



GEMS

مدرسة جيمس كامبريدج إنترناشيونال الخاصة بالشارقة
Cambridge International Private School
SHARJAH



GCSE/IGCSE

Options 2024 - 2025

A complete guide

GCSE / IGCSE

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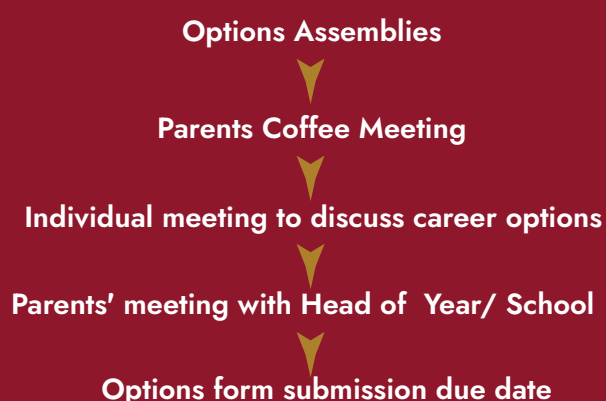
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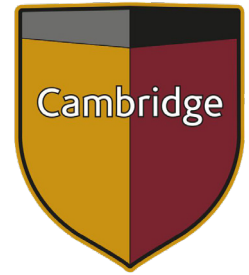
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Options Schedules and Processes



**All dates will
be shared
by the Head of
Year/School**



Sharjah

Dear Parents,

Your child has reached an important milestone in their educational journey: Beginning their IGCSE subjects next academic year. The IGCSE options process is an opportunity for your child to begin making some far-reaching decisions. Over the course of the next few months, your child will be guided through the selection process of IGCSE courses.

Students will continue to study the core subjects of English, Mathematics, Sciences, Arabic, Islamic Studies (for Muslim students), UAE Social Studies and Moral Education. They will then be able to choose additional subjects from option blocks based on their own strengths and interests. The option blocks are designed to help students maintain a breadth of subjects as required for entry into Post-16 education and university in the future.

When considering subject choices, it is vital that students, parents and teachers are involved in the decision-making process. As such, there are a number of key events in the coming months to assist with this. These events will provide an opportunity for you to speak to SLT and understand more about the courses on offer. Please could I also urge you to speak to subject teachers about taking forward certain subjects to IGCSE level.

I would like to reassure students and parents that all teachers at GCS are available to offer support and guidance throughout the options process.

Yours faithfully,

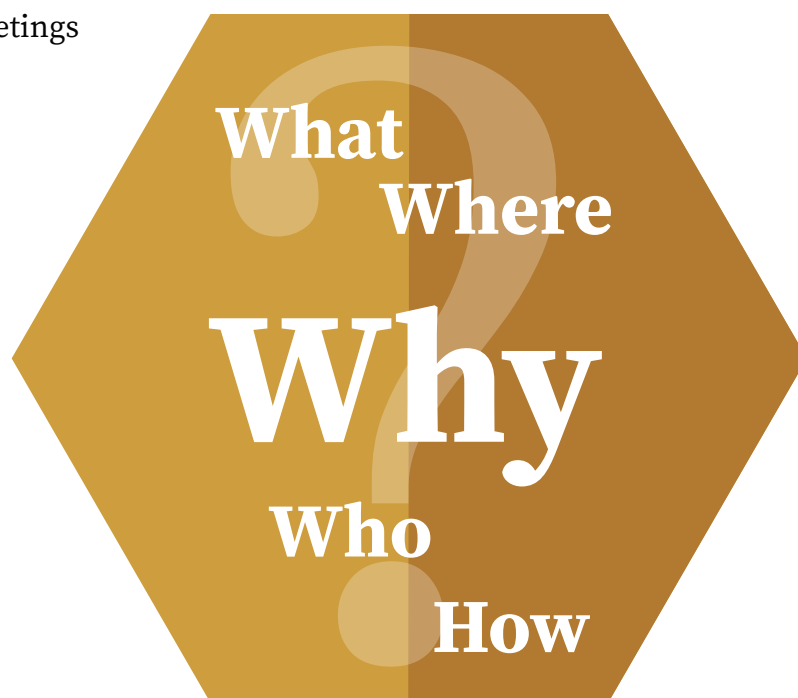
Mr. Keiron Tucker
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Career Counselling at GCS

Students, with the collaboration and support of their parents and counsellor, embark on a year-long journey of self-discovery as they engage in honest self-assessment, thoughtful research and increasingly independent decisions. We encourage students to find their voice in the university process while they explore, probe and challenge their own assumptions about themselves and the university they are considering. To find appropriate matches between students and undergraduate institutions, we attempt to foster among the students, parents and counsellor open lines of communication, honest feedback and a spirit of cooperation. We adhere to the belief that students are ultimately the driving force behind the process. Students must take ownership of their destiny and responsibility for their actions; we support them in embracing this opportunity to test their values, explore their personal preferences and make complex, long-term decisions for themselves. Application deadlines, testing dates, essays, recommendation requests and interviews all require equal and full attention from the students. In the end, students will find most success in their university process when they allow their insights, research and self-discoveries to lead them toward the best matches as they leave behind the safe and nurturing environment of GEMS Cambridge International Private School Sharjah.

Career progression support given at GCS

- Psychometric Testing
- Individual Counselling
- University Fairs/ Career Fairs
- Career Awareness Sessions
- Summer Schools Options
- Internships, Volunteering & Mentoring Opportunities
- Preparation for SAT & entrance exams for universities
- Workshops on various careers/college essay writing
- Opportunities for profile building & skill development
- Documentation
- Predeparture meetings



Helpful links- Unifrog - unifrog.org - best place to start!

Every country and every institution has their own application procedure, requirements, and deadlines, we hope you will use this information as a starting point for your research

Canada

Universities in Canada (<http://www.univcan.ca/>)

United Kingdom

For undergraduate studies, the centralised admissions service in the UK allows you to apply to five institutions simultaneously through one electronic application. This service is known as UCAS (Universities and Colleges Admissions Service). You can learn more about the process at <http://www.ucas.ac.uk>

France

- Campus France: www.campusfrance.org – The national agency for the promotion of higher education, international student services, and international mobility. They also offer a virtual fair in November (<http://virtual.campusfrance.org>).
- CIEP: www.ciep.fr/delf-dalf - The organisation responsible for French language tests
- MOOC: <http://mooc-ref.net/>

United Arab Emirates

The United Arab Emirates (UAE) requires all males between the age of 18–30 to serve in the military for 12 months.

For more information, please visit the following website: www.uaensr.ae/default.aspx

Scholarships

Government Scholarships: Local students can complete the registration for scholarships through NAPO (National Admissions & Placement Office). Please visit the following website for more information: https://adm.moe.gov.ae/napo/Default_EN.aspx

EmSAT:

<http://emsat.moe.gov.ae/emsat/FAQs.aspx>

For students wanting to study at a university in the UAE:

<https://www.moe.gov.ae/En/EServices/ServiceCard/pages/CertEquivalent.aspx>

Europe

These websites offer general information on the admissions process by country:

Austria - <http://studyinaustria.at>

Czech Republic - www.studyin.cz

Denmark - www.studyindenmark.dk

Finland - www.studyinfinland.fi

Germany - www.daad.de and www.young-germany.de

Ireland - www.cao.ie and www.heai.ie

Italy - <http://www.study-in-italy.it/> and <http://www.universitaly.it/>

Netherlands - www.studyinholland.nl and www.studyfinder.nl

Norway - www.studyinnorway.no

Spain - <http://www.studying-in-spain.com/>

Sweden - www.studyinsweden.se

Switzerland - <http://www.crus.ch>



GCSE General Certificate of Secondary Education

IGCSE International General Certificate of Secondary Education

Key Information

The new '9-1' grading system has replaced the A*-G Grades to show greater differentiation

New grades compared with the old ones

Old Grades	New Grades
	9
A*	8
A	7
B	6
C	5 Strong Pass 4 Standard Pass
D	3
E	2
F	1
G	
U	U

- Undertaken during Key Stage 4 (Year 10 and 11).
- Exams will be undertaken after 2 years at the end of the course.
- Some IGCSE courses have a form of coursework known as Controlled Assessment which is prepared in class and at home but completed under examination conditions in school. It is marked by teachers then externally moderated by the examination board. Students cannot enter an examination if the controlled assessment is not completed.

Useful websites

www.edexcel.org.uk	Edexcel Examination Board
www.ucas.com	UK University Applications
www.connections-direct.com	Jobs4u - Careers Database
www.isco.org.uk	Careers service
www.hotcourses.com	Courses guide
www.careers-uk.com	General careers site
www.bbc.co.uk/radio1/essentials/	General advice site
www.careerswales.com	Careers Wales web site
www.nationalcareersservice.direct.gov.uk	National Careers service

QUICK advice for students

While choosing subjects to study at IGCSE students should think carefully about the following points:

What do I enjoy?

What am I good at?

Do I have a balance of subjects?

What do I need for future Post-16 choices?

Even at this early stage it is sensible to consider which subjects you are likely to pursue when you reach Year 12 (A level).

Do not select a subject if

You know that your friends are making this selection – it is important that the choice you make is based on your enjoyment of the subject and where your interests lie. This is your chance to make a choice for you! There is also no guarantee that you will be in the same class as your friend.

You feel this will be an easy subject – all IGCSE courses are challenging. Overcoming this difficulty will come through your enjoyment of the subject. Choose something you will enjoy.

Entry Requirements

It has been recognised that certain IGCSE courses are more difficult to access without a solid foundation being achieved within Mathematics/English. For this reason, students will not be able to select a subject where they do not meet the minimum entry requirements stated. This is for the benefit of the student. The data picture throughout the first two terms at GCS will be used to assess whether students meet the criteria. Students will only be allowed to take certain courses depending on their current reports and school targets. Exceptions will not be made if a student does not meet the minimum requirements.

Final Thought

This is the first opportunity that students will have to really shape their own future. All students should seek the support of their parents in working towards a set of choices that provide a broad and balanced pathway for Year 10/11. It is vital that each child enjoys what they are studying, it makes sense as we are all successful in the things that we enjoy. Students should play to their strengths.

Introduction to the International General Certificate of Secondary Education (IGCSE)

Students beginning Year 10 are embarking on the next phase of their educational journey, to Year 11 which is known as Key Stage 4 of the National Curriculum for England.

This is an extremely important part of your child's education which will ultimately be an important step in their educational journey. These will culminate in terminal exams which will help shape the further education choices your child will make.

The Key Stage 4 curriculum is made up of compulsory and optional subjects. Students will have the opportunity to select optional subjects.

Compulsory Subjects

English Language 1st or 2nd

Mathematics

Science (Biology, Chemistry, Physics)

**Arabic A/B students
will study the MOE course**

Islamic Studies A/B (Muslim students)

PSHE (non-Muslim students)

Moral Education

UAE Social Studies

Optional Subjects

Accounting

Art & Design

Business Studies

Computer Science

Economics

English Literature

French (Modern Foreign Languages)

Geography

History

Psychology





Compulsory Subjects

Compulsory Subject

English 1st Language Pearson Edexcel 4EA1

Course Description

Pearson Edexcel English Language A

The Pearson Edexcel English Language A course (4EA1) enables students to develop deeper reading skills in inference, exploration, language analysis, comparison and deduction alongside the more general skills of selection and synthesis.

Students deepen their writing skills by crafting developed pieces of imaginative and discursive writing. Students have the opportunity to produce planned, developed and sustained responses, with a choice of writing tasks in the single exam paper (60% of IGCSE). They also submit two coursework assignments (40% of the IGCSE, internally assessed) for which they receive regular teacher feedback over time.

The course offers excellent preparation for IB courses and International AS and A-Level English Language and Literature, as well as giving students a grounding in a wide variety of deeper language skills that will stay with them for life. This qualification is well-suited to students who are developing and proficient readers and writers.

Component 1	Written Exam 2hr 15min	60%
Component 3	Two Essay Assignments	40%



<https://qualifications.pearson.com/content/dam/pdf/International%20IGCSE/English%20Language%20A/2016/Specification%20and%20sample%20assessments/9781446954379-int-IGCSE-englang-a-iss6-02-02-2023.pdf>

English 2nd Language Cambridge (0993)

Cambridge English as a Second Language

The Cambridge English as a Second Language (0993) course develops students' core reading comprehension, inference, and writing skills through a range of multiple-choice and short-answer questions in one exam paper (70% of IGCSE). Listening skills are assessed in a separate exam paper (30% of IGCSE). Students complete a *Spoken Language assessment (paper 3) which provides them with a separate certificate that does not contribute to the overall grade of the IGCSE. This qualification is well-suited to students who are emerging readers, writers, and speakers of English.

Paper - 1	Reading and Writing 70%	Written Examination 2hrs
Paper - 2	Listening 30%	Written Examination 50min.
Paper - 3	*Spoken Language	10min.



<https://www.cambridgeinternational.org/Images/637363-2024-2026-syllabus.pdf>

Compulsory Subject

Mathematics - Pearson Edexcel (4MA1)

Course Description

Number
Algebra
Geometry and Measures
Statistics
Probability
Ratio, Proportion and Rates of Change

The course starts in Year 10 and continues through to Year 11. Developing and focusing on the topics mentioned above.

Exams/Assessments

Every student at GCS follows the Edexcel syllabus for IGCSE Mathematics (1MA1). Students are entered for the Higher Tier. This tier follows the Linear Course.

During the course students take regular topic tests which are used to set target grades and may lead to changes where appropriate.

Paper 1	Higher 50%	2hrs
Paper 2	Higher 50%	2hrs



Post 16

IGCSE Mathematics is a useful introduction to AS and A-Level Mathematics. Mathematics is also a relevant qualification for many careers such as: Accountancy, Actuarial work, Aeronautics, Air-traffic control, Architecture, Business and Finance, Civil Engineering, Computer programming, Computer Science, Cryptography, Economics, Electrical engineering, Forensic Science, Geodesy, Geophysical mathematics, ICT, Law, Management, Mathematics, Medicine etc.

<https://qualifications.pearson.com/content/dam/pdf/International%20IGCSE/Mathematics%20A/2016/Specification%20and%20sample%20assessments/International-IGCSE-in-Mathematics-Spec-A.pdf>

Compulsory Sciences IGCSE

Science Pearson Edexcel

Bio. (4BI1), Chem. (4CH1), Phy. (4PH01)

Course Description

The separate Science courses combine relevant, inspiring content and practical work. The study of science results in recognised IGCSE qualifications in which students can achieve grades 9-1. Separate Science results in three separate IGCSE qualifications: Biology, Chemistry and Physics. The course starts in Year 10 with every student learning the content which is common to both the Double and Single Award. Students will complete many regular assessments throughout the two years.

Biology 4BI1

Paper 1B	Written Examination 61%	2hrs
Paper 2B	Written Examination 39%	1hr 15min



<https://qualifications.pearson.com/content/dam/pdf/International%20IGCSE/Biology/2017/specification-and-sample-assessments/international-IGCSE-biology-2017-specification1.pdf>

Chemistry 4CH1

Paper 1C	Written Examination 61%	2hrs
Paper 2C	Written Examination 39%	1hr 15min



<https://qualifications.pearson.com/content/dam/pdf/International%20IGCSE/Chemistry/2017/specification-and-sample-assessments/international-IGCSE-chemistry-2017-specification1.pdf>

Physics 4PH1

Paper 1P	Written Examination 61%	2hrs
Paper 2P	Written Examination 39%	1hr 15min



<https://qualifications.pearson.com/content/dam/pdf/International%20IGCSE/Physics/2017/specification-and-sample-assessments/international-IGCSE-physics-2017-specification.pdf>

Post 16

The list is endless for careers as well as the job opportunities after taking Science subjects for IGCSE. It gives you a headstart and easier introduction to studying Science at A level or its equivalents.

Careers using BIOLOGY; Biology Teacher, Biochemist, Genetic Engineer, Dietician, Doctor, Ecologist, Health Officer, Medical Lab Technician, Marine Biologist, Microbiologist

Careers using CHEMISTRY; Chemistry Teacher, Biotechnologist, Chemical Engineer, Pharmacist Crime Officer, Forensic Scientist, Material Scientist, Metallurgist Research Scientist, Chemical Plant Operator

Careers using PHYSICS; Physics Teacher, Aeronautical Engineer, Astronomer, Cyberneticist, Surveyor, Meteorologist, Flight Manager, Engineer, Biophysicist, Nuclear Scientist

Compulsory Subject

MOE Subjects: Arabic A/B

United Arab Emirates
Ministry of Education



الإمارات العربية المتحدة
وزارة التربية والتعليم



The Ministry of Education has embarked on building the Arabic language curriculum which is scientifically planned and studied in accordance with international standards in building curricula in an accumulative and conscious manner that considers its texts, themes and treatment are representative of the language competencies that a student of the twenty-first century must possess to be able to deal with the requirements of the times.

The Arabic language curriculum standards are divided into six areas:

1. Basics of reading
2. Reading literary text
3. Reading informational text
4. Writing
5. Listening
6. Speaking

At GEMS Cambridge Sharjah, we remove all obstacles our students might face and introduce them to the Arabic language curriculum in an interesting way that suits the requirements of the modern era, and enables the students to use the language in their daily life smoothly and effectively.

Compulsory Subject Islamic

United Arab Emirates
Ministry of Education



الإمارات العربية المتحدة
وزارة التربية والتعليم

Course Description

Islamic education aims to confirm the national identity of the learners, and to strengthen the bonds of love and cooperation among them. It also aims to prepare students to participate actively in building a society, to keep pace with global changes, and to be consciously open to other cultures. Islamic education includes everything related to the student's life, existence, values and heritage.

Islam remains the main pillar for the upbringing of a generation of believing students equipped with basic knowledge about their religion and the ability to apply it in their lives, and from this standpoint, the standards of Islamic education from Year 2 to Year 13 - which were developed by a technical team of experts specialising in education in the United Arab Emirates. It provides a framework that ensures bridging the gap between faith and action. It will also provide the student with the cognitive skills necessary to solve difficulties, resist challenges, solve problems, and contribute positively to society.

The standards focus on six areas of learning that represent the components of the subject, such as: Divine revelation, belief, the values and etiquette of Islam, the rulings and purposes of Islam, the biography and personalities, identity and issues of the age.



Compulsory Subject

Social Studies

United Arab Emirates
Ministry of Education



الإمارات العربية المتحدة
وزارة التربية والتعليم

Course Description

The Social Studies course provides an in-depth systematic study of information, skills and concepts in each of the specialisations of history, geography, political science, economics, anthropology, psychology, law, archeology and social studies, which are majors that focus attention on the links and relations between different peoples and nations and the relationship between science, technology, society and how to practise good citizenship. In addition, social studies help young people develop their various knowledge and skills, which are necessary to make good decisions as active members in a society dominated by cultural diversity within an interconnected world.

Students will have a deeper understanding of social, political and economic systems, as well as an optimal understanding of events, trends, personalities, movements and historical movements, whether local, national or global, and they will learn local, national and global geography, and they will also understand how the concepts and principles of social studies contribute in explaining the behaviours of people, which prepares them for career and life-long learning experience. The new standards require students to understand the facts, concepts, principles, and perspectives that shape social studies majors.



Compulsory Subject

Moral Education

United Arab Emirates
Ministry of Education



الإمارات العربية المتحدة
وزارة التربية والتعليم

Course Description

Moral Education is an innovative, engaging curriculum designed to develop young people of all nationalities and ages in the UAE with universal principles and values, that reflect the shared experiences of humanity.

The UAE is committed to developing responsible, cultured, engaged adults ready for society. In reinforcing this commitment, Moral Education endorses an ethos of giving and volunteering that prepares responsible and resilient youth, who will contribute to the advancement of society and the wider world. The program develops in students, the modern skills needed to compete and become productive members of the UAE community.

For students across the UAE, Moral Education helps to create a strong foundation of moral purpose, an ethical outlook, character development and an understanding of shared values of humanity. It will help prepare youth to compete in a rapidly changing environment and make meaningful contributions to society. The program also teaches students practical life skills that will encourage them to develop into well-adjusted adults.



التربية الأخلاقية
MORAL EDUCATION



Optional Subjects

Optional Subject

Accounting – Pearson Edexcel (4AC1)



Course Description

The aims and objectives of this qualification are to enable students to:

- understand the nature and purpose of accounting in business and organisations, and the principles on which accounting is based
- understand the use of accounting as an aid to business decision making
- understand the use of accounting as a means of assessing the financial position of an organisation
- develop the ability to quantify, to judge relevance and to write clear and concise explanations.

Exams/Assess

Two paper assessment – through a new, two paper model which provides learners with better opportunities to prepare for and focus on different aspects of Accounting. We will test knowledge, understanding and application in paper 1 'Introduction to Bookkeeping', and focus the assessment on two realistic case studies in paper 2 'Financial Statements'. Real life application – In paper 2 learners apply their knowledge in realistic case studies to produce and correct Financial Statements.

Component/ paper number and unit title	Level	Assessment Information	Number of raw marks allocated in the paper
Paper - 1 Introduction to Bookkeeping and Accounting	50%	Two-hour written examination, set and marked by Pearson, comprising a mixture of multiple- choice, short- and long- answer questions.	100
Paper - 2 Financial Statements	50%	One-hour 15-min. written examination, set and marked by Pearson, comprising two multi-part questions on financial statements.	50

Post 16

Accounting IGCSE enable successful progression onto Level 3 qualifications (such as the International A - Level in Accounting) and beyond, in Accounting and other subjects. Through our world class qualification development process we have consulted international Accounting teaching experts to validate this qualification, and endorse its content, skills development and assessment structure

Optional Subject

Art and Design - Pearson Edexcel (4FA1)

Course Description

IGCSE Art and Design is one of the few subjects that allow students a degree of autonomy over their work. Once taught the skills, students make decisions about the direction of their own work. It is not uncommon in a IGCSE class to see students working on the same project but with completely different and individual outcomes. Creating autonomous learners is one of the key aims of the Art Department at GCS.

IGCSE Art and Design follows the Edexcel syllabus. The course is set into two units of work; unit one is internally set and unit two is set by the exam board.

Throughout the course, students are taught a wide variety of techniques, processes, use of media and different materials. In the final term, students will start their externally set assignment. This will conclude with a ten hour exam where students will produce a final examination piece.

Visits to art galleries, museums and student study days are a compulsory part of the creative experience.

A final year public exhibition of coursework and examination work will be held in school for parents and dignitaries.

Exams/Assessments

Controlled Assessments

Students will complete a series of pieces to produce a portfolio of work.

Component 1	Personal Portfolio	50%
Component 2	Externally-set Assignment	50%



Post 16

Writing/Analytical:

Art Curriculum Writer - Art Historian - Art Critic - Arts Administrator - Arts & Cultural Planner - Website Owner/Blogger - Graphic Novel Author

Spatial Design:

Architect - Landscape Architect - Urban Designer/Town Planner - Playground/Theme Park/Sports Arena/Golf Course Designer - Interior Designer/Decorator/Architect - Set/Stage Design Arranging/Display: Food Stylist - Floral Arranger - Display & Exhibition Planner - Art/Design/Colour Consultant - Gallery Owner/Assistant - Museum Curator - Personal Stylist - Picture Framer - Online Curator

Organisation/People Management:

Art School Director - Primary/Elementary Teacher - Middle/High School Art Teacher - University Lecturer/Professor - Private Art Instructor - Art Therapist - Art Dealer - Artist Agent - Art Supplies Retailer

<https://qualifications.pearson.com/content/dam/pdf/International%20IGCSE/Art%20and%20Design/2017/specification-and-sample-assessments/art-design-spec-updated.pdf>

Optional Subject

Business Studies - Cambridge (0986)

Course Description

This popular course aims to develop learner's understanding of business and encourages creative thinking and decision making. They learn about the world of business through research and investigation as well as practical tasks. Learners are not expected to have a knowledge of business but should be interested in learning about the world around them, how businesses are set up and what it is that makes someone a great entrepreneur

Exams/Assessments

Externally assessed.

Paper 1 (50%) – 1 hour 30 minutes written examination consisting of four questions requiring a mixture of short answers and structured data responses.

Paper 2 (50%) – 1 hour 30 minutes written examination consisting of four questions based on a case study, provided as an insert with the paper.

80 marks each paper

Paper - 1	50%	1hr 30mins
Paper - 2	50%	1hr 30mins



Students will be graded 9-1 in this qualification.

Post 16

Candidates who are awarded Grade 9 to 7 in Cambridge IGCSE Business Studies are well prepared to follow courses leading to Cambridge International AS and A Level Business Studies, or the equivalent.

Optional Subject

Computer Science - Cambridge (CIE 0984)



Course Description

Through studying Computer Science, learners are enabled to develop an interest in computing and gain confidence in computational thinking, that is, thinking about what can be computed and how. Learners will also learn how to program – the means through which computational thinking is expressed.

The language this centre has chosen is Python. Course aims:

- Develop computational thinking
- Develop an understanding of the main principles of solving problems by using computers
- Develop understanding that every computer system is made up of subsystems, which in turn consists of further sub-systems.
- Develop an understanding of the component parts of computer systems and how they interrelate
- Acquire the skills necessary to apply this understanding to develop computerbased solutions to problems using a high-level programming language.

Exams/Assessments

At the end of the course, learners will be awarded a grade from 9 - 1.

Entry requirement's: students require a Mathematics current anticipated grade of at least a 6 to make this selection.

Unit	Weighting	Assessment	Content
Paper - 1 Theoretical Concepts	50%	Externally assessed. Written paper 1hr 45 mins	Computer systems 1. Data representation 2. Data transmission 3. Hardware 4. Software 5. The internet and its uses 6. Automated and emerging technologies
Paper - 2 Algorithm, Programming and logic	50%	Externally assessed. Written paper 1hr 45 mins	Algorithms, programming and logic 7. Algorithm design and problem-solving 8. Programming 9. Databases 10. Boolean logictechnologies

Optional Subject

Economics - Pearson Edexcel (4EC1)



Course Description

The main course topics Economics are in relation to:

- Market system
- Business economics
- Government & Economy
- The Global economy

The aims of the course are for students to be able to:

- Know and understand economic terminology, concepts and theories
- Use basic economic numeracy and interpret economic data
- Use the tools of economic analysis
- Express economic ideas logically and clearly in a written form
- Apply economic understanding to current economic issues.

Exams/Assessments

The following table gives an overview of the assessment for this course. You should study this information closely to help ensure that you are fully prepared for this course and know exactly what to expect in each part of the assessment.

Students will be Graded 9-1 in this qualification.

Paper 1	%	Mark	Time	Availability
Microeconomics and Business Economics Written exam paper Paper code 4EC1/01 Externally set and assessed by Pearson Edexcel Single tier of entry	50%	80	1hr 30 mins	January and June examination series First assessment June
Paper 2	%	Mark	Time	Availability
Microeconomics and the Global Economics Written examination paper Paper code 4EC1/02 Externally set and assessed by Pearson Edexcel Single tier of entry	50%	80	1hr 30 mins	January and June examination series First assessment June

<https://qualifications.pearson.com/content/dam/pdf/International%20IGCSE/Economics/2017/Specification%20and%20SAMS/international-IGCSE-spec-9781446942789.pdf>

Optional Subject

English Literature - Pearson Edexcel (4ET1)

Course Description

The Pearson Edexcel IGCSE in English Literature is highly regarded internationally as a valuable source of analytical and evaluative skills useful in all fields. The course delves into the study of the literary canon, providing students insights into the cultural and literary heritage of Britain, a wide range of authorial techniques, and depth of analytical skills in reading and writing. It complements the English Language A course, allowing students to apply their understanding of language to a variety of genres and seminal texts. These include the study of Shakespeare, modern and classic poetry, a modern play, and prose texts. Students complete two coursework assignments (40% of the IGCSE, internally assessed) and one exam (60% of the IGCSE).

Exams/Assessments

Throughout the course students will prepare for one written examination paper and two coursework assignments.

Component 1	2hr Written Exam	60%
Component 5	2 Coursework Essays	40%



Students will be Graded 9-1 in this qualification.

Post 16

Pearson IGCSE Literature (English) is accepted by universities and employers as proof of knowledge and understanding of Literature in English. Candidates who are awarded grades 9 to 7 in Pearson IGCSE Literature (English) are well prepared to follow courses leading to Pearson International AS and A Level English, International Baccalaureate Certificates in English or the equivalent. The skills you develop through the study of English Literature (effective written and verbal communication, time-management, organisational skills, team-work, independent study and research, developing persuasive arguments are applicable to a wide variety of professional areas. Some areas which have traditionally attracted English Literature graduates include advertising, marketing and PR work, arts administration, library and information management, the legal profession, editing and publishing, journalism and other areas of the media. Academic careers are also popular choices.

Optional Subject

French - Pearson Edexcel (4FR1)

(Modern Foreign Languages)

Course Description

Students will have the opportunity to develop their language skills in a variety of contexts. They will work through three core themes and extend their skills in the four core skills of listening, speaking, reading and writing:

Identity and Culture: includes family and relationships, technology in everyday life, free time, customs and cultures in language-speaking countries)

Local, national, international and global areas of interest: includes home and region, social issues such as healthy lifestyles, global issues, travel and tourism

Current and future studies and employment: includes school and current studies, Post-16 education, jobs and career aspirations

IGCSE is a continuation of work covered in at Key Stage 3. Some topics will be familiar to students, but will be revised, extended and covered in more depth.

Exams/Assessments

The IGCSE course will prepare students to continue their studies at AS or A levels are in the IB Diploma at Standard or Higher level.

IGCSE French is a linear course meaning all exams are taken at the end of two years of study; they are all externally assessed. The four skills of Listening, Speaking, Reading and Writing are assessed.

There are two tiers of assessment: Foundation (grades 1-5) and Higher (grades 4-9). Students must be entered for the same tier across each skill area. Each area is worth 25% of the student's final grade.

Students will be Graded 9-1 in this qualification.

Paper - 1	Listening 25%	Written Examination 30min
Paper - 2	Reading and Writing 50%	Written Examination 1hr 45mins
Paper - 3	Speaking 25%	Written Examination 10min



Post 16

This includes studying French at AS and A-Level. Knowledge of French can also open doors to a whole range of different careers in the fields of languages, law and diplomacy, and also provides opportunities in medicine, the environment, business, engineering, science and technology

<https://qualifications.pearson.com/content/dam/pdf/International%20IGCSE/French/2017/specification-and-sample-assessments/international-IGCSE-french-specification.pdf>



Course Description

IGCSE History helps students to develop and extend their knowledge and understanding of the wide diversity of human experience through the study of specified key events, people and societies. Students will engage in historical enquiry to develop as independent learners and as critical and reflective thinkers. They will develop the ability to ask relevant questions about the past in order to investigate issues critically and to make valid historical claims by using a range of sources in their historical context.

Studying History enables young people to understand the world they live in as events in the past can help to explain the problems and opportunities that exist in the world today. IGCSE is a continuation of work covered in Key Stage 3. Some topics will be familiar to students, but will be revised, extended and covered in more depth

Exams/Assessments

The following table gives an overview of the assessment for this course. You should study this information closely to help ensure that you are fully prepared for this course and know exactly what to expect in each part of the assessment.

Students will be Graded 9-1 in this qualification.

Paper number and unit title	Assessment	Number of raw marks allocated in the paper
Paper - 1 Depth Studies	1 hour and 30-minute 60 examination comprising a mixture of extended writing and essay-based questions, based on two selected depth studies.	60
Paper - 2 Investigation and Breadth Studies	1 hour and 30-minute examination comprised of two sections, with a mixture of extended writing and essay-based questions. Section A is based on a selected historical investigation and Section B on a breadth study in change.	60

Optional Subject

Geography - Cambridge (CIE 0976)



Course Description

At Key Stage 3, students have already developed a range of relevant skills and knowledge that the IGCSE course builds upon. The course introduces students to new skills, places, ideas and management issues.

Students are taught to apply their skills and knowledge to real world situations. This allows them to understand how people's decisions shape the world we live in.

Geography is a subject that requires a certain level of general knowledge, an ability to use commonsense and to think logically when answering questions.

Exams/Assessments

The following table gives an overview of the assessment for this course. You should study this information closely to help ensure that you are fully prepared for this course and know exactly what to expect in each part of the assessment.

Students will be Graded 9-1 in this qualification.

Unit	Weighting	Assessment	Content
Paper 1: Geographical Themes	45% 75 marks	Written paper 1 hour 45 minutes	Theme 1: Population and settlement Theme 2: The natural environment Theme 3: Economic development
Paper 2: Geographical Skills	27.5% 60 marks	Written paper 1 hour 30 minutes	The paper is based on testing the interpretation and analysis of geographical information, decision making and the application of graphical and other techniques.
Paper 3: Alternative to Field Work	27.5% 60 marks	Written paper 1 hour 30 minutes	The paper gives students field work and asks them to show an appreciation of a range of techniques used in fieldwork studies.

Why Geography

The world is always changing, and Geography gives you the chance to learn about these changes. It is a subject that links to all other subjects in the curriculum, so an IGCSE in Geography is a stepping stone to a whole range of future opportunities. A good grade will help to move students onto any subject at AS or A Level.

Employment opportunities where the skills students have developed and which will be of particular value are in Journalism, Travel and Tourism, Environmental Management, Geology, Marketing, Business Management and Teaching.

<https://www.cambridgeinternational.org/Images/664647-2025-2026-syllabus.pdf>

Optional Subject

Psychology - Oxford AQA (9218)



Course Description

IGCSE Psychology encourages learners to be inspired and moved by following a broad, satisfying and worthwhile course of study and to gain an insight into related sectors, such as science.

IGCSE Psychology encourages learners to develop a personal interest in, and enthusiasm for, psychology and prepares them to make informed decisions about further learning opportunities and career choices.

The specification encourages candidates to engage in the process of psychological enquiry to develop as effective and independent learners, and as critical and reflective thinkers with enquiring minds. Students will develop an awareness of why psychology matters, acquire knowledge and understanding of how psychology works and its essential role in society.

Candidates should:

- Be interested in people
- Be able to meet deadlines
- Have an ability to work independently and collaboratively
- Have effective verbal and written communication
- Have an ability to take theories and apply them to real life scenarios
- Be interested in careers in for example; Health, Education, Sport, Clinical, Counselling or Sport Psychology

Exams/Assessments

Component	Weighting	Assessment	Content
Paper - 1	50% 100marks	Written paper 2 hours	Cognition and Behaviour
Paper - 2	50% 100marks	Written paper 2 hours	Social Context and Behaviour

Post 16

Psychology students generally report being pleased that what they studied in school has helped prepare them for both life and work. Psychology is a straightforward path towards career in becoming clinical psychologist, researcher, university professor, psychophysics psychologist, developmental psychologist, counseling psychologist, Army and Air-force psychologists, child psychologist, cognitive neuroscientist, forensic psychologist, gerontologist, geriatric Psychologist and many, many more such lucrative and high-profile careers.



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