

THE TROWBRIDGE SIXTH FORM CENTRE

The John of Gaunt School

Sixth Form Courses

2010

This booklet gives a brief outline and details of the AS and A level courses that we will be teaching at The John of Gaunt School from September 2010. An Intermediate GNVQ, BTEC National Awards and some GCSE courses, will also be available.

Further details and information will be available during:

- Sixth Form Information Evening on Thursday, 19th November 2009;
- Open Day on Wednesday, 9th December 2009; and
- Sixth Form Induction Day on Tuesday, 22nd and Wednesday, 23rd June 2010.

We will be expecting students to follow a minimum of four courses during Year 12 and three courses during Year 13.

APPLIED SCIENCE

AS Level – AQA 8771

A Level – AQA 8776

MODULE	LEVEL	MODULE TITLE	MODE OF ASSESSMENT	BRIEF OUTLINE OF MODULE
1	AS	Investigating Science at Work	AS 33.3% A2 16.6% A portfolio of evidence, (research, projects and reports).	A general introduction to the use of science in the workplace and also details of those people who will use science in their daily work. Students research local organisations that use science and are encouraged to visit a workplace.
2	AS	Energy Transfer Systems	AS 33.3% A2 16.6% 1½ hour written paper comprises a series of short answer, structured questions based on the subject content.	In this joint Physics and Biology unit students consider some essential knowledge regarding the uses and transfer of energy in physical and human biological systems. The unit also looks at some of the ethical issues that may be considered when diagnosing and treating illnesses.
3	AS	Finding Out About Substances	AS 33.3% A2 16.6% A portfolio of evidence, (research, projects and reports).	This Chemistry unit explores the work of the analytical chemist and the types of work that they may undertake.
4	A2	Planning and Carrying out a Scientific Investigation	AS 33.3% A2 16.6% A portfolio of evidence, (research, projects and reports).	In this unit students will draw on the knowledge and skills they have learned to conduct an investigation from an area of science that interests them.
5	A2	Sports Science	AS 33.3% A2 16.6% A portfolio of evidence, (research, projects and reports)	Students consider the work undertaken by coaches and physiotherapists working in sport. Students will also have the opportunity to study first aid techniques.
6	A2	The Healthy Body	AS 33.3% A2 16.6% 1½ hour written paper comprises a series of short answer, structured questions based on the subject content.	This Biology-based unit involves learning about some of the essential knowledge that, for example, nurses and other technicians may use whilst treating patients.

Career pathways

The GCE in Applied Science will prepare students for a career in the science industry or industries that use scientific knowledge and skills. It will also prepare them to take on learning and training in further and higher education. The types of courses include, for example, many science and paramedical degrees. It should be remembered that taking a GCE in a science subject does not limit students to following science courses later on.

ART HISTORY

Critical and Contextual Studies

AS Level - Edexcel 8CC01

A Level – Edexcel 9CC01

MODULE	LEVEL	MODULE TITLE	MODE OF ASSESSMENT	BRIEF OUTLINE OF MODULE
1	AS	Coursework research and illustrated written study 1000 – 3000 words	AS 60% A2 30% Internally set and marked, externally moderated.	Students will follow an introduction to some main themes from Art History before selecting their own area of research. Students will learn methods to analyse works of Art before presenting an illustrated essay on their chosen topic.
2	AS	Externally set assignment research and illustrated written study 1000 – 3000 words	AS 40% A2 20% Externally set, internally marked, externally moderated.	Students work with the support of their teachers to develop their ideas towards a theme set by the exam board. These supporting studies are then used as the basis for a timed written study (8 hours), carried out under examination conditions.
3	A2	Coursework research and illustrated written study 2000 – 5000 words	A2 30% 60% total GCE Internally set and marked, externally moderated.	Students continue to develop their interests in areas already studied, or to work on a new investigation leading to an illustrated essay.
4	A2	Externally set assignment research and illustrated written study 2000 – 5000 words	A2 30% 40% total GCE Externally set, internally marked, externally moderated.	Students work with support of their teachers to develop their ideas towards a theme set by the exam board. These supporting studies are used as the basis for a timed written study (12 hours) carried out under examination conditions.

Career Pathways

Wiltshire College (Trowbridge) and Bath College offer Foundation courses leading to a degree in Art.

The Arts form the third largest employment grouping: painting sculpture, graphic design, printmaking, photography, textile design, fashion design, ceramics, jewellery, packaging, illustration, model making, sign making, animation, computer aided design, silversmith, interior design, theatre and costume design, teaching and lecturing.

The History of Art A level is particularly suited to students looking to enter careers in Art journalism, museums and galleries, Art auctioneer and valuer.

ART

Edexcel Fine Art AS 8FA01 – A2 9FA01

MODULE	LEVEL	MODULE TITLE	MODE OF ASSESSMENT	BRIEF OUTLINE OF MODULE
1	AS	Coursework project	AS 60% A2 30% Internally set and marked, externally moderated.	Students develop an area of study with the help of their teachers. Sketchbook work is used to develop ideas and further skills, before refining these ideas into a final, practical piece of work.
2	AS	Examination project	AS 40% A2 20% Externally set, internally marked, externally moderated.	Students work with the support of their teachers to develop their ideas towards a theme set by the exam board. These supporting studies are then used as the basis for a practical piece of work carried out under exam conditions (8 hours).
3	A2	Coursework project	A2 30% 60% total GCE Internally set and marked, externally moderated.	This is an opportunity to develop ideas from AS further, or to work on a new, personally chosen project area. Supporting studies in a sketchbook lead to a final piece of work that is a logical conclusion to the project.
4	A2	Examination project	A2 30% 40% total GCE Externally set, internally marked, externally moderated.	Students again work with the support of their teachers to develop their ideas towards a theme set by the exam board. These supporting studies are then used as the basis for a practical piece of work carried out under exam conditions (12 hours).

Career Pathways

Trowbridge and Bath Colleges offer Foundation Courses leading to a degree in Art.

The Arts form the third largest employment grouping: painting, sculpture, graphic design, printmaking, photography, textile design, fashion design, ceramics, jewellery, packaging, illustration, model making, sign making, animation, computer aided design, silversmith, interior design, theatre and costume design, teaching and lecturing.

Art combines well with most subjects and forms a valuable complement to English, Media Studies, History.

BIOLOGY

AS Level – Edexcel 8B101

A Level – Edexcel 9B101

MODULE	LEVEL	MODULE TITLE	MODE OF ASSESSMENT	BRIEF OUTLINE OF MODULE
1	AS	Lifestyle, Transport, Genes and Health	AS 40% A2 20% 1¼ hour written examination paper.	Structure and function of biological molecules, structure and properties of cell membranes, structure and role of DNA and RNA, protein synthesis, monohybrid inheritance, principles of gene therapy.
2	AS	Development, Plants and the Environment	AS 40% A2 20% 1¼ hour written examination paper.	Cell structure and ultra structure, role of meiosis, genotype and environmental influence, stem cell research, biodiversity & natural selection, taxonomy, water transport in plants & use of plant products.
3	AS	Practical Biology and Research Skills	AS 20% A2 10% 1500 – 2000 word report Practical skills assessment.	Write a report that is either a record of a visit to a site of biological interest or a report of research into a biological topic.
4	A2	The Natural Environment and Species Survival	A2 40% 20% of total GCE 1½ hour written examination paper.	Photosynthesis and energy transfer within ecosystems, evidence for global warming, evolution, nutrient recycling, DNA profiling, structure of bacteria & viruses, infectious diseases & immunology.
5	A2	Energy, Exercise and Co-ordination	A2 40% 20% of total GCE 1½ hour written examination paper.	ATP and respiration, control and functioning of the heart, homeostasis, the nervous system, impact of exercise on the body, brain structure & development, imbalances in brain chemicals, the human genome project.
6	A2	Practical Biology and Investigative Skills	A2 20% 10% of total GCE Written report of an experimental investigation.	Students write a report of an experimental investigation that they have devised and carried out.

Career Pathways

Biology leads on to a wide range of courses and careers. This could include:

- an undergraduate degree in a life sciences, medicine, environmental science, forensic science and related courses or a BTEC Higher National (HNC and HND).
- employment, for example in the areas of biological testing, biotechnology, independent research and the food industry.

BUSINESS STUDIES

AS Level - AQA

A Level - AQA

MODULE	LEVEL	MODULE TITLE	MODE OF ASSESSMENT	BRIEF OUTLINE OF MODULE
1	AS	Planning and Financing a Business	AS 40% A2 20% 1 hour written paper.	The challenges and issues of starting a business; enterprise; entrepreneurs. Key financial concepts needed to start a business including: sources of start up finance, planning cash flow, contribution and break even.
2	AS	Managing a Business	AS 60% A2 30% 1½ hour written paper.	People – communication; motivation; recruitment; HR planning. Operations Management – adding value; quality; customer service. Finance – improving cash flow, measuring profit, improving profitability. Marketing and Competition – planning; 4 ‘P’s; analysing the competitive environment.
3	AS	Strategies for Success	A2 25% 1½ hour written paper.	Financial Strategies and Accounts. Marketing Strategies. Operations Strategies Human Resource Strategies.
4	A2	The Business Environment and Change	A2 25% 1½ hour written paper.	External influences. Leadership styles, role of leaders in responding to change and corporate culture. Managing change.

Career Pathways

Business Studies provides an awareness and understanding of the environment we live in today and is valuable to those students who wish to pursue degrees and those who do not. Careers in finance, marketing, education and management are some of the occupations that naturally follow studying Business Studies at A Level.

CHEMISTRY

AS Level – OCR B (Salters)

A Level – OCR B (Salters)

MODULE	LEVEL	MODULE TITLE	MODE OF ASSESSMENT	BRIEF OUTLINE OF MODULE
1	AS	Chemistry for Life	AS 30% 1¼ hour written examination.	In contrast to the traditional 'topic based' approach, this course is 'context-led'. The first module focuses on <i>Elements of Life</i> and <i>Developing Fuels</i> introducing key Chemistry principles.
2	AS	Chemistry of Natural Resources	AS 50% 1¾ hour written examination.	Contemporary issues: <i>Elements from the Sea</i> , <i>The Atmosphere</i> and <i>Polymer Revolution</i> . Further development of Chemistry concepts and the development of chemical science skills.
3	AS	Chemistry in Practice	AS 20% Practical Skills Unit – teacher assessed and externally moderated by OCR.	Students are assessed in five skill areas: competence, measurement, analysis and evaluation, observation and interpretation.
4	A2	Chemistry of Materials	A2 (AS + A2) 15% 1½ hour written examination.	Students study the Chemistry in a spiral way so that chemical ideas, introduced in an early topic, are reinforced later. Students look at the Chemistry behind the concepts: <i>What's in a Medicine?</i> , <i>The Materials Revolution</i> , <i>The Thread of Life</i> and <i>The Steel Story</i> .
5	A2	Chemistry by Design	A2 (AS + A2) 20% 2 hour written examination.	Students again study a combination of organic, inorganic and physical chemistry within the topics: <i>Agriculture and Industry</i> , <i>Colour by Design</i> , <i>The Oceans</i> and <i>Medicines by Design</i> .
6	A2	Chemistry Individual Investigation	A2 (AS + A2) 15% Practical Skills Unit – teacher assessed and externally moderated.	Students carry out a single individual investigation – the topic may be taken from any aspect of Chemistry.

Career Pathways

This course aims to develop an interest in further study and careers in Chemistry as well as the wider field where the ability to think logically, understand complex ideas and apply them to the real world is necessary. Whether you want to pursue a career in science, the media, education, business or a host of other fields, Chemistry will enable you to show you have the skills, knowledge and understanding required.

COMPUTING

AQA AS Level – 1511 AQA A Level - 2511

MODULE	LEVEL	MODULE TITLE	MODE OF ASSESSMENT	BRIEF OUTLINE OF MODULE
1	AS	Problem Solving, Programming, Data Representation and Practical Exercise	60% AS 30% of whole A Level Project printouts and on-screen test 2 hours.	Problem solving and programming in a high level language. Number and coding systems.
2	AS	Computer Components, the Stored Program Concept and the Internet	40% AS 20% of whole A Level 1 hour written - short answer questions.	Fundamentals of computer systems. Hardware and components. Networking and the Internet.
3	A2	Problem Solving, Programming Operating Systems, Database and Networking	60% A2 30% of whole A Level 2½ hours written - short and extended answer questions.	Data structures. Programming paradigms. Database design Communication networking.
4	A2	The Practical Project	40% A2 20% of whole A Level Internally assessed coursework.	Design, create and document a complete programmed solution to a real problem.

Career Pathways

It is difficult to think of any career in which a study of Computing at this level would not be a material advantage. However an understanding of the technical principles on which computers work provides a good basis for further study or a career in the IT industry.

DESIGN & TECHNOLOGY: PRODUCT DESIGN: 3D DESIGN

AS Level - AQA 5551

A Level - AQA 6551

MODULE	LEVEL	MODULE TITLE	MODE OF ASSESSMENT	BRIEF OUTLINE OF MODULE
1	AS	Product Design (3D Design); materials, components and applications	AS 50% A2 25% 2 hour written paper.	A range of practical and theoretical tasks covering the construction, characteristics and properties of materials and components; industrial and commercial practice. You will gain an understanding of the development of design methods and design in the human context.
2	AS	Learning through designing and making	AS 50% A2 25% Coursework project.	Three projects designing and making 3D products involving the use of a range of manufacturing equipment including CAD/CAM. Candidates will submit a design portfolio and the made items.
3	A2	Product Design (3D Design): design and manufacture	A2 25% 2 hour written paper.	A final module which pulls together all the theoretical elements of the course and includes further study of industrial and commercial practice and product manufacture and the latest developments in design and manufacture.
4	A2	Design and making practice	A2 25% Coursework project.	A single substantial designing and making activity. Candidates will submit a folder and the made item.

Career Pathways

The course can accommodate students with a wide variety of career aspirations. In the past, students have often used their Design and Technology work to assist entry to Art College, whilst others use it to gain entry to degree courses in Engineering. The majority of Design and Technology students go on to Higher Education.

DESIGN & TECHNOLOGY: PRODUCT DESIGN : TEXTILES

AS Level - AQA 5551

A Level - AQA 6551

MODULE	LEVEL	MODULE TITLE	MODE OF ASSESSMENT	BRIEF OUTLINE OF MODULE
1	AS	Product Design (TEXTILES) Materials and Components and Applications	AS 50% A2 25% 2 hour written paper.	The exam will be based on all aspects of the course, both practical and theoretical, including industrial practices, design processes and construction methods.
2	AS	Design and Make tasks	AS 50% A2 25% Coursework Projects.	Three projects designing and making textile products involving the use of a range of textiles equipment including CAD/CAM. Candidates will submit a portfolio and made items.
3	A2	Product Design (TEXTILES): Design and Manufacture	A2 25% 2 hour written paper.	A final module which combines all the theoretical elements of the course and includes further study of industrial and commercial practice, product manufacture and the latest developments in textiles technology.
4	A2	Design and Make task	A2 25% Coursework Project.	A single designing and making portfolio following a self-written brief. An A3 portfolio and made item will be submitted.

Career Pathways

The course can accommodate students with a wide variety of career aspirations. Textiles Technology would assist with entry into University or Art College which could lead into careers in Interior design, fashion design, product development, pattern technology, fibre/garment/fabric technology, merchandising, production planning, marketing, sales and many more!

DRAMA AND THEATRE STUDIES

AQA 2240 AS and A2 Level

MODULE	LEVEL	MODULE TITLE	MODE OF ASSESSMENT	BRIEF OUTLINE OF MODULE
1	AS	DRAM 1 Live Theatre Production Seen and Prescribed Play	AS 60% A2 30% Written paper 1½ hours.	1. Live Theatre – response to live theatre seen in or out of school. 2. Study of one set play as actor, director and designer.
2	AS	DRAM 2 Practical Presentation Script	AS 40% A2 20% Internally assessed and externally moderated.	Practical performance by a group of an extract from a published play as well as supporting written evidence.
3	A2	DRAM 3 Set texts	A2 30% Written paper 2 hours.	1. Detailed study of two set plays. 2. Complete stage realisation of short play extract
4	A2	DRAM 4 Practical Presentation Devised	A2 20% Internally assessed and externally moderated.	Devised drama by a group including written evidence.

Career Pathways

With a qualification in Drama and Theatre Studies you could go on to higher education for work in the performance industry, teaching, arts administration, or any career demanding a high level of communication skills. This subject goes well with Performance Studies, Media Studies, and any subject from the Arts or Humanities. It also provides breadth within a Science or logistic course structure.

For further information speak to Mrs Johnson or Mr Smith, or log onto www.aqa.org.uk.

ENGLISH LANGUAGE

AS Level - 1706

A Level - 2706

MODULE	LEVEL	MODULE TITLE	MODE OF ASSESSMENT	BRIEF OUTLINE OF MODULE
1	AS	Categorising Texts	AS 60% A2 30% 1½ hour external examination.	This unit covers the introductory aspects of the study of language using a variety of texts for the basis of this study. In addition it focuses on three specific social contexts: Language and Power, Language and Gender and Language and Technology.
2	AS	Creating Texts	AS 40% A2 20% Coursework.	In this unit candidates are encouraged to develop their own writing skills, producing two written pieces and commentaries in different genres for different audiences and purposes – entertain, persuade, inform and instruct.
3	A2	Developing Language	A2 30% 2 hours external examination.	This unit has a detailed focus on two specific areas of language study: Child Language Acquisition and Language Change.
4	A2	Investigating Language	A2 20% Coursework.	In this unit candidates apply their knowledge of linguistic methods and concepts to produce an investigation into a study area of their choice, using analysis and data collection.
<p>Career Pathways Complements technology, philosophy, languages, history and most other subjects. Journalism, communication, teaching and any job/career where presentational skills are required. Leads to further linguistic studies in institutions such as SOAS and opens up opportunities in the world of business and commerce.</p>				

ENGLISH LANGUAGE AND LITERATURE

AS Level - AQA 1726

A Level - AQA 2726

MODULE	LEVEL	MODULE TITLE	MODE OF ASSESSMENT	BRIEF OUTLINE OF MODULE
1	AS	Introduction to Language and Literature Study	AS 60% A2 30% 1½ hours written paper.	A compulsory question on an Anthology, produced by AQA as a set text. The question will address thematic and stylistic issues, with a focus on: a) writers' or speakers' use of language, and b) their attitudes towards a particular theme.
2	AS	Genres in Language and Literature	AS 40% A2 20% Coursework. Assessment will be by two-part assignment.	The first part will focus on the candidate's ability to structure an informed discussion of a set theme, by appropriately using selected extracts from a studied text pairing. The second part will focus on the candidate's ability to write creatively and demonstrate their skills in a way that also provides evidence of their understanding of the texts as a whole.
3	A2	Talk in Life and Literature	A2 30% 2½ hours written paper. Two questions.	One question is based on an extract from a prescribed play: the second question requires the demonstration of critical and creative skills through the continuation of a transcript of naturally occurring speech. In addition students will be required to write a commentary.
4	A2	Text Transformation	A2 20% Coursework.	Candidates use a range of literary and linguistic skills to produce one or two transformation pieces from each of two texts, selected from a list of authors, plus a commentary on the writing process

Career Pathways

Since English is recognised by all establishments offering Higher Education and merely to have completed the course is seen as worthwhile by many employers (eg nursing, social or personnel work), the further prospects are almost limitless. It may lead fairly directly to some careers (eg teaching, journalism or publishing) or may be a passport to a vast range of opportunities in the media, management, retailing, the civil service, business and administration.

ENGLISH LITERATURE

AS Level - AQA 1746

A Level - AQA 2746

MODULE	LEVEL	MODULE TITLE	MODE OF ASSESSMENT	BRIEF OUTLINE OF MODULE
1	AS	Aspects of narrative	AS 60% A2 30% 2 hours written examination - Open Book.	Candidates study two post-1990 novels and two poets from 1800-1945. Section A looks at how the writer tells the story in one of the texts; with one question per text. Section B involves comparing aspects of the writers' methods in three texts, with a choice of two questions.
2	AS	Dramatic genres	AS 40% A2 20% Coursework.	Candidates study at least two plays within the genre of Tragedy, one of which will be by Shakespeare. Two pieces of written coursework of 1200-1500 words are produced. The first will focus on an aspect of the dramatic/tragic genre with regard to a Shakespeare play, whilst the second will address an aspect of the same genre in another play.
3	A2	Texts and genres	A2 60% 30% of total GCE. 2 hours written examination - Closed Book.	Candidates develop their ideas on the significance of literary genre. They will study at least two texts from one of the following categories: Elements of the Gothic, or Elements of the Pastoral. At least one of the texts will be from 1300-1800. Section A will focus on one text, whereas Section B will involve comparing an aspect of the chosen topic across at least two texts.
4	A2	Further and independent reading	A2 40% 20% of total GCE. Coursework. A portfolio of two pieces of written coursework.	Candidates further develop their appreciation of literature through the study of a wide range of texts. One of these will be a pre-released anthology of literary criticism, encouraging candidates to consider the different ways in which fiction can be received. The first piece of coursework (1500-2000 words) will be a comparative study of two texts. The second piece (1200-1500 words) will require candidates to apply the critical material to a literary text.

Career Pathways

Since English is recognised by all establishments offering Higher Education and merely to have completed the course is seen as worthwhile by many employers (eg nursing, social or personnel work), the further prospects are almost limitless. It may lead fairly directly to some careers (eg teaching, journalism or publishing) or may be a passport to a vast range of opportunities in the media, management, retailing, the civil service, business and administration.

FOOD TECHNOLOGY

AS Level – Edexcel 8111 A Level – Edexcel 9111

MODULE	LEVEL	MODULE TITLE	MODE OF ASSESSMENT	BRIEF OUTLINE OF MODULE
1	AS	Product Development	Internal piece of coursework, topic of own choice between 26-30 pages of A3.	This module is a design and make activity. Students select their own context, from which they design and make a food product that meets the original need/context.
2	AS	Knowledge and understanding of food materials, products and processing.	Externally marked examination	Focus upon the chemical nature and fundamental properties of a number of food components – carbohydrates, fats and oils, proteins, manufacturing processes, the consumer and society.
3	A2	Further study of food materials, products and processing	Externally marked examination	Focus upon food commodities, chemical composition and application of manufacturing processing, microbiological aspects, selecting materials, nutrition and value.
4	A2	Commercial product development.	Internal piece of coursework, a design and make activity, 26-30 pages of A3 paper.	This module is a design and make activity. Students select their own context, from which they design and make a food product that meets the original need/context. Students will need to liaise with their client/user group to develop a commercial product.

Career Pathways

This is a course of study which is equally suitable for those who intend to leave school to take up employment, as well as for those who intend to continue with Further or Higher Education. It can be taken with either arts or science subjects. Career opportunities – nursing, teaching, dietetics, media, catering industry, leisure, tourism, travel industries, social work.

FRENCH or SPANISH

AS Level and A Level - AQA

MODULE	LEVEL	MODULE TITLE	MODE OF ASSESSMENT	BRIEF OUTLINE OF MODULE	
1	AS	Listening, Reading and Writing	AS 70% A2 35% 2 hour examination testing all 3 skills. Listening – candidates have individual control. Reading – short target-language or non verbal responses and a cloze test. Writing – one question from a choice of three.	General topics to be covered over the AS course include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Media (TV, advertising, communication technology) - Popular Culture (cinema, music, fashion) - Healthy Living (sport, health, holidays) - Family and Relationships (relationships within the family, friendships, marriage and partnerships) Alongside the topics grammar will be taught and reinforced.	
		Speaking	AS 30% A2 15% 35 minutes. including 20 minutes. preparation time. Discussion of stimulus card and a conversation covering 3 of the 4 AS topics, one of which is candidate's own choice.		
3	A2	Listening, Reading and Writing	A2 35% 2½ hour exam testing all 3 skills. Listening – candidates have individual control. Reading – short target-language or non verbal responses and a cloze test. Writing – one question from a choice of two based on the Cultural Topic area studied in class.		General topics to be covered over the A2 course include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Environment (pollution, energy, protecting the planet) - The multicultural society (immigration, integration, racism) - Contemporary social issues (wealth and poverty, law and order, science and technology) - Cultural topics (eg cinema, literature, study of a region). Alongside the topics grammar will be taught and reinforced.
		Speaking	A2 15% 35 minutes. including 20 minutes. preparation time. Discussion of stimulus card (choose one from two given) and a conversation covering 3 of the 4 A2 topics, one of which is the Cultural Topic studied in class.		
4	A2				

Career Pathways

A Foreign Language A Level is recognised by all establishments offering Higher Education. Choices for those with Modern Foreign Language skills go way beyond specialist occupations, like interpreting, translation and language teaching. There are many opportunities in an almost limitless range of industries for people with language skills at all levels. 94% of the world's population does not speak English as their first language. 75% do not speak English at all. It's a multilingual world and UK companies are now realising that they need foreign languages to compete when trading internationally. An A Level in French or Spanish will enable you to start any other language from scratch at university, such as Arabic, Japanese, Russian or Chinese.

FURTHER MATHEMATICS

AS Level – Edexcel 8372

A Level – Edexcel 9372

MODULE	LEVEL	MODULE TITLE	MODE OF ASSESSMENT	BRIEF OUTLINE OF MODULE
1	AS	M1 (Mechanics 1)	AS 33.3% A216.6% 1½ hour examination.	Introduction to modelling, including vectors in a straight line, introduction to Newton's Laws of Motion
2	AS	M2 (Mechanics 2)	AS 33.3% A216.6% 1½ hour examination.	Further work on kinematics, collisions, energy and moments
3	AS	FPI (Further Pure 1)	AS 33.3% A216.6% 1½ hour examination.	Complex numbers, co-ordinate systems, building on C1 and C2 matrix algebra, series
4	A2	FP2 (Further Pure 2)	A2 33.3% 16.6% total GCE 1½ hour examination.	Building on C1-C4, more co-ordinate systems, more series, differential equations
5	A2	FP3 (Further Pure 3)	A2 33.3% 16.6% total GCE 1½ hour examination.	Extended all previous work, hyperbolic functions, vectars
6	A2	S2 (Statistics 2)	A2 33.3% 16.6% total GCE 1½ hour examination.	Statistical distributions, including polynomial, poison and uniform and hypothesis testing. Note, these units are all in addition to Mathematics with Statistics

Career Pathways

A Level Further Mathematics is highly regarded by Higher Education establishments and employers as being 'good currency', because of its 'problem solving and logical nature'. It can be studied beyond A Level as a subject in its own right but also provides a solid platform for careers in engineering, medicine, science, geography, music, computing, accountancy, psychology, business studies, economics etc.

For students wishing to pursue Mathematics or Engineering in Higher Education, Further Mathematics is highly recommended.

GEOGRAPHY

AS Level – OCR HO83 A Level – OCR H483

MODULE	LEVEL	MODULE TITLE	MODE OF ASSESSMENT Each paper has some <i>choice</i> of questions	BRIEF OUTLINE OF MODULE
1	AS	Managing Physical Environments	AS 50% A2 25% 1½ hour written paper. 2 questions based on stimulus materials, including maps, photos, writing and diagrams, plus 1 extended writing question.	River Environments Coastal Environments Cold Environments Hot arid and semi-arid Environments
2	AS	Managing Change in Human Environments	AS 50% A2 25% 1½ hour written paper. 2 questions based on stimulus materials, including maps, photos, writing and diagrams, plus 1 extended writing question.	Managing Urban Change Managing Rural Change The Energy Issue The Growth of Tourism
3	A2	Global Issues	A2 30% 2 hour synoptic written paper 5 questions, including 2 essay type questions.	Environmental issues, such as ecosystems under threat. Economic issues, such as globalisation and development inequalities
4	A2	Geographical Skills	A2 20% 1½ hour synoptic written paper. 3 questions, including 1 extended writing question.	Questions focus on skills of analysis, interpretation, evaluation and the drawing of conclusions. <i>Candidates need to have undertaken a piece of personal fieldwork.</i>

Career Pathways

You could go on to take a BA or BSc degree at University, after which specialist careers might include surveying, research, environmental monitoring, teaching, tourism and conservation work, data handling, local government, town and country planning, cartography, agriculture or a wide range of management roles.

GEOLOGY

AS Level – OCR HO87 A Level – OCR H487

MODULE	LEVEL	UNIT TITLE	MODE OF ASSESSMENT	BRIEF OUTLINE
F791	AS	Global Tectonics	AS 30% A2 15% 1 hour written paper of compulsory questions - 60 marks.	The structure of the Earth, earthquakes, drifting continents, sea-floor spreading and plate tectonics, geological structures, folds, faults, etc.
F792	AS	Rocks – Process and Products	AS 50% A2 25% 1¾ hour written paper of compulsory questions - 100 marks.	The rock cycle, study of major rock types and the processes that produce them, eg volcanic and igneous activity to produce igneous rocks.
F793	AS	Practical Skills in Geology I	AS 20% A2 10% Centre-based or fieldwork task – 20 marks. Evaluative task – 20 marks.	This unit develops investigative skills within contexts encountered during AS Geology
F794	A2	Environmental Geology	A2 15% 1 hour written paper of compulsory questions - 60 marks.	This unit covers the environmental and economic aspects of geology including water supply, energy and metal resources and engineering project geology, eg dams.
F795	A2	Evolution of Life, Earth and Climate	A2 25% 1¾ hour written paper of compulsory questions – 100 marks	The formation of fossils, and adaptation of organisms to environments. Fossil evidence for mass extinctions and climate change. Methods of dating rocks and geological events.
F796	A2	Practical Skills in Geology 2	A2 10% Centre-based or fieldwork task – 20 marks Evaluative task – 20 marks	This unit develops investigative skills within contexts encountered during AS and A2 Geology.

Career Pathways

Previous knowledge not essential but a good science background is desirable. An interest in your environment is essential. Geology combines well with most subjects especially sciences and geography. It counts as a science for UCAS applications and has skills, useful in a range of careers eg Earth and environmental sciences and others not related to these.

HISTORY

A Level – OCR HISTORY A

MODULE	LEVEL	MODULE TITLE	MODE OF ASSESSMENT	BRIEF OUTLINE OF MODULE
1	AS	British History – Foreign and Imperial Affairs 1945-1990	AS 50% A2 25% 1 paper 1½ hour. Essay paper.	British Foreign Policy during the Cold War, the end of the Empire, nuclear issues, GB and Europe, role of Thatcher, GB's role today.
2	AS	Dictatorship and Democracy in Germany 1933-1963	AS 50% A2 25% 1 paper 1½ hour. Document paper.	The establishment and experience of Nazi and Communist dictatorship in 1933 and 1945-49 respectively and the imposition and experience of Democracy in West Germany.
3*	A2	Civil Rights in the USA 1865-1992 <i>or</i> Russian Dictatorships 1855-1964	A2 30% 1 paper 2 hours. Synoptic unit – essay paper.	This theme focuses on the struggle of citizens in the United States to gain equality before the law without regard to ethnic origin, gender or wealth. This includes a study of African Americans, Native Americans, Trade Unions and Women <i>or</i> The theme focuses on the nature of Russian Government and its impact on the Russian people and society. This includes a study of the similarities and differences between the autocratic rule of the Tsars to 1917 and the subsequent Communist dictatorships.
4*	A2	Coursework	A2 20% 2 coursework units of 2000 words each, internally assessed and externally moderated.	One piece of coursework is based on a study of Roosevelt's America, focusing on an examination of a number of different historical interpretations of the period <i>or</i> this piece of coursework is based on a study of Lenin, the Russian revolutions of 1917 and the establishment of Bolshevik rule, again focusing on different historical interpretations. The other piece of coursework is a personal investigation by the candidate on a controversial historical issue of their choice.

Career Pathways

Many possibilities including journalism, law, politics, teaching, social work, archivist and any other career for which a general degree qualification is required eg management consultancy, marketing, civil service and publishing

***For modules 3 and 4 you will all study either American or Russian History, but this will be dependent on who is teaching the course.**

INFORMATION AND COMMUNICATION TECHNOLOGY

AS Level – AQA 1521 A Level - AQA 2521

MODULE	LEVEL	MODULE TITLE	MODE OF ASSESSMENT	BRIEF OUTLINE OF MODULE
1	AS	Practical problem-solving in the Digital World	AS 50% 25% total GCE Written paper with short and extended answer questions.	Practical use of ICT creating complete solutions to problems. Use of software. Legislation.
2	AS	Living in the Digital World	AS 50% 25% total GCE Written paper with short and extended answer questions.	ICT systems, their components, uses, users, security.
3	A2	The use of ICT in the Digital World	A2 60% 30% total GCE Written paper with short and extended answer questions partly based on pre-released material - 2 hours.	ICT systems in organisations.
4	A2	Coursework: Practical Issues involved in the use of ICT in the Digital World	A2 40% 20% total GCE Coursework – report based on a practical investigation. Internally marked.	Definition of a real problem and documentation of a full solution.

Career Pathways

The whole course is based on studying and applying the use of ICT in the workplace so it is difficult to think of any career in which a study of the use of computers at this level would not be a material advantage.

LAW

AS Level – OCR H124

A Level – OCR H524

MODULE	LEVEL	MODULE TITLE	MODE OF ASSESSMENT	BRIEF OUTLINE OF MODULE
1	AS	English Legal System	AS 60% 30% total GCE 2 hour written paper. 4 questions, at least 2 from 5 essay-based questions and at least 1 from 2 application style questions.	An introduction to the English Legal System including the civil and criminal courts, police powers, sentencing, the legal profession, judges, magistrates, juries and legal services.
2	AS	Sources of Law	AS 40% 20% total GCE 1 hour written paper. 1 question from 2 source-based questions involving analysis, explanation or legal reasoning.	The focus is on how law is made by judges, Parliament and the European Union. Law Reform is also considered.
3	A2	Criminal Law	A2 60% 30% total GCE 2 hours written paper. 1 essay question, 1 problem question and 1 Dilemma Board (objective questioning) question.	Covers the principles of criminal liability, murder, manslaughter, non-fatal offences against the person, offences against property and general defences.
4	A2	Criminal Law Special Study	A2 40% 20% total GCE 1½ hour written paper. 3 compulsory questions. Pre-released source material.	Questions on source material based on an area of substantive law and focusing on legal issues and the development of law.

Career Pathways

A Level Law provides a basis for degrees in law, criminology and related areas. It can lead to a career as a barrister or solicitor but it may also be a passport to careers in the police, management, the civil service, business and administration, the probation service and the media.

MEDIA STUDIES

AS Level – OCR 3860

A Level – OCR 7860

MODULE	LEVEL	MODULE TITLE	MODE OF ASSESSMENT	BRIEF OUTLINE OF MODULE
G321	AS	Foundation Portfolio	AS 50% Internally assessed. Externally moderated.	Candidates produce two paired media artefacts from a series of briefs. The briefs offered are: print, video, audio and website.
G322	AS	Key Media Concepts	AS 50% 2 hour examination.	This paper covers the two areas of Textual Analysis and Representation alongside audience and institution. Section A: Candidates answer questions on an unseen moving image; Section B: candidates study a specific media industry from film, music, newspapers, radio, magazines or video games.
G323	A	Advanced Portfolio	A2 50% Internally assessed. Externally moderated.	The prescribed briefs at this level will require the production of three media products. The media offered are video, print, web-based, audio and game software.
G324	A	Critical Perspectives	A2 50% 2 hour exam	This paper covers the two areas of theoretical evaluation of production alongside a study of contemporary media issues. Section A: two compulsory questions that describe, evaluate and link their production work to a theoretical concept. Section B: answer one question from one of the following areas – contemporary media regulation, global media, media and the collective identity, media in the online age, post-modern media or media and democracy.
<p>Career Pathways: A foundation both for training leading to employment, and for further education.</p>				

MATHEMATICS WITH MECHANICS

AS Level – Edexcel 8371

A Level – Edexcel 9371

MODULE	LEVEL	MODULE TITLE	MODE OF ASSESSMENT	BRIEF OUTLINE OF MODULE
1	AS	C1 (Core 1)	AS 33.3% A216.6% 1½ hour examination.	Building on algebra from GCSE, and exploring the basics of differential calculus
2	AS	C2 (Core 2)	AS 33.3% A216.6% 1½ hour examination.	New concepts include logarithms and exponentials, as well as applications of calculus
3	AS	S1(Statistics1)	AS 33.3% A216.6% 1½ hour examination.	Algorithms, critical path analysis and linear programming
4	A2	C3 (Core 3)	A2 33.3% 16.6% total GCE 1½ hour examination.	Introduction to numerical methods, and developing more complex methods of differentiation and integration (calculus)
5	A2	C4 (Core 4)	A2 33.3% 16.6% total GCE 1½ hour examination.	Advanced co-ordinate geometry, full exploration of vectors and their applications and differential equations
6	A2	M1 (Mechanics 1)	A2 33.3% 16.6% total GCE 1½ hour examination.	Introduction to modelling, including vectors in a straight line, introduction to Newton's Laws of Motion

Career Pathways

A Level Mathematics is highly regarded by Higher Education establishments and employers as being of 'good currency' because of its problem solving and logical nature. It can be studied beyond A Level as a subject in its own right but also provides a solid platform for careers in engineering, medicine, science, geography, music, computing, accountancy, psychology, business studies, economics etc.

MATHEMATICS WITH STATISTICS

AS Level – Edexcel 8371 A Level – Edexcel 9371

MODULE	LEVEL	MODULE TITLE	MODE OF ASSESSMENT	BRIEF OUTLINE OF MODULE
1	AS	C1 (Core 1)	AS 33.3% A216.6% 1½ hour examination.	Building on algebra from GCSE, and exploring the basics of differential calculus
2	AS	C2 (Core 2)	AS 33.3% A216.6% 1½ hour examination.	New concepts include logarithms and exponentials, as well as applications of calculus
3	A2	S1 (Statistics 1)	A2 33.3% 16.6% total GCE 1½ hour examination.	Probability modelling, correlation and regression, discrete random variables and the normal distribution
4	A2	C3 (Core 3)	A2 33.3% 16.6% total GCE 1½ hour examination.	Introduction to numerical methods, and developing more complex methods of differentiation and integration (calculus)
5	A2	C4 (Core 4)	A2 33.3% 16.6% total GCE 1½ hour examination.	Advanced co-ordinate geometry, full exploration of vectors and their applications and differential equations
6	AS	D1 (Decision 1)	AS 33.3% A216.6% 1½ hour examination.	Algorithms, critical path analysis and linear programming

Career Pathways

A Level Mathematics is highly regarded by Higher Education establishments and employers as being of 'good currency' because of its problem solving and logical nature. It can be studied beyond A Level as a subject in its own right but also provides a solid platform for careers in engineering, medicine, science, geography, music, computing, accountancy, psychology, business studies, economics etc.

MUSIC

AS Level – EDEXCEL 8MU01

A2 Level – EDEXCEL 9MU01

MODULE	LEVEL	MODULE TITLE	MODE OF ASSESSMENT	BRIEF OUTLINE OF MODULE
1	AS	Performing music	30% AS 15% A2	Provides opportunities to perform as a soloist and/or in ensembles. Any instruments and/or voices are acceptable as part of a 5 – 6 minute assessment performance.
2	AS	Composition	30% AS 15% A2	Encourages the development of compositional skills leading to the creation of a 3 minute piece from a chosen brief. A CD sleeve note will be created explaining how other pieces of music have influenced this final piece of work.
3	AS	Developing Musical Understanding	40% AS 20% A2	Listening to music and understanding how it works through studying set pieces of <i>The Anthology of Music</i> . Students use a score to identify harmonic and tonal features and apply this to the completion of a short and simple passage for SATB voices.
4	A2	Extended Performance	30% A2	Students extend their performance skills during a 12 – 15 minute assessed performance. This can be as a soloist or as part of an ensemble.
5	A2	Composition and Technical Study	30% A2	Section 1 – students develop their compositional skills, culminating in a 3 minute composition chosen from a brief. Section 2 – students study a harmonic pastiche (a set style of harmonic writing) and complete a passage in this genre.
6	A2	Further Musical Understanding	40% A2	Students study different pieces from <i>The Anthology of Music</i> looking at specific elements of music. They learn how to compare and contrast excerpts, contextualise music and identify harmonic and tonal features.

Career Pathways

Music is useful for anyone entering teaching as a career and particularly as a subsidiary subject for those working in primary and middle schools. It is virtually essential for anybody seeking any sort of musical career and it proves valuable for work in broadcasting and the media in general.

EDEXCEL LEVEL 3 BTEC NATIONAL AWARD IN MUSIC (PERFORMING)

The Edexcel Level 3 BTEC National Award in Music (Performing) consists of three core units **plus** three specialist units.

Core units:

Unit	MODULE TITLE	BRIEF OUTLINE OF MODULE
22	Music Performance techniques	<p>On completion of this unit a learner should:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1 Be able to develop effective instrumental or vocal technique through a structured practice routine 2 Be able to apply effective instrumental or vocal technique within appropriate repertoire in solo performance 3 Be able to apply effective instrumental or vocal technique in group performance
23	Music Project	<p>On completion of this unit a learner should:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1 Be able to prepare individually for the delivery of a successful live music event 2 Understand the implications of commercial considerations on creative decisions 3 Be able to prepare and work as a member of a team towards a successful live event 4 Be able to contribute to a performance to a technically acceptable level appropriate to genre.
29	Planning a Music Project	<p>On completion of this unit a learner should:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1 Understand the different roles in the live music industry 2 Be able to use organisational processes when managing the project 3 Be able to prepare financial records for the project 4 Be able to undertake appropriate responsibilities throughout the project, and review the project at its conclusion.

Specialist unit options:

Unit	MODULE TITLE	BRIEF OUTLINE OF MODULE
40	Working and developing as a Musical Ensemble	<p>On completion of this unit a learner should:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1 Be able to form and develop a musical ensemble 2 Be able to communicate and cooperate effectively as part of a musical team 3 Be able to select and prepare appropriate repertoire in a structured and effective manner 4 Be able to demonstrate musical competency in an ensemble context
27	Musical theatre performance	<p>On completion of this unit a learner should:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1 Understand the nature of musical theatre as an art form 2 Know how to develop a role in a musical 3 Be able to rehearse for a role in a musical 4 Be able to perform a role in a musical <p>Learners will be assessed on at least one sample of musical theatre performance lasting at least 10 mins.</p>
31	Pop music in practice	<p>On completion of this unit a learner should:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1 Know different genres of pop music 2 Know how pop music developed 3 Understand the relationship between society and pop music 4 Be able to perform different styles of pop music.

BTEC National Award Level 3 in Music (Performing)

Content

This course consists of six modules. There are three main compulsory modules and you must also study three other modules to gain your qualification.

Special Features Detailed information on the modules is given overleaf.

Assessment UCAS points for this course are:

<i>Overall grade</i>	<i>Points</i>
<i>Pass</i>	40
Merit	80
Distinction	120

Moving On

Music is useful for anyone entering teaching as a career and particularly as a subsidiary subject for those working in primary and middle schools. It is virtually essential for anyone seeking any sort of musical career and it proves valuable for work in broadcasting, media and entertainment in general.

PERFORMANCE STUDIES

OCR AS – H148 A2 Level – H548

MODULE	LEVEL	MODULE TITLE	MODE OF ASSESSMENT	BRIEF OUTLINE OF MODULE
1	AS	Creating Performance	AS 70% Written commentary and the community performance.	Skills based workshops in individual art forms, a short piece in each art form (drama, dance and music), a longer piece that combines elements of all three art forms to be performed in a community venue.
2	AS	Performance Contexts1	AS 30% Written examination: 2 essays, one on each practitioner.	The study of two practitioners from different art forms.
3	A2	Performance Contexts 2	A2 30% Written examination. One extended essay on chosen topic.	The study of extracts from all three art forms on one of the following topics: <u>Topic 1</u> : Post-Modern Approaches to the Performing Arts since 1960; <u>Topic 2</u> : Politics and Performance since 1914; <u>Topic 3</u> : The Twentieth Century American Musical; <u>Topic 4</u> : Approaches to Performance in the Far East.
4	A2	Performance Project	A2 70% Practical Exam. Visiting Examiner.	Two performance assessments. These are: A performance realisation of one of the works that have been studied in either Performance Contexts 1 or 2. A student devised performance produced in response to a commission.

Career Pathways

With a qualification in Performance Studies you could go on to higher education for work in the performance industry, teaching, arts administration, or any career demanding a high level of communication skills.

This subject goes well with Drama and Theatre Studies, Media Studies and any subject from the Arts or Humanities.

For further information speak to Mrs Johnson, Mrs Masters, Mr McIntyre or log onto www.ocr.org.uk.

PHYSICAL EDUCATION

AS LEVEL – OCR H154 A LEVEL – OCR H554

MODULE	LEVEL	TITLE	MODE OF ASSESSMENT	BRIEF OUTLINE OF MODULE
G451	AS	An introduction to Physical Education	AS 60% A2 30% 2 hour written paper worth 90 marks.	This section focuses on; anatomy & physiology, acquiring movement skills and socio-cultural studies.
G452	AS	Acquiring, developing and evaluating practical skills in Physical Education	AS 40% A2 20% Practical performance in 2 activities and response to a live performance worth 80 marks.	Candidates are assessed in two chosen activities from two different activity profiles. Students take on roles of performer, leader, coach & official.
G453	A2	Principles and concepts across different areas of Physical Education	A2 35% 2½ hours written paper worth 105 marks.	Candidates study three of the five possible options from; historical studies, comparative studies, sports psychology, biomechanics and exercise & sports physiology.
G454	A2	The Improvement of effective performance and the critical evaluation of practical activities in Physical Education	A2 15% Practical performance in 1 activity and a response to a live performance worth 80 marks.	Candidates are assessed in one chosen activity. This must be one of the activities that they were assessed at AS level in Unit G452. Candidates observe a live performance and devise strategies for improvement.

Career Pathways

The sports and leisure industry is a massive growth area, both in participation and employment. Physical Education is a widely recognised qualification enabling access to a variety of Higher Education courses (Sports Science, Sports Management, Sports Coaching) and direct employment (professional performer, leisure assistant, fitness instructor, coach).

BTEC National Award for Sport

Content

The Level 3 BTEC National Award in Sport is designed to provide a specialist work-related qualification in Sport. It gives the learner the knowledge, understanding and skills that they need for employment in the world of sport. Units covered include: The Body at Work, Leadership in Sport, Practical Sport, Health and Safety in Sport and Sport in Society. On successful completion of the award students can progress into or within employment and/or continue their study in the same vocational area.

Special Features

Students will complete six units, including three compulsory units, with 360 guided learning hours. Delivery strategies reflect the nature of employment within sport by encouraging learners to research and carry out assessment in the workplace or in simulated working conditions. Learners to be responsible for their own learning and achievement.

Assessment

Students are allowed to receive feedback on their progress throughout the course as they provide evidence towards the grading criteria. Evidence for assessment may be generated through a range of diverse activities including role play and oral assessment. There is no terminal examination.

Moving On

The Sports and Leisure industry is one of the fastest growing industries in the world. Some students continue studies in Sports Science, Sports Development, Sports Management or Sports Engineering. Others choose to follow a more vocational pathway including Sports Coaching, Sports Therapy and leisure operators.

PHYSICS

AS Level – EDEXCEL 8PH01

A Level – EDEXCEL 9PH01

MODULE	LEVEL	MODULE TITLE	MODE OF ASSESSMENT	BRIEF OUTLINE OF MODULE
1	AS	Physics to Go	AS 40% A2 20% 1 hour 20 minutes written examination paper. Objective, short and long questions.	Students use video clips, ICT and laboratory practical activities to study the physics behind a variety of sports. They use a case study of the production of sweets and biscuits to investigate materials. They study the physics associated with spare part surgery for joint replacements and lens implants.
2	AS	Physics at Work	AS 40% A2 20% 1 hour 20 minutes written examination paper. Objective, short and long questions.	Students study music and recorded sound, focusing on the production of sound by musical instruments and the operation of a CD player. They focus on a satellite whose remote-sensing and other instruments are run from a solar power supply. They study the excavation of an archaeological site, from geophysical surveying to artefact analysis and dating.
3	AS	Exploring Physics	AS 20% A2 10% Coursework – written report between 1200 – 1400 words.	The report consists of 2 elements: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • an essay to describe a visit that gives a real-life example of physics in use • a report to describe a related investigation carried out in the laboratory.
4	A2	Physics on the Move	A2 40% 20% total GCE 1 hour 35 minute written examination paper. Objective, short and long questions.	Students study a modern rail transport system with an emphasis on safety and control. They learn about the physics involved in some modern communication and display techniques. They discover fundamental physics that is the subject of current research, involving the acceleration and detection of high-energy particles and the interpretation of experiments.
5	A2	Physics from Creation to Collapse	A2 40% 20% total GCE 1 hour 35 minute written examination paper. Objective, short and long questions.	Students study some aspects of building design, including withstanding earthquake damage, vibration isolation and soundproofing. They focus on the physical interpretation of astronomical observations, the formation and evolution of stars, and the history and future of the universe.
6	A2	Experimental Physics	A2 20% 10% total GCE Coursework – written report approximately 2500 words.	Students plan an experiment, carry out an experiment, record measurements, analyse their own results and draw conclusions.

Career Pathways

The applications, like career opportunities are infinite. Employers today seek out people who can prove their ability to think logically, understand complex ideas and apply them to the real world. Whether you want to pursue a career in science, the media, education, business or a host of other fields, Physics can give you the edge.

PSYCHOLOGY

AS/A2 Level AQA Board Specification A

MODULE	LEVEL	MODULE TITLE	MODE OF ASSESSMENT	BRIEF OUTLINE OF MODULE
1	AS	Cognitive Psychology, Developmental Psychology and Research Methods	AS 50% Written paper 1½ hours. Structured compulsory questions based on Cognitive Psychology, Developmental Psychology and Research Methods. Questions include short answer, stimulus material and one 12 mark question requiring extended writing.	Models explaining memory. Accuracy of Eyewitness Testimony. How children form attachments. The effects of separation. Day-care and social development. The research methods used in Psychological investigations. Data analysis and presentation.
2	AS	Biological Psychology, Social Psychology and Individual Differences	AS 50% Written paper 1½ hours. Three compulsory structured questions – one on the Biological content, one on the Social content and one on the Individual Differences. Questions include short answer, stimulus material and one 12 mark question requiring extended writing.	How stress affects us physically and psychologically. What creates stress and how we manage it. Majority and Minority influence. Obedience to authority. Why people resist authority. Defining Abnormality. Biological and psychological approaches to psychopathology.
3	A2	Topics in Psychology	A2 50% Written paper 1½ hours. Three essay style questions one on each of the following topics – Biological rhythms and sleep; Aggression; Eating behaviour.	Types of biological rhythms and the consequences of disrupting them. The nature of sleep and sleep disorders. Theories explaining aggression. Eating behaviour and factors influencing our attitudes to it. Eating disorders.
4	A2	Psychopathology, Psychology in Action and Research Methods.	A2 50% Written paper 2 hours. Three sections. Psychopathology: one essay style question. Psychology in Action: One essay style question. Research Methods: One structured question.	Clinical characteristics of schizophrenia and explanations for its development. Therapies used to treat it. Media Psychology. Effects of TV on pro and anti-social behaviour. The attraction of “celebrity”. The application of scientific method in psychology.

Career Pathways

Psychology can be useful for a whole range of careers eg management, marketing, advertising, PR, sales, teaching – in fact any area of work which involves people.

RELIGIOUS STUDIES (PHILOSOPHY OF RELIGION AND ETHICS)

AS Level – EDEXCEL 8560

A Level – EDEXCEL 9560

MODULE	LEVEL	MODULE TITLE	MODE OF ASSESSMENT	BRIEF OUTLINE OF MODULE
1	AS	Foundations	AS 50% A2 25% June examination - 1¾ hours. Philosophy and ethics	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Philosophical arguments about God's existence • Problems in the philosophy of religion – suffering and God, miracles – do they happen? • Ethical concepts (morality) • Ethical dilemmas (war/sexuality) • Ethical theories (situation ethics, utilitarianism)
2	AS	Investigations	AS 50% A2 25% Investigating a prepared question Focusing on medical ethics	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Medical ethics, eg euthanasia, abortion, fertility treatments, to name just a few
3	A2	Developments	A2 60% 30% total GCE June examination - 1¾ hours.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Religious experience • Ontological theory • Non existence of God critiques • Natural/moral law, virtue ethics • Objectivism, relativism
4	A2	Implications	A2 40% 20% total GCE June examination - 1¼ hours.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Religious language, experience • Modern philosophy of religion • Method and moral theory • Personal relationships • Modern moral philosophy

Career Pathways

Religious Studies A Level is a highly academic course that develops excellent skills of analysis, evaluation, interpretation, reflection, questioning and understanding. It can lead to careers in Education, religious vocations, Medicine, Social Work, the Services (Police, Army, etc.), Law, Diplomacy and any job involving high levels of human interaction, especially with a multi-cultural focus.

