The Petchey Academy
Sixth Form

Subject Guide
2018-2019
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Fine Art

Exam Board: Edexcel

Course Entry Requirements

For AS/ A Level Art: A*-B grade minimum in a creative subject such as Art & Design, Textiles of Design & Technology at GCSE level.

As a small department, places are strictly limited and fill up very fast.

Course Outline and Assessment

The A Level course is an exciting, challenging and thoroughly engaging course at The Petchey Academy. In the last two years, all students have achieved a C grade or higher – and continue to work to this high standard at the moment.

Year 12 breaks down Art and builds you up to be a confident, creative and expressive artist. The course weaves together a diverse range of skills from painting and printing, through to textiles and 3D sculpture – with an exhibition at the end of both AS and A Level courses. In Year 13, you will independently explore themes and topics that motivate, inspire and challenge you ensuring you are working to a high standard throughout the two-year course.

Students gain 5 hours of study time with different Art teachers, benefiting from their unique artistic expertise. Sketchbook work is required on a weekly basis and is estimated to take roughly 5 hours outside of lessons to complete – but you have access to the UG Art Room throughout the day, with access to the materials too.

Where could this take you?

An A Level in Art, Craft and Design provides the foundations of a creative career. Everything from advertising and game-design to film and television production all benefit from creative and imaginative minds. Many artists choose to pursue Art as a hobby and continue to make a considerable amount alongside their full-time occupation, while others constantly turn to their expressive side to demonstrate their own vision for a business. Illustrators and architects all require an Art A-Level.
Biology

Exam Board: OCR

Course Entry Requirements

6 A*-C at GCSE including English and Maths and a B grade in Biology (or 2 B grades for additional science).

Course Outline and Assessment

The study of Biology requires the construction of sound foundations through the study of several fundamental concepts. During the course you will develop an understanding of scientific methods and be aware of those scientific advances in technology that are relevant to the biological sciences. You will also gain experience in the laboratory where you will develop your skills to examine and identify tissues, proteins and other biological substances. In addition, you will be able to demonstrate knowledge and understanding of facts, principles and concepts from different areas of Biology and learn to make and use connection between them. A Level Biology also involves calculations, sketching and data manipulation, analysis and interpretation which are skills that are important to many professions and careers.

Over the two years students study a variety of topics which are examined at the end of the course:

- Module 1 – Development of practical skills in biology
- Module 2 – Foundations in biology
- Module 3 – Exchange and transport
- Module 4 – Biodiversity, evolution and disease
- Module 5 – Communication, homeostasis and energy
- Module 6 – Genetics, evolution and ecosystems

Completion of twelve Experimental and Investigative activities are required that are not assessed, however required for the certification.

Where could this take you?

There are many opportunities open to you if you have an A level in Biology, such as:

- Teaching
- Infection and immunity research scientist
- Genetics and genetic engineering
- Working in industry: health, nursing, medicine and the life sciences
- Agriculture
- Scientific writing and journalism
- Zoology
Business Studies

Exam Board: AQA

Course Entry Requirements

For current Business Studies students a B at GCSE.
For non-Business GCSE students a B in English or Maths.
The A Level course will now be examined using three two-hour papers at the end of the two years. Quantitative data will represent a minimum of 10% of the marks.

Course Outline

Year 1:
1. What is business?
2. Managers, leadership and decision-making
3. Decision making to improve marketing performance
4. Decision making to improve operational performance
5. Decision making to improve financial performance
6. Decision making to improve human resource performance

Year 2:
1. Analysing the strategic position of a business.
2. Choosing strategic direction.
4. Managing strategic change

The A-level is assessed by three two hour written exams at the end of the course.

Paper 1: Multiple-choice questions, short answer and two essays.

Paper 2: Three compulsory data response questions.

Paper 3: One compulsory case study consisting of six questions.

Where could this take you?

Everybody will work in a business in their life, and the skills are transferable to any profession. Typical jobs for Business Studies graduates include: Marketing, finance, accounting, events management, HR, production, business ethics and setting up your own business.

The new specification will also prepare you in more depth for being in a management role in a business where strategic decisions are made.
Course Entry Requirements

5 A*-C at GCSE

Don’t worry if you have never studied business before, we will be happy to take you onto the course if you show an enthusiasm for the subject and are ready to work hard!

Course Outline and Assessment

The course requires students to complete 13 units over the two years. BTEC Business will be examined through a combination of internally assessed assignments, externally assessed controlled assignments and a two hour written examination. There are seven mandatory units:

1. Exploring Business
2. Developing a Marketing Plan
3. Personal and Business Finance
4. Managing and Event
5. International Business
6. Principles of Management
7. Business Decision Making

Assignment - set and marked internally
Task - set and marked by Pearson
Written exam – set and marked by Pearson
Assignment - set and marked internally
Assignment - set and marked internally
Task - set and marked by Pearson
Task - set and marked by Pearson

Within the transition period from Year 12 to Year 13 students will reflect on their work experience and complete optional Unit 27: Work Experience in Business.

Other optional Units that may be chosen to complete the course include:

Unit 8. Recruitment and Selection Process
Unit 9. Team Building in Business
Unit 20. Investigating Corporate Social Responsibility

Where could this take you?

Everybody will work in a business in their life, and the skills are transferable to any profession. Typical jobs for Business Studies graduates include:

Marketing, finance, accounting, events management, HR, production, business ethics and setting up your own business.
Chemistry

Exam Board: AQA

Course Entry Requirements
6 A*-C at GCSE including English and Maths and a B grade in Chemistry (or 2 B grades for additional science).

Course Outline and Assessment
This course promotes a meaningful understanding of concepts learnt at GCSE. Explanations of why chemical entities behave in such a way during chemical reactions. Moreover mathematical aspects of fundamental ideas are learnt at this level to understand how atoms and molecules influence the order of universe and an explanation to how science works.

Over the two years students study a variety of topics which are examined at the end of the course. Students also have to complete three examinations of short and long questions along with twelve practical tasks.

A Level written assessments towards the GCE certification:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Paper</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Paper 1 Physical and Inorganic Chemistry</td>
<td>35%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Paper 2 Physical and Organic Chemistry</td>
<td>35%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Paper 3 All content and any Practical skill</td>
<td>30%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Each examination is 120 minutes.

Completion of Twelve Experimental and Investigative activities are required that are not assessed, however required for the certification.

Where could this take you?
This course is considered highly by all universities and a pre-requisite too many degree courses including medicine, dentistry, pharmacy, veterinary science, materials science, scientific journalism and writing, research and chemical engineering. Furthermore, many non-science related degrees will accept chemistry, since A level chemistry is regarded as one of the most difficult and demanding subjects learnt at post 16.
Computing BTEC

Exam Board: Edexcel

Course Entry Requirements
5 GCSEs A*-C, including English and Maths.

Course Outline and Assessment
The BTEC Computing course is a vocation 2 year course worth the equivalent of 3 A Levels. The course is comprised of 13 units of which 7 are mandatory and 4 are external.

Each external assessment for a BTEC National is linked to a specific unit. All of the units developed for external assessment are of 90 or 120 GLH to allow students to demonstrate breadth and depth of achievement. Students will be awarded a Pass, Merit or Distinction for each internal unit completed depending on criteria they have achieved. The styles of external assessment used for qualifications in the computing suite are:

Two examination units – all students will take the same assessment at the same time, normally with a written outcome. Students will also take a controlled assessment unit during a defined window and demonstrate understanding through completion of a vocational task.

Where could this take you?
A BTEC in Computing can open up many pathways. Students have progressed on to apprenticeships in the Computing Industry as well as progressing to top universities to study Computer Science and non-Computing related courses. Students can also embark on careers in related subject areas. As the course is so varied students will be able to begin careers in an array of computing related careers ranging from Programming to software design.
Economics

Exam Board: Pre-U Cambridge International Examinations

Course Entry Requirements

The Pre-U course will require students to write essay-based answers and use conceptual analysis and data interpretation. As a result we recommend that students have a good standard of both English and Maths at GCSE and recommend a grade B in both subjects.

Course Outline and Assessment

Microeconomics:

- Rational choice and human behaviour
- Supply and demand in the economy
- Market failure and government failure to solve these problems
- The theory of the firm and how different businesses make decisions

Macroeconomics:

- Unemployment and inflation
- Interest rates and exchange rates
- Budget deficits, recession and booms
- Economic growth
- Development economics

At the end of the two year course students sit 3 papers:

Paper 1: Multiple choice, short answers and data response

Paper 2 – 3: extended essays

Paper 3: An economic investigation on poverty and economic growth

Where could this take you?

Economics is a very well respected subject amongst employers because of its application of theory to the real world. Some typical jobs include:

- Banking and finance
- Politics and public policy
- International development
- Law and business
- Becoming a professional economist at a business or for the government.
English Language

Exam Board: AQA – 7701

Course Entry Requirements

For English Language A Level: B Grade English Language and English Literature.

Course Outline – AS Level

Paper 1 Language and the Individual – 1 hour 30 minute exam, 70 marks, 50% of AS Level.
This element introduces you to advanced level language study using new methods of analysis to explore concepts of audience, purpose, genre, mode and representation. You will study a variety of different texts and modes to explore how language is:

- Shaped for audience, purpose, genre, mode and context
- Used to construct meanings and representations
- Used to enact relationships between writers, speakers, audiences and participants within a text.

Paper 2 Language varieties – 1 hour 30 minute exam, 70 marks, 50% of AS Level.
Students will explore texts in relation to wider social and geographical contexts. You will look at texts using different sociolects and dialects and how language is used to represent different groups and the attitudes towards them.

Course Outline – A2 Level

Paper 1: Language, the Individual and Society – 2 hour 30 minute exam, 100 marks, 40% of A2

- Textual variations and representations
- Children’s language development (0-11)

Paper 2: Language Diversity and Change - 2 hour 30 minute exam, 100 marks, 40% of A2

- Diversity of text in terms of sociolects, dialects
- Texts from 1600 to the present day
- Multi-modal texts.

Non-exam assessment: Language in Action - 100 marks, 20% of A2

Students produce a language investigation (2,000 words) of their choice on any area of language study that interests them. This is accompanied by an original piece and writing and commentary (1,500 words)

In AS and A2 study you we will learn about exciting new areas of language that you have not explored at GCSE.
- **Phonetics, phonology and prosody**: how speech sounds and effects are articulated and analysed
- **Graphology**: the visual aspects of textual design and appearance
- **Lexis and semantics**: the vocabulary of English, including social and historical variation
- **Grammar, including morphology**: the structural patterns and shapes of English at sentence, clause, phrase and word level
- **Pragmatics**: the contextual aspects of language use
- **Discourse**: extended stretches of communication occurring in different genres, modes and contexts.
English Literature

Exam Board: Pre-U: Cambridge International Examinations

Course Entry Requirements

Grade B or above in English Language and English Literature.

Course Outline and Assessment

The Cambridge Pre-U Literature in English course will enable students to study a wide range of Literature that they have not accessed so far in their studies. They will study a selection of core texts and also have the opportunity to choose their own texts to suit their interests in order to complete a Personal Investigation.

This course is designed to equip students with the skills required to make a success of their subsequent studies at university, involving not only a solid grounding in the subject at an appropriate level, but also the ability to undertake independent and self-directed learning and to think laterally, critically and creatively.

There are four components to the Cambridge Pre-U Literature in English course, two compulsory text-based closed book examination papers, and an unseen Comment and Analysis paper, which includes fiction and non-fiction texts and the opportunity for recreative writing. The intention is to create a balance of set texts and to encourage both wide reading in preparation for the Comment and Analysis paper and the pursuit of individual teachers’ and students’ enthusiasms in the Personal Investigation.

Where could this take you?

English Literature is a skills based course and therefore opens the door to many exciting careers. The critical thinking, communication and analytical skills you will learn are transferable to careers from Accountancy to Law to Politics to PR and many more. With a qualification in English Literature, you can literally do anything!
Food Science & Nutrition

Exam Board: WJEC

Course Entry Requirements

5 A*-C at GCSE including English & Maths

Don’t worry if you have not studied one of the food courses at GCSE, we will be happy to take you onto the course if you show an enthusiasm and passion for food, working creatively and are ready to work hard!

Course Outline and Assessment

The course will provide you with a wealth of knowledge about the food and nutrition industry. You will have the opportunity to learn about the relationship between the human body and food as well as practical skills for cooking and preparing food.

There are 3 units of study, the two mandatory units are:

**Meeting Nutritional Needs of Specific Groups** and **Ensuring food is safe to eat**

Then, there is a choice of studying either:

**Experimenting to Solve Food Production problems** or **Current Issues in Food Science and Nutrition**

Teaching styles are varied and include practical activities, assignments, workshops and investigative work. Visits and activities are arranged to increase knowledge and experience of the subject.

The course is assessed internally and externally.

Where could this take you?

**University:** A degree in most subjects.

**A possible career in:** Food product development, dietician, marketing, retail management hotels, restaurants, ski resorts, holiday resorts, food analysis, nutrition, teaching, outdoor pursuits, bars, cruise liners, film location catering, bakeries, patisseries.
Geography

Exam Board: Pre-U: Cambridge International Examinations

Course Entry Requirements

The Geography PRE U is a demanding yet rewarding subject which really helps to develop the skills students require at University. Therefore the entry requirements are as follows:

- A grade B or better in Maths and English
- A grade B or better in Geography GCSE
- If students have not taken Geography GCSE this option will still be open as long as they score 5 or more grade Bs in their exams.

Course Outline and Assessment

We study the following Units

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year 12</th>
<th>Year 13</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Tectonic Hazards</td>
<td>Atmospheric Environment</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Spatial Inequality and Poverty</td>
<td>Independent Enquiry</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Geography of Crime</td>
<td>Energy</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hazardous Weather</td>
<td>Migration and Urban Change</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Atmospheric Environment</td>
<td>Coastal Environments</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Where could this take you?

Geographers are widely considered some of the most employable graduates. The Guardian newspapers show Geographers as the joint most likely to get a good job. The Geography team at Petchey have graduate friends working in jobs such as; a Director on the Gadget Show, a Water Engineer for Thames Water, a Geologist who travels on Oil Rigs and an environmentalist for McLaren F1 team. You will have a choice of employment or University when you finish University Gateway!
Government & Politics

Exam Board: Edexcel

Course Entry Requirements:

Government and Politics is a course not traditionally offered at GCSE and as such there is no specific combination of subjects that are required to have been studied at GCSE.

Both at AS and A2 the Government and Politics course requires students to compose extended essays that are coherent and well structured. As such we ask that all students wishing to take the subject have attained at least a B grade in both English Language and English Literature.

Course Outline and Assessment

Government and Politics deals with a broad range of topics - investigating themes that impact our day to day lives. As such the course will complement the studies of those students wishing to take Economics, History or Geography qualifications.

AS Government and Politics provides an introduction to the main institutions and working of the UK political system. The AS course consists of two units, which are assessed by written examination:

- **People and Politics**: What is citizenship and democracy? Electoral systems in the UK; Political parties – their functions and policies; Pressure groups and their influence; The case for and against electoral reform

- **Governing the UK**: The role of the House of Commons; Cabinet Government and how it works; How powerful are Prime Ministers?; Judges and Civil Liberties; The changing UK system

Where could this take you?

Students with GCE Government and Politics have access to a wide range of possible career and higher education opportunities. You learn and use a variety of transferable skills throughout the course. Government and Politics include collecting and analysing information and evaluating different political ideas and systems. Your written communicational skills will develop greatly as will your ability to question information given to you.

These skills are in demand and are recognised by universities, colleges and employers and combine well with a range of science, social science and humanities subjects. University courses include such areas as Business, Economics, Law, Media, Philosophy and, of course, Politics.

Students who choose not to go on to higher studies will have well developed transferable skills that will allow them to explore a wide range of employment opportunities.
Global Perspectives & Research

Exam Board: Pre-U: Cambridge International Examinations

Course Entry Requirements

We offer Global Perspective and Research as a course to supplement study on all academic pathways. Therefore all students that are accepted into University Gateway have the opportunity to undertake this course.

Course Outline and Assessment

Global Perspectives and Research is a really exciting course that we offer here in University Gateway. It is designed to complement and accompany the Cambridge Pre-U Diploma, however it also exists as a stand-alone course. The course is about developing crucial independent learning skills that will be help to prepare you for University, and we do this through exploring global issues and events. The skills and strategies that you learn will also help to ensure that you achieve highly across all of your Level 3 subjects.

You are assessed in 3 ways in GPR:

- 1 x 2000 word essay on a topic of your choice
- 1 x 15 minute presentation based on pre-release material
- 1 x examination on an unseen text

Where could this take you?

GPR is a fantastic asset to any degree that requires you to think critically, complete independent research, and engage with topical or controversial issues.
# History

Exam Board: Pre-U: Cambridge International Examinations

## Course Entry Requirements

In the Pre-U History course, students are required to produce 3 written essays in 2 hours and 15 minutes. The course, therefore, requires a high level of literacy and we ask for a B in GCSE History and also a B in GCSE English.

## Course Outline and Assessment

The course consists of 4 different parts. Successful candidates will study Twentieth Century European History, Twentieth British History, Civil Rights 1954-1980 and a personal investigation based around The Vietnam War.

All candidates will be assessed in exams at the end of year 13 in 3 different exams. The Personal Investigation is externally assessed by Cambridge Pre U.

## Where could this take you?

History is still regarded as a leading subject by Universities and also offers a number of pathways into professional careers. It is also well regarded in the working world. The skills learnt can be applied to working in big business, law and politics.
Health & Social Care BTEC

Exam Board: Edexcel

Course Entry Requirements

- For any BTEC level 3 course at UG 5 A*-C GCSEs are required.
- Any B-TEC Level 2 qualification at Merit level
- Students must be committed to carrying out 100 hours of work experience.
- A clear interest in working in health & social care and working in the care services.

Course Outline and Assessment

The BTEC Extended Diploma in Health & Social Care provides students with an excellent opportunity to develop a good knowledge base and practical care skills for professions within the health and social care sector. These professions offer challenge and reward; you will be able to make a difference to people's lives.

The course is equivalent in size to three A Levels. It is made up of 13 units of which 8 are Mandatory and 4 are external. The Mandatory content makes up 72% and the external assessment 42% of the overall course.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Unit (number and title)</th>
<th>Unit size (guided learning hours)</th>
<th>Assessment</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1. Human life span development</td>
<td>90 GLH</td>
<td>Internal</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2. Working in Health and Social Care</td>
<td>120 GLH</td>
<td>Internal</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3. Anatomy and Physiology for Health and Social Care</td>
<td>120 GLH</td>
<td>Internal</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4. Enquiries into Current Research in Health and Social Care</td>
<td>120 GLH</td>
<td>Internal</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5. Meeting Individual Care and Support Needs</td>
<td>90 GLH</td>
<td>External</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6. Work Experience in Health and Social Care</td>
<td>60 GLH</td>
<td>External</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7. Principles of Safe Practice in Health and Social Care</td>
<td>90 GLH</td>
<td>External</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8. Promoting Public Health</td>
<td>90 GLH</td>
<td>External</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Where could this take you?

Health and social care students’ progress onto a variety of university courses including: nursing, midwifery, primary teaching, social work, youth and community work, probation work, occupational therapy, as well as studying for degrees in health and social care, social policy, sociology and psychology.

Other students progress into the work place as teaching assistants, care workers, nursery workers and youth workers.
Mathematics

Exam Board: Edexcel

Course Entry Requirements

To be accepted onto the A-level mathematics programme students should be on track to achieve a grade 7 at GCSE. We do consider students who offer a grade 6, and offers for these students will require further discussion.

All students looking to study Mathematics at A-level should have a keen interest in maths and enjoy creative problem solving.

Course Outline and Assessment

Mathematics, as a major intellectual tradition, is a subject appreciated as much for its beauty as for its power. It is the science of pattern and structure, and like language, religion and music; it is a universal part of human culture.

Mathematics is assessed purely by examination across 3 modules taken in June of year 13.

Mathematics beyond GCSE is divided into two branches - Pure and Applied: Pure mathematics accounts for two-thirds of the content covered at A-level and encompasses the traditional areas of algebra, co-ordinate geometry, trigonometry and introduces calculus. Applied mathematics consists of modules in mechanics and statistics. Students studying physics will find significant overlap in their mechanics studies, whilst statistics has important applications in the social sciences and supports further study in subjects such as economics, business and geography.

Where could this take you?

Mathematics A-level is a respected traditional A-level that is valued by all universities. It is an essential degree for entry to degrees in mathematics and the physical sciences, and adds breadth when combined with courses in the arts.

Mathematics Graduates have one of the lowest unemployment rates in the United Kingdom, with over a third entering the business or finance sector after graduating.
Further Mathematics

Exam Board: Edexcel

Course Entry Requirements

Students interested in applying for Further Mathematics should be on track to achieve a grade 8/9 at GCSE.

Students choosing to study Further Mathematics should be confident and highly skilled mathematicians, who are ready to be challenged and explore more sophisticated mathematical concepts.

Course Outline and Assessment

Further Mathematics is a second, separate, A Level taken in addition to A-level Mathematics. Students complete the full A-level in mathematics in year 12 and then study an additional 4 modules in further mathematics in year 13.

Further Mathematics is assessed purely by examination.

Further Maths is an AS/A level which broadens and deepens the maths covered in AS/A level Maths. It develops your mathematical ability and introduces you to new topics, such as matrices and complex numbers, which are vital for maths-rich degrees in areas such as sciences, engineering, statistics and computing, as well as mathematics itself. It is an extremely well respected A-level that demonstrates exceptional mathematical ability.

Where could this take you?

Further Mathematics is accepted by all UK universities.

Further Mathematics is a requirement of many maths rich degree programmes including Mechanical Engineering, Chemistry, Physics, Civil Engineering, Architecture, Computer Science, Finance, Actuarial Science, Economics, Statistics, Astrophysics, and Chemical Engineering and Mathematics itself.
Media Studies

Exam Board: AQA

Course Entry Requirements

For A Level Media Studies, a GCSE in the subject is not essential. A strong grade (B or above) in English at GCSE is essential, as the exam will require proficiency in timed writing and analysis of unseen materials.

Any production experience in using Photoshop, Final Cut, or any similar editing software programmes is desirable for the production element but again not essential.

Course Outline and Assessment

The course is split equally between analysis/theory and practical production. It will cover:
knowledge and understanding of the 4 key concepts of Media, across all 3 platforms at an advanced level; planning, production and editing using state-of-the-art software on our Mac computers (Final Cut Pro, InDesign, Photoshop); and Educational visits and extra-curricular projects.

Assessment for both AS/A2:

MEST 1/MEST 2- AS – 2 hour exam on response to an unseen text and a case study essay-based question. A production piece created in response to a set brief, along with linked piece, research and evaluation.

MEST 3/MEST 4: A2- 2 hour exam with personal study section and a critical investigation into an area of the Media/topic of your choice along with linked practical production piece.

Where could this take you?

Programme Researcher / Media Planner / Multimedia Specialist / Runner / TV or Film Producer / Advertising Account Executive / Broadcast presenter or journalist / Information Officer / Magazine Journalist / Writer. You will utilise many core skills that are attractive to any employer. It also complements many of the other subjects that you study at A Level, giving you an all-round set of skills for your CV.
Music Technology BTEC

Exam Board: Edexcel

Course Entry Requirements

Students need not have taken GCSE Music to access this course, however, this will be an advantage. They must have good listening and analysing skills and be competent at using IT - ideally music software such as Logic Pro.

Although not formally assessed, musical skill at instrumental playing is useful.

Course Outline and Assessment

This qualification provides you with the knowledge, understanding and skills that underpin the role of the music technician. You will study five mandatory units, which include the following topics:

- studio recording techniques
- Digital Audio Workstation (DAW) production
- live sound
- music and sound for media

You will also choose five optional units, designed to support progression to relevant occupational areas, and to a range of sector-related courses in higher education. They cover content areas such as:

- creative synthesis and sampling
- music technology in performance
- mixing and mastering techniques
- working and developing as a production team

In each unit, you will develop a range of transferable skills, for example communication, independent learning, teamwork, analysis and evaluation. Employers specifically look for these skills and behaviours to complement technical knowledge and skills, and so they will provide an advantage when you progress to the workplace.

Where could this take you?

This qualification prepares you for working in the music technology industry, as a musician, record producer, sound engineer, sound designer, director, audio-visual and broadcasting equipment operator, or arts officer. This qualification enables you to develop a core of knowledge around the music technology industry and the use of recording and technical equipment. It provides the breadth and practical application of music technology learning which will prepare you for a number of job roles in the sector.
Physical Education

Exam Board: OCR

Course Entry Requirements
GCSE PE – B or above
GCSE English –B or above
GCSE Science B or above

Course Outline and Assessment
Have you ever wondered why some people can run faster than others or how personality can affect your performance? Have you ever questioned why an elite athlete would risk everything and use performance enhancing drugs? Do you want to find out more about how technology can improve an athlete’s performance? Study A-Level PE to find the answers.

The emphasis throughout the course is on the development of your knowledge, competence and confidence in a wide variety of skills that will enable you to confidently move forward in life. You will learn how Physical Education affects and contributes to society and also how to apply your knowledge from this course to any number of different practical situations or career choices.

Where could this take you?
You could study at a top University leading towards a career in the following…

BTEC Sport & Exercise Science

Exam Board: Edexcel

Course Entry Requirements;

- GCSE PE – C or above
- GCSE English – C or above
- GCSE Science – C or above

Course Outline and Assessment

The Pearson BTEC National Extended Certificate in Sport is an Applied General qualification for post-16 learners who want to continue their education through applied learning and who aim to progress to higher education and ultimately to employment in the sport sector.

You will study three mandatory units: • Unit 1: Anatomy and Physiology • Unit 2: Fitness Training and Programming for Health, Sport and Well-being • Unit 3: Professional Development in the Sports Industry. Learners will also complete one optional unit from a range which has been designed to support choices in progression to sport courses in higher education, and to link with relevant occupational areas

Where could this take you?

You will be provided with the knowledge and practical skills required to work in or study at higher levels in the fields of Physiotherapy, Nutritionist, Sports Massage, Sports Medicine, Biomechanics, PE Teaching, Sports Development, Fitness Industry, Sport Infrastructure, Sports Law, Finance in Sport, Journalism, Coaching, Photography, Events Management and Sports Psychology.
Performing Art BTEC

Course Entry Requirements

5 A*-C at GCSE including English & Maths

Don’t worry if you have not studied one of the Arts at GCSE, we will be happy to take you onto the course if you show an enthusiasm and passion for performing, working creatively and are ready to work hard!

Course Outline and Assessment

The course requires students to complete 13 units over the two years, of which 7 are mandatory and 4 are external.

Mandatory content (67%). External assessment (42%).

The course begins with four mandatory units:

1) Investigating Practitioners’ Work
2) Group Performance Workshop
3) Individual Performance Commission
4) Employment Opportunities in the Performing Arts

Students then have to complete 14 optional units from a choice of 42 units. Areas these options cover include:

* Skills * Techniques * Creativity * Methods and Practice * Performance and Process * Research and development

Where could this take you?

Everybody will work creatively in their life, and the skills are transferable to profession. Whether you decide to study further, go on to work or an apprenticeship, or set up your own business – BTEC Extended National will be your passport to success in the next stage of your life. Typical jobs for Performing Arts graduates include: Actor, Dancer, Musician, Business Entrepreneur, Events management, Teacher, Production Assistant, setting up your own business.
Personal Finance

Exam Board: Institute of Financial Services (IFS)

Course Entry Requirements

The IFS (Institute of Financial Services) is a professional services body aligned to the banking and financial services industry. Their School of Finance (ifslearning.co.uk) provides qualifications to A Level standard and above that are designed to prepare students for careers in financial services. The Certificate (AS) and Diploma (A2) have full A Level equivalency and carry the same UCAS points as other A Levels.

This would be an additional course to your three principal subjects and is open to all UG students whether doing BTEC, A level or Pre-U.

Course Outline and Assessment

The course is split into four units across the two years with each unit containing a mix of multiple choice, short answer and essay-style questions. The exams are based around applying financial advice to a given scenario.

- The attributes and the functions of money.
- The personal life cycle.
- Financial products and the life cycle
- Mortgages
- Savings products
- Investments
- Personal loans
- Debit and credit cards
- Interest rates and inflation
- Scenario-based case studies of different financial situations
- Giving financial advice for scenarios and recommending financial products

Where could this take you?

The IFS course is recognised throughout the financial services industry. Careers it will support are:

- Accountancy
- Banking
- Investment banking
- Independent financial advice
Philosophy & Ethics

Exam Board: Edexcel

Course Entry Requirements
6 A*- C at GCSE including B in English Language or Literature. The course gives students the opportunity to develop their philosophical thinking skills and put very famous arguments to the test. It is an excellent preparation for university, as we encourage learning through discussion, engagement with famous primary texts and independent research.

Course Outline and Assessment

Year 12 Outline: This is a fascinating course that looks at questions such as: 'Can we know that God exists?' 'Why is there evil and suffering?' 'Is it ever morally right to go to war?' 'Are abortions acceptable?' The course gives students the opportunity to develop their philosophical thinking skills and put very famous arguments to the test. It is an excellent preparation for university, as we encourage learning through discussion, engagement with famous primary texts and independent research. There are two exams at the end of the AS year: Unit 1: "Foundations" in which you have to answer three questions on Philosophy of Religion and Ethics. Unit 2: "Investigations" in which you answer one question in 1 hour 15 minutes on a prepared topic.

Year 13 Outline: At A2 Candidates sit 2 papers at the end of the year: Unit 3: Developments", which is 1 hour and 45 minutes long and 'Unit 4: Implications' which is 1 hour and 15 minutes long. In the Developments paper, candidates answer three questions. This can either be 2 Philosophy of Religion and 1 Ethics or vice versa. Unit 3: Development Topics Philosophy of Religion: The Argument from Religious Experience, The Ontological Argument, The Non-Existence of God, Religious Language, Life after Death. Ethics: Critique of the Relationship between Religion and Morality, Deontology, Natural Law and Virtue Ethics, Ethical Language, Objectivity, Subjectivism and Relativism, Justice, Law and Punishment. Unit 4 Religious Studies — Implications 50% of the total A2 marks 25% of the total GCSE marks. Students will answer one question based on an extract from the GCE Religious Studies Anthology published by Edexcel on one of the areas. Religious language: Ayer, A - God-talk is evidently nonsense. 2. Religious experience: Donovan, P - Can we know God by experience? 3. Modern philosophy of religion: Westphal, M - The emergence of modern philosophy of religion.

Where could this take you?

P&E students go on to higher education to study a wide range of courses including Religious Studies, Theology, Philosophy, Law, Sociology and the Social Sciences. Careers include Legal and medical services, Journalism and publishing, Education and social work, Broadcast, film, video and media sector, Politics
Physics
Exam Board: OCR

Course Entry Requirements

6 A*-C at GCSE including English and Maths and a B grade in Physics (or 2 B grades for additional science).

Course Outline and Assessment

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Content is split into six teaching modules:</th>
<th>Modelling physics (01)</th>
<th>Exploring physics (02)</th>
<th>Unified physics (03)</th>
<th>Practical Endorsement in physics (04)</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>• Module 1 – Development of practical skills in physics</td>
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<td>• Module 2 – Foundations of physics</td>
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<td>• Module 3 – Forces and motion</td>
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<td>• Module 4 – Electrons, waves and photons</td>
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<td>• Module 5 – Newtonian world and astrophysics</td>
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<td>• Module 6 – Particles and medical physics</td>
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<tr>
<td>Component 01 assesses content from modules 1, 2, 3 and 5.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Component 02 assesses content from modules 1, 2, 4 and 6.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Component 03 assesses content from all modules (1 to 6).</td>
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<tr>
<td>100 marks</td>
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<tr>
<td>2 hours 15 minutes written paper</td>
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<tr>
<td>100 marks</td>
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<tr>
<td>2 hours 15 minutes written paper</td>
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<tr>
<td>70 marks</td>
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<tr>
<td>1 hour 30 minutes written paper</td>
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<tr>
<td>(non exam assessment)</td>
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<tr>
<td>37% of total A level</td>
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<tr>
<td>37% of total A level</td>
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<tr>
<td>26% of total A level</td>
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<td>Reported separately (see Section 5g)</td>
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</table>

Over the two years students study this course aims to develop interest in, and enthusiasm for physics. It fosters an appreciation of how society makes decisions about scientific issues and how the sciences contribute to the success of the economy and society. The course develops a deeper appreciation of the skills, knowledge and understanding of How Science Works; and develops essential knowledge and understanding of different areas of Physics and how they relate to each other.

Where could this take you?

An A level in Physics is viewed highly by universities as it trains its students in critical thinking and mathematical skills. Furthermore A level physics is considered a “hard” academic subject and will make applicants that possess a good grade more competitive when applying for university. Relevant degrees include: Physics, Engineering, Astronomy, Mathematics, any science degree, economics and computer science to name a few.
Exam Board: AQA

Course Entry Requirements

6 GCSEs A*-C, including English and Maths.

Course Outline and Assessment

This course will provide students with the opportunity to be creative and innovative as they develop new products. Students will develop knowledge of the complex relationships between design, materials, manufacturing and marketing.

This A level explores new and existing technologies. In order to provide students with a relevant knowledge of industrial techniques, students will access to workshops that are fully equipped with the latest tools including CAD/CAM facilities.

A-level Design and Technology: Product Design requires students to engage in both practical and theoretical study. This specification requires students to cover design and technology skills and knowledge as set out below. These have been separated into:

1. **Technical principles** – Two written papers that will count towards 50% of final grade.
2. **Designing and making principles** – Design portfolio and a working prototype of their product. This unit will count towards 50% of the final grade.

Students must also demonstrate maths and science skills.

Where could this take you?

Through this A-Level students develop a wide range of employability skills including problem solving, taking initiative, team working, communication and presentations. It is a practical subject that will show your versatility and dexterity. A useful addition to any Degree level program. The course is particularly relevant if you are hoping to progress to a degree or career in engineering, architecture, set and theatre design, furniture or jewellery design, manufacturing industries or business management.
Psychology

Exam Board: Edexcel

Course Entry Requirements

If you are already studying Psychology at GCSE, you should have at least a B grade by the end of Year 11 for Psychology.

If you did not study Psychology as a GCSE but wish to study Psychology, you will need to have a B grade in English Language and Maths by the end of Year 11.

Course Outline and Assessment:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>A Level Topics Covered</th>
<th>Year 1</th>
<th>Year 2</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Cognitive Psychology</td>
<td>Criminal Psychology</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Social Psychology</td>
<td>Clinical Psychology</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Biological Approach</td>
<td>Research Methods with Issues and debates</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Learning Approach</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Research methods with Issues &amp; Debates</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

Exams taken at the end of Year 13
Paper 1: Foundation of Psychology. Exam paper 2 hours (90 marks)
Paper 2: Applications of Psychology. Exam paper 2 hours (90 marks)

Where could this take you?

Psychology offers a wide variety of careers. These include:
- Therapists
- Counsellors
- Teachers/Lecturers
- Forensic Psychologists
- Occupational Psychologist
- Educational Psychologist
Sociology

Exam Board: AQA

**Course Entry Requirements**

If you are already studying Sociology at GCSE, you should have at least a B grade by the end of year 11 for Sociology.

If you did not study Sociology as a GCSE but wish to study Sociology, you will need to have a B grade in English Language by the end of year 11.

**Course Outline and Assessment:**

<table>
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<tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Questions</td>
<td>Questions</td>
<td>Questions</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- Education: Short answer and extended writing, 50 marks</td>
<td>- Section A: Extended writing, 40 marks</td>
<td>- Crime and Deviance: Short answer and extended writing, 50 marks</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- Methods in Context: Extended writing, 20 marks</td>
<td>- Section B: Extended writing, 40 marks</td>
<td>- Theory and Methods: Extended writing, 30 marks</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- Theory and Methods: extended writing, 10 marks</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Paper</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Unit Code</th>
<th>Level</th>
<th>Method of assessment</th>
<th>Availability</th>
<th>Weighting</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Education with Theory and Methods</td>
<td>7192/1</td>
<td>A</td>
<td>1 written paper (2 hours)</td>
<td>May</td>
<td>33.3% of A level</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Topics in Sociology</td>
<td>7192/2</td>
<td>A</td>
<td>1 written paper (2 hours)</td>
<td>May</td>
<td>33.3% of A level</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>Crime and deviance with Theory and Methods</td>
<td>7192/3</td>
<td>A</td>
<td>1 written paper (2 hours)</td>
<td>May</td>
<td>33.3% of A level</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Where could this take you?**

Sociology offers a wide variety of careers. These include:

- Social workers
- Teachers/Lecturers
- Counsellor
- Social researcher
- Probation officer
- Charity worker
Spanish

Exam Board: AQA

Course Entry Requirements

Languages are a personal skill and as such are an enriching experience with plenty of added value.

http://filestore.aqa.org.uk/resources/spanish/specifications/AQA-7692-SP-2016-V1-0.PDF

8 GCSEs A*-C, ICT or Computing – B, English and Maths – C

Course Outline and Assessment

The AQA specification offers a smooth transition from GCSE to A-Level and a further language learning at university. You will learn not just to speak or write about various subjects, but more importantly, to express an opinion about them in more depth compared to what you did in your GCSE. The A level specification has 3 units:

**Unit 1: Listening, Reading and Writing** (2h 30 mins) 50% of A-level.

Aspects of Hispanic society, artistic culture in the Hispanic world, multiculturalism in Hispanic society, aspects of political life in Hispanic society.

Translation into English and into Spanish.

**Unit 2: Writing** (2h) 20% of A-level.

One text and one film or two texts from the list set in the specification and a translation from

**Unit 3 Speaking** (21-23 minutes) 30% of A-level.

Individual research project and one of four sub-themes.

Where could this take you?

Language study contributes to a broad general education and gives you invaluable practical and transferable skills for the future. You may choose to specialise in Spanish at university or combine your language with other subjects such as Engineering, History, Media and journalism, Management and Business Studies, Teaching, Fashion Design, Travel & Hospitality Management, Accountancy, European Studies, or International or European Law. As Spanish is the fourth most widely spoken language in the world, you will have the opportunity to travel not only to Spain but to most parts of South and Central America and even to the USA where Spanish is spoken!