (Cambridge Schools edition)
The Country Wife – a play by Wycherley (The New Mermaid edition)
The Great Gatsby – a novel by Scott Fitzgerald (Wordsworth Classics ISBN 978-1-85326-041-4)
Metaphysical Poetry; edited by Burrow and Ricks (Penguin – ISBN 978-0-14-02444-7)
Rapture – poems by Carol Ann Duffy

Higher Education Routes for the Future – what you can do with this qualification:

An A level in literature tells the university you are likely to be well read, with verbal and written fluency. It will help your application to any Humanities course and show breadth and balance if you are a scientist or mathematician. At CATS many Literature students go on to take an English degree.

Economics



Exam Board:	Edexcel	Level of Course	A2
Prior Learning Required:	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• AS Economics• Sufficient knowledge of the English language to cope with concepts and examples presented in English		

Reasons why you might consider taking this course and what activities are you likely to do in or outside lessons to support your learning:

Economics A2 extends the work completed in AS and allows students to learn methods from which business and government base their decisions. The course developed economic concepts in preparation for an undergraduate course in Economics and Economics related subjects.

Activities involve model construction and discussion of validity and reliability. Application of real world events allows the learner to interact with the true economy and recognise the intricacies of policy making. Students will be expected to interpret data and relate to given theory. They will then use evaluative techniques to reach tentative conclusions. Activities are both numerical and prose based.

There is an expectation that students will maintain interaction with their environs through regular recourse to the news and internet based material so as to use their learning to add to debate.

Outline of Modules:

Unit 3 – Business Economics and Economic Efficiency: The unit considers decision making within a framework of Industrial Economics. After simple concepts of micro-economic efficiency have been covered, students learn some early theoretical work on market structure. Efficiency comparisons related to real world examples are expected. The latter sections of the unit consider the role and efficacy of government intervention in the industrial economy.

Unit 4 – The Global Economy: The unit comprises two distinct sections.

The first section considers the international economy. Following initial work on the causes and effects of globalisation, it continues to examine the UK's role in the international economy. The emphasis then shifts to theories of development and the role of international institutions in aiding global growth and prosperity. The second section is an extension of the work completed in Unit 2. The UK macro-economy is studied in greater depth with more emphasis on the role that international trade plays in determining UK economic performance.

How the Course is assessed:

Assessment is made from two public examinations, the first of 90 minutes and the second of 120 minutes duration.

The first paper is weighted at 40% and the second paper at 60% of the total A2 marks.

The **first examination** requires that students complete 10 structured multiple choice style questions and an extended data response style question. Students are expected to demonstrate skills of analysis and evaluation.

The **second examination** comprises a full academic essay and a data response style question.

Unit 3 carries 80 uniform marks and Unit 4 carries 120. The A2 examination carries a total of 200 marks.

Useful Revision materials and websites:

<http://tutor2u.net/economics/revision-notes/index.html>

<http://www.bized.co.uk/learn/economics/index.htm>

Edexcel A2 Economics – Business Economics and Business Efficiency, MIKDADI, M., Philip Allan, 2008. ISBN: 978-0340958162

Edexcel A2 Economics – The Global Economy, BREWER, Q., Philip Allan, 2008. ISBN: 978-0340958154

Books needed – please pay Bursary, take the receipt to your Tutor + they will give you the books

A Level Economics for Edexcel: A Level. Student Book, Anderton, A., Causeway Press, 2008.

ISBN: 978-1405892285

Higher Education Routes for the Future – what you can do with this qualification:

A2 in Economics can be combined with other exams as an entry route to almost any undergraduate course. For those who wish to enter a top UK academic institution to study Economics it is strongly recommended that Economics A2 is combined with Mathematics and, preferably, Further Mathematics A level.

Chinese



Exam Board:	EDEXCEL	Level of Course	A Levels
Prior Learning Required:	GCSE grade C or above /advanced level of speaking , listening /intermediate level of reading and writing skills		

Reasons why you might consider taking this course and what activities are you likely to do in or outside lessons to support your learning:

- Chinese is one of the most highly regarded subjects by Oxbridge and Russell group universities.
- High expectations, innovative thinking and a broad view of supporting all levels of learners
- Subject also provides fully relevant information to help students to achieve economic well-being
- Promoting and demonstrating high standard of teaching and learning in class
- engaging and helping learners to experience/understand Chinese traditional culture and classical literature.

Outline of Modules:

- A-level Chinese exam practice offers students a clear learning focus and control of assessment. The Advanced Subsidiary level rewards students for speaking, listening, reading and writing skills. The Advanced Subsidiary level provides a logical progression from GCSE offering:
- discrete skill-specific testing
 - a focus on language.
- The A2 level offers a realistic progression from Advanced Subsidiary that:
- rewards advanced research/reading skills
 - acknowledges the importance of knowledge and understanding of Chinese-language culture
 - facilitates literary study.

How the Course is assessed:

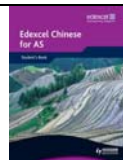
Speaking, Listening, Reading and Research-based essay writing.

Useful Revision materials and websites:

http://www.edexcel.com/migrationdocuments/GCE%20New%20GCE/spec_gce_chinese.pdf

<http://www.bbc.co.uk/china/>

Books you will need to buy – please pay at Bursary on arrival, take the receipt to your Tutor and they will give you the books



http://www.hoddereducation.co.uk/Title/9780340967843/Edexcel_Chinese_for_AS_Students_Book.htm

Higher Education Routes for the Future – what you can do with this qualification:

As Chinese Economics develops rapidly, Chinese language learning becomes more and more in demand in various fields. -Archaeology, Business Studies, Economics and Chinese, Medicine, Computing, Media, International Law, Social Psychology, Engineering, Human resource Management, Travel and Tourism, Linguistic studies.

Chemistry



Exam Board:	Edexcel	Level of Course	A level
Prior Learning Required:	GCSE or equivalent – minimum Grade C at GCSE		

Reasons why you might consider taking this course and what activities are you likely to do in or outside lessons to support your learning:

Chemistry is an experimental based subject, and compulsory at A level, for anyone intending to study Medicine and Veterinary Science at University.

Outline of Modules:

The A level syllabus is split into AS Chemistry, studied in the first year, with A2 Chemistry studied in the 2nd year, although some students opt to study the whole A level in one year.

AS Chemistry consists of Unit 1, Unit 2 and a series of assessed practicals.

A2 Chemistry consists of Unit 4, Unit 5 and a series of assessed practicals.

Unit 1 introduces topics which are the foundation upon which Chemistry is built, and covers topics such as Atomic structure, Electronic configuration, calculations involving reacting masses, and Structure and Bonding. Organic Chemistry (Alkanes and Alkenes) is introduced.

Unit 2 builds upon the Organic Chemistry, and covers the reactions of Alcohols and Halogenoalkanes. The Chemistry of the Group 2 elements and the halogens is covered. Kinetics, Chemical Equilibria and Energetics are also covered. Mass spectroscopy and Infra red spectroscopy are introduced, and there is a small topic on Green Chemistry

Unit 4 covers Kinetics and Chemical equilibria using a more quantitative approach, and the concept of Entropy is introduced to explain why some reactions are spontaneous and others not. Acid- base equilibria and Buffer solutions are introduced. The chemistry of other oxygen containing organic compounds is covered along with chromatography and spectroscopy.

Unit 5 covers Redox Equilibria, and the chemistry of the transition metals. The chemistry of benzene and phenol is covered, in addition to the organic chemistry of some nitrogen containing compounds, including amino acids.

Finally, there is a topic on organic synthesis.

How the Course is assessed:

AS Chemistry is assessed by 2 written exam papers – one paper covering Unit 1, and the 2nd paper covering Unit 2, which account for 80% of the total AS mark. The assessed practicals account for the remaining 20%. The total marks for AS is 300

A2 Chemistry is also assessed by 2 written papers – one paper covering Unit 4, and the 2nd paper covering Unit 5 which account for 80% of the total A2 mark. The assessed practical's account for the remaining 20%. The total marks for A2 is 300.

The A level is AS + A2, weighted equally., and the total mark is out of 600.

Useful Revision materials and websites:

GCSE textbooks, A level chemistry text books.

<http://www.docbrown.info/>

<http://www.chemguide.co.uk/index.html> - top

<http://www.s-cool.co.uk/alevel/chemistry.html>

Books you will need to buy – please pay at Bursary on arrival, take the receipt to your Tutor and they will give you the books

Edexcel Chemistry for AS – Graham Hill and Andrew Hunt

Edexcel Chemistry for A2 – Graham Hill and Andrew Hunt

Edexcel AS Chemistry – Ann Fullick and Bob McDuell

Edexcel A2 Chemistry – Ann Fullick and Bob McDuell

Higher Education Routes for the Future – what you can do with this qualification:

Chemistry allows a students to apply to University to study Medicine (note that Chemistry at A level is compulsory), Chemistry and other Science subjects, Engineering, and other subjects such as Law, Economics.

Business Studies



Exam Board:	AQA	Level of Course	A2
Prior Learning Required:	AS Business Studies (essential)		

Reasons why you might consider taking this course and what activities you are likely to do in or outside lessons to support your learning:

A2 Business Studies focuses on both the internal functions of contemporary business organisations of all types and, the dynamic external environment within which businesses operate and the effects this can have upon decision-making within a business. Further, it covers the major topical issues that can generate change for business organisations, the ways in which businesses respond to these issues and the range of perspectives that different stakeholders can take on a business' activities.

Students will acquire a range of important and transferable skills and engage in many activities including learning how to:

- manipulate data in a variety of forms and interpret their results
- present arguments and make judgments, then justify recommendations on the basis of the available evidence
- recognise the nature of problems and solve problems
- make decisions using appropriate business tools and methods
- plan work, taking into account the demands of the task and the time available to complete it
- conduct research into a specific theme in preparation for one or more tasks
- challenge their own assumptions using evidence that has become available.

Outline of Modules:

Unit 3 - Strategies for Success: The A2 units build on the AS units by considering more complex business scenarios and focusing on strategy, as opposed to tactics. Unit 3 focuses on larger businesses which may be trading in international markets, and how managers might measure the performance of the business. It considers functional strategies that larger businesses may adopt to achieve their objectives. Application includes corporate aims, financial statements, as well as marketing, people and operations management.

Unit 4 - The Business Environment and Managing Change: Assesses the external factors that can act as catalysts for change, and considers these in relation to a range of businesses. It also examines the ways in which businesses can manage change successfully when responding to external stimuli. Application includes the many external factors that can affect a business in the global market and the management of change.

How the Course is assessed:

Assessment is made by two public examinations both of 105 minutes duration and worth equal marks.

The first examination requires that students answer questions using extended answers based on an unseen case study drawing upon knowledge from AS as well as A2 units.

The second examination requires students to research a topic, released prior to the examination, the findings of which will enable them to answer the first section of the examination. The second section will consist of a choice of essay questions. Both sections require one essay answer each. Students will need to draw on knowledge from both AS and A2 units.

Useful Revision materials and websites:

www.bized.co.uk www.tutor2u.co.uk www.businesslink.gov.uk www.bbconline.co.uk
www.timesonline.co.uk

Business Review Magazine

AQA Business Studies AS, Helen Coupland-Smith, Nelson Thornes, 2009. ISBN: 978-0748798476

Books needed – pay Bursary on arrival, take the receipt to your Tutor + they will give you the books

AQA Business Studies for A2, Ian Marcouse, Hodder Education, 2009. ISBN: 978-0340973578

Higher Education Routes for the Future – what you can do with this qualification:

A2 in Business Studies can be used with other exams as an entry route to most undergraduate courses.

Biology



Exam Board:	Edexcel	Level of Course	A level
Prior Learning Required:	GCSE Biology grade C and above or equivalent		

Reasons why you might consider taking this course and what activities are you likely to do in or outside lessons to support your learning:

Biology is a very broad subject, where you will start the course learning about the chemistry of biological molecules, progressing to the structure and function of the cell and by the end of the course you will understand how living organisms interact together to produce the wonderfully diverse ecosystems we experience on earth. An important part of the course is to understand how scientists discover their insights into the natural world and how they communicate these ideas. You will consider the ethical implications of some areas of research and also the impact of human activity and how it is damaging the very systems that sustain life on the planet.

You will conduct scientific investigations and learn practical techniques. There will be visits to the many world famous research institutes we are fortunate to find in Cambridge, London Zoo and a field trip to a local nature reserve.

Outline of Modules:

There are 4 topics to be completed each academic year.

AS year (1st year). Topic 1. Lifestyle, Health and Risk. Includes a study of life style factors which affect Cardio vascular disease. You will also learn how the circulatory system works.

Topic 2. Genes and health. A consideration of the structure and functions of cell membranes and gas exchange surfaces. Principles of inheritance, gene therapy, genetic screening, discussions of the ethical issues surrounding genetic screening.

Topic 3. The Voice of the Genome. Includes a study of cell structure, reproduction, principles of stem cell research.

Topic 4. Natural environment and species survival. A study of plant structure and function leading onto consideration of the various uses of plants as building materials, food, and medicines. The topic includes consideration of species diversity, natural selection and evolution, conservation.

A2 (2nd year). Topic 5. On the wild side. A study of photosynthesis and an understanding of how ecosystems work. Climate change, evidence for global warming and extinction.

Topic 6. Infection Immunity and forensics. You will consider how pathogens infect their hosts and how the host have evolved mechanisms to combat infection. This topic also includes a study of forensics and how science is used to solve crime.

Topic 7. Run for your life. Muscle structure and function, energy production by respiration, homeostasis and exercise physiology.

Topic 8. Grey Matter. Structure of mammalian nervous system and a study of neurological disease.

You will also complete an in depth scientific report on a subject of personal interest to you and an experimental study.

How the Course is assessed:

At the end of the first year you will sit two written examination papers which are externally assessed. Your subject knowledge, analytical skills and understanding of how science works will be given equal weight when assessing your progress. You will also prepare a written report in the first year which will be externally assessed. Should you pass the first (AS) year you may progress to the second (A2) year where you will sit a further 2 written papers and an extended practical investigation. Through out the course you will be regularly assessed using exam style questions so that your progress can be monitored.

Useful Revision materials and websites:

Any GCSE Biology text book will give you the necessary background information. Longmans AS and A2 biology Revision Guides are especially concise and easy to use: **Publisher: [Coordination Group Publications Ltd](#) ISBN: 978-1-8476-2120-7 and 978-1-8414-6396-4** The website www.newsna.com has some very useful on line tutorials and practice tests where you can review your background knowledge and test your self to find out if you have the required level of knowledge to commence A level study. www.BBC.bitesize also has similar materials.

Books you will need to buy – please pay at Bursary on arrival, take the receipt to your Tutor and they will give you the books

Edexcel AS Biology students book ISBN: 978-1-4058-9632-0 £18.78

Edexcel A2 Biology students book ISBN: 978-1-408-2060-7 £15.22

Higher Education Routes for the Future – what you can do with this qualification:

A level Biology prepares you for a very diverse range of future options. From careers in public health, environmental

science, nature conservation, research in pharmacology, medicine, psychology and agriculture.

ART VIDEO



Exam Board:	Edexcel	Level of Course	A Level
Prior Learning Required:	(Desired) GCSE Art and Design, Photography, Film Studies or Media Studies		

Reasons why you might consider taking this course and what activities are you likely to do in or outside lessons to support your learning:

The modern world is dominated by moving images and sounds. It is now more important than ever to know how to interact with and interpret the virtual world around us.

Through practical workshops, film screenings and seminars you will establish and develop your own practical and creative skills in the area of Digital Video. You will develop skills in all areas of filming and post-production from camera basics such as framing and lighting to editing with Final Cut Studio.

Outline of Modules:

The AS course provides a broad overview of the history of film as an art form through screenings, lectures and discussions. Through practical workshops and exercises, you will also cover areas from Camera Basics, Framing, Editing, lighting, use of colour and the use of sound. You will also develop an understanding of the four main areas of Film; Genre/Narrative, Animation, Documentary and Experimental Film and Video.

The A2 course focuses more specifically on film styles and movements (Surrealism, Neo-realism, Expressionism, French New Wave) and specific Artists and Filmmakers (Jean-Luc Godard, Luis Bunuel/Salvador Dali, Robert Wiene, Roberto Rossellini). Through advanced practical workshops students will continue to develop their own knowledge and practical skills.

How the Course is assessed:

The AS course is assessed through two guided and student led film projects with accompanying workbook/sketchbooks. A final externally set project is assessed again through the resulting film project and accompanying workbook. This final project culminates with an 8 hour practical exam element.

The A2 course is assessed through a combination of practical video work, accompanying workbooks and a written study/presentation on a specific film movement or director/artist. A final externally set project is assessed again through the resulting film project and accompanying workbook. This final project culminates with a 12 hour practical exam element.

Useful Revision materials and websites:

<http://www.bfi.org.uk/>

<http://www.sensesofcinema.com/>

<http://www.davidbordwell.net/>

<http://artvideoas.blogspot.com/>

Books you will need to buy – please pay at Bursary on arrival, take the receipt to your Tutor and they will give you the books

(Advised, but all course materials are provided)

Film History: An Introduction – Kristin Thompson and David Bordwell.

The Cinema Book – Edited by Pam Cook and Mieke Bernink

Film Art: An Introduction - Kristin Thompson and David Bordwell.

Higher Education Routes for the Future – what you can do with this qualification:

Degree studies in Film, Media, Communications, Fine Art or Lens-Based Media.

Accounting



Exam Board:	AQA	Level of Course	A2
Prior Learning Required:	Sufficient knowledge of the English language to cope with concepts and examples presented in English		

Reasons why you might consider taking this course and what activities are you likely to do in or outside lessons to support your learning:

A2 Accounting allows students to build on their AS qualification to learn methods from which businesses compile their accounting requirements and on which they base their financial decisions. By studying such methods, students will develop a range of skills applicable to other academic disciplines.

The material uses practical application of techniques and provides the foundation for taking the subject to the next level.

Activities involve building the basic framework for modelling the accounting structure identifying the appropriate techniques and systematically minimising errors. Application of real world examples allows the learner to understand the role of accounting within the business environment and relate this to the company's decision making process. Students will be expected to interpret data and relate this to a given scenario. They will then use accounting techniques to reach realistic conclusions. Activities are both numerical and prose based.

There is an expectation that students will maintain interaction with their environs through regular recourse to company data from the news and internet based material.

Outline of Modules:

Unit 3 – Further Aspects of Financial Accounting: The first half of the unit introduces students to the operation of Limited and Partnership final accounts as well as dealing with incomplete accounts. Recognition of sources of finance and their application and dealing with changes in partnership. Accounting standards are reviewed as well as techniques used in evaluating stock.

Unit 4 – Further Aspects of management accounting: The unit introduces students to more concepts associated with Management accounts and the use of accounting techniques in making management decisions, including break even and investment appraisal analysis. Also included are the manufacturing costing techniques including Standard costing, absorption and activity based costing. The use of budgets to control expenditure is also an integral part.

How the Course is assessed:

Assessment is made from two public examinations, each of 120 minutes duration.

The first examination requires that students complete four compulsory questions and represents 25% of the total A level marks, The student is expected to demonstrate skills of analysis and evaluation.

The second examination requires that the students complete four compulsory questions and represents 25% of the total A level marks.

Each examination carries 100 uniform marks. The A2 examination carries a total of 200 marks.

Useful Revision materials and websites:

<http://tutor2u.net/accounting/revision-notes/index.html>

<http://www.bized.co.uk/learn/accounting/index.htm>

AQA/A2 Accounting for AQA – David Cox- Osborne books.

Business accounting - Rob Jones - CPL

Books you will need to buy – please pay at Bursary on arrival, take the receipt to your Tutor and they will give you the books

A2 Accounting for AQA – David Cox- Osborne books.

Higher Education Routes for the Future – what you can do with this qualification:

An A2 in Accounting can be used for almost any undergraduate higher education course.

TEXTILE DESIGN



Exam Board:	AQA	Level of Course	AS and A2
Prior Learning Required:	Some prior experience of drawing is an advantage		

Reasons why you might consider taking this course and what activities are you likely to do in or outside lessons to support your learning:

This course is aimed at students who are interested in the design and construction of fabric, particularly surface pattern. They will be introduced to a wide variety of techniques, these include fabric printing, tie dye, batik, spraying, transfer, fabric construction and stitching (appliqué, patchwork, padding, quilting and embroidery)

Students will explore relevant images, artefacts and resources relating to a range of art and design, from both historical and contemporary sources. They will also be required to explore drawing using a variety of media on different surfaces and scales. Students will be required to use a sketch book to record their research and show development of ideas leading towards a final piece.

Gallery visits are encouraged to support their learning and students will be required to undertake a min of 2 hrs homework per week.

Outline of Modules:

AS-Unit 1 *Portfolio* (complete a portfolio of ideas, to include one themed project)

Unit 2 *Externally set assignment* (paper issued in Feb and completed in May)

A2- Unit 3 *Personal Investigation* (This is a practical unit with a written element, students will be expected to develop a personal investigation based on an idea, issue, concept or theme leading to a finished piece or pieces.

Unit 4 *Externally set assignment* (paper issued in Feb and completed in May)

How the Course is assessed:

The course work is internally marked and then moderated by AQA through a visit to the centre.

Unit 1 50% OF TOTAL AS MARK 25% OF TOTAL A LEVEL

UNIT 2 50% OF TOTAL AS MARK 25% OF TOTAL A LEVEL

UNIT 3 50% OF TOTAL AS MARK 25% OF TOTAL A LEVEL

UNIT 4 50% OF TOTAL AS MARK 25% OF TOTAL A LEVEL

Essential equipment and useful websites:

www.artcylopedia.com www.artchive.com www.british-museum.ac.uk www.craftscouncil.org.uk

www.designmuseum.org www.tate.org.uk www.vam.ac.uk www.thetextileartist.com

www.the62group.com

Equipment List

Pencil Case containing as a minimum- pencils (HB,2B, 4B), eraser, pencil sharpener, compass, ruler, 2 fine black pens,1 large glue stick, small watercolour set with brush (8-10 colours not tubes), small scissors

Digital Camera (not phone) with lead and/or card reader for downloading to a PC

Books you may wish to buy

The Art of the Needle, by Jan Beaney-published by Century

The New Textiles, by Colchester, C(2001)- published by Thames and Hudson

Higher Education Routes for the Future – what you can do with this qualification:

Many students go on to study Textiles/Fashion at foundation Level and then onto Degree. Could follow on to a career in the Fashion and Textile industries either in design and manufacture or retail.