

Thursday 21st May, 2015

Dear Parent / Guardian

As we move up through the Academic Levels here at the Academy we want to offer students greater choice over their learning pathways. As we move into L1+ the Directed Academic Curriculum will expand including an increased allocation of Modern foreign language or to take another modern foreign language, the introduction of Food- Nutrition as part of Engineering and the incorporation of a Self Directed Academic option. The L1+ Academic map is as follows:

Subject Area	Period Allocation
Maths	4
Science	4
English	4
Engineering	2
Computer Science	1
Humanities	4
Mandarin	3
Art	1
Food and Nutrition	1
Drama	1
Music	1
PE	2
Self Directed (Academic)	2
Self Directed (Enrichment)	2-3
Personal Study	1-2

The Self Directed Academic option will enable students to begin pursuing a more personalised pathway for a double period each week. The options, as outlined in the following pages, will enable students to begin a new academic course such as Astronomy, develop skills for L2 (GCSE) or develop employability skills. Many of the options will enable students to work towards a recognised qualification by the end of L1+ or begin working towards L2 (GCSE) qualifications, as in the case of the language options.

The courses have been chosen with the cohort in mind and with input from students we are hopefully offering choices will interest and motivate while at the same time challenge and have real value. We will seek to give each student their first choice. Over the next week the following process will be undertaken to help students make an informed choice by the 21st of May:

- 1: Options booklet and Options assembly outline the process and options to students
- 2: Students think about which option guided by interest and appropriateness of each course
- 3: Students discuss options, guided by interest and appropriateness of each course, with parents. This is evidenced through a parental signature within this booklet

- 4: Students discuss options, guided by interest and appropriateness of each course, with tutors. This is evidenced through a tutor signature within this booklet
- 5: Students agree upon 3 options in rank order with tutors
- 6: Once option choices agreed with tutor students complete online options form (1st June)

Thank you in advance for helping your son/daughter to make an informed choice about which options they should pursue. Should you have any further questions about the options process feel free to contact me on 0207 449 3080.

Yours sincerely



Mr D Molloy
Assistant Principal – Level 2



L1-L1+

Self-Directed Curriculum (Academic)

Options Booklet 2015-2016



L1+ Directed Curriculum Map

In the next academic year (June 2015-June 2016) the L1+ UCL Academy curriculum will comprise of the following,

Subject Area	Period Allocation
Maths	4
Science	4
English	4
Engineering	2
Computer Science	1
Humanities	4
Mandarin	3
Art	1
Food and Nutrition	1
Drama	1
Music	1
PE	2
Self Directed (Academic)	2
Self Directed (Enrichment)	2-3
Personal Study	1-2

L1+ Self Directed Curriculum (Academic) Options

Course	Details
Spanish	1 class
German	1 class
Astronomy	1 class
PE GCSE	1 class
Preparing for GCSE: Numeracy and Literacy	2 x 10 classes
Employability (ASDAN)	1 class
Arts Award	2 classes
Project Award	1 class
Sustainable Architecture	2 classes

L1+ Self Directed Academic Curriculum Options

L1 + Course title:	Spanish: GCSE Intensive
Qualification/ Award:	This is a taster course that will help you prepare to take this language further at L2. You will receive a certificate giving you access to the GCSE course on the successful completion of all assessed elements at the end of L1+.
What type of student should choose this course?	Students that feel they are good at learning languages or really want to get to grips with the language and culture of Spanish speaking cultures. This is not for students who already have a good grasp of the language but rather those with little or no knowledge of the language.
What will I learn?	You will learn the basics of the language, spoken and written. You will develop your ability to listen to and translate the language. You will learn the rules of grammar relating to this language so that you can successfully take this language forward at GCSE level or engage in conversation with a native of this culture. You will also develop your understanding of Spanish culture.
How will I learn? and How will I be assessed?	You will learn through a mixture of Master Classes, games, Collaborative translation activities and mini-projects. You will learn through rehearsal and an immersion into the language. You will be assessed throughout and in a final speaking, listening and writing assessment of this language.
Taking it further	This course will help you develop skills which can help you become more confident and successful in a wide range of L2 GCSE subjects.
Find out more: Speak to Mr Bowen	

L1 + Course title:	German: GCSE Intensive
Qualification/ Award:	This is a taster course that will help you prepare to take this language further at L2. You will receive a certificate giving you access to the GCSE course on the successful completion of all assessed elements at the end of L1+.
What type of student should choose this course?	Students that feel they are good at learning languages or really want to get to grips with the language and culture of German speaking cultures. This is not for students who already have a good grasp of the language but rather those with little or no knowledge of the language.
What will I learn?	You will learn the basics of the language, spoken and written. You will develop your ability to listen to and translate the language. You will learn the rules of grammar relating to this language so that you can successfully take this language forward at GCSE level or engage in conversation with a native of

	this culture. You will also develop your understanding of German culture.
How will I learn? and How will I be assessed?	You will learn through a mixture of Master Classes, games, Collaborative translation activities and mini-projects. You will learn through rehearsal and an immersion into the language. You will be assessed throughout and in a final speaking, listening and writing assessment of this language.
Taking it further	This course will help you develop skills which can help you become more confident and successful in a wide range of L2 GCSE subjects.
Find out more: Speak to Mr Bowen	

L1 + Course title:	Preparing for L2 (PL2): Communication Skills	
Qualification/ Award:	You will work towards a certificate that recognises the work you have done to develop communication skills for L2 courses within the Academy.	
What type of student should choose this course?	Students that feel they needed additional support to develop their communication skills, in particular written literacy, to get them ready for L2 Core Courses within the Academy such as GCSE English and GCSE sciences.	
What will I learn?	You will learn a range of strategies and skills to help enhance your levels of communication. You will learn how to improve your reading stamina, written communication, writing stamina, presentation skills and, if appropriate to you, elements of numeracy.	
How will I learn? and How will I be assessed?	You will learn through a mixture of Master Classes, tutorials, and mini-projects. You will work in small groups but will also have a greater level of personal support to help you become a successful communicator. You will keep an online record of your achievements that will contribute to your final assessment.	
Taking it further	This course will help you develop skills which can help you become more confident and successful in a wide range of L2 GCSE subjects.	
Find out more: Speak to Mr Ross		

L1 + Course title:	Employability: ASDAN (Award Scheme Development and Accreditation Network)	
Qualification/ Award:	Those that take this course will work towards The Employability qualifications which is a nationally recognised qualification. The award is linked to the units you choose to complete as part of this course.	

What type of student should choose this course?	Students who wish to ensure that they have the necessary non-academic skills to be employed in the competitive jobs market of the future. If developing your personal, social and employability skills is a priority for you, and you don't like exams, this may be the course for you.
What will I learn?	The main focus of this course is the development of a range of skills while learning about the world of work. Skills include; Team working; Enterprise skills; Career exploration; Rights and responsibilities at work; Applying for a job; Health and safety in the workplace, while furthering your skills of team work, reviewing your learning and tackling problems.
How will I learn? and How will I be assessed?	You will engage in research, (in and out of the classroom) participate in role-play and keep journals of your progress. You will keep a record of your learning, a portfolio, and this will become the main way in which you will be assessed.
Taking it further	This course can be continued into L2, developing further skills sets. It can also prepare you for Post-16 training organisations and college courses, traineeships and Work Programmes.
Find out more: Speak to Mr Alleyne or go to www.asdan.org.uk/courses/qualifications/employability	

L1 + Course title:	Sustainable Architecture <i>Design-Engineer-Construct</i>	
Qualification/ Award:	Those that take this course will work towards a Level 1 or 2 certificate in Designing, Engineering and Constructing a sustainable built environment which is equal to a GCSE grade.	
What type of student should choose this course?	Student's interested in working with industry, like STEM subjects such as Engineering and Math and those who want to further develop their literacy, numeracy, confidence and teamwork skills. This is particularly designed for students working at D2 or above within Engineering.	
What will I learn?	You will learn about all the steps taken from conceptual thinking about an engineering project right through to the construction stages. This will heavily be based on site visits, industry input and computer aided design. You will gain experience of working with people in industry, explore STEM career pathways that you may have not previously explored.	
How will I learn? and How will I be assessed?	You will learn by exploring possibilities and working with professionals to deepen your understanding of all aspects of design, engineering and construction. You will produce a portfolio of work, similar to what you do in Engineering already,	

	which will contribute towards the project based examination at the end of the course.
Taking it further	This course can be continued into L2, and into L3 where the content and qualification becomes more varied and at a higher academic level.
Find out more: Speak to Mr Chambers or go to www.designengineerconstruct.com	

L1 + Course title:	Arts Award
Qualification/ Award:	Those that take this course will work towards an nationally recognised and accredited Arts Award at either Bronze or Silver standard.
What type of student should choose this course?	Students with a genuine passion and interest in the Arts and design who have shown a creative flair in their Art & Design lessons. In particular those students working at D3 who are aiming to progress to the Mastery Level and beyond. Students who may consider the Arts as a career pathway or at least thinking about furthering their studies beyond the classroom. This is an excellent preparation for a GCSE in Art and or Design.
What will I learn?	You will develop your knowledge of a particular art form through the planning and reviewing of a personal project. You will be supported to experiment and be creative in working towards the completion of a number of art pieces within a chosen medium.
How will I learn? and How will I be assessed?	You will learn through a combination of practical Master Class sessions, trips out, through looking at the arts in the real world and through a combination of individual and group work projects. You will be assessed in two areas, Arts practice and Supervised arts leadership, most of which will be through practical rather than written examinations.
Taking it further	This course can be continued into L2 at a Gold award standard or you make take the course further by choosing to pursue GCSE Art and or Design in L2.
Find out more: Speak to Miss Kosasih-Wall or go to www.artsaward.org.uk	

L1 + Course title:	Astronomy: GCSE Foundation
Qualification/ Award:	This is a taster course that will help you prepare to take this science further at L2. You will receive a certificate giving you access to the GCSE course on the successful completion of all assessed elements at the end of L1+.
What type of student should choose this course?	If you are fascinated by the night sky and our continuing exploration of the Universe then this GCSE Astronomy course is

	the subject for you. Students with a talent and interest in astrophysics and physics would be ideal for this course. The course is designed for student doing very well at both Science and Math.
What will I learn?	You will learn about how scientists, since ancient times, have used imagination, measurement, and scientific methods to explore the Universe in which we live. The main areas of study will include; Earth, Moon and Sun; Planetary systems; Stars; Galaxies and Cosmology; and how to make a real telescope. You will have the freedom to explore Astronomy from a number of different ways including how to use imaging software to analysis your own observations and produce coloured images of objects in space.
How will I learn? and How will I be assessed?	You will learn through mini projects, usually in collaboration with others but also independently pursuing your own interests. You will be expected to be independent and to drive your own learning with guidance from experts. There will be opportunities to learn from real astronomers and visit observatories to learn how to make observations. Other observations will be made using the National School's telescope. You will be assessed through the completion of a self-designed project, a presentation of your work and through a written knowledge paper.
Taking it further	This course can be continued into L2 at GCSE level.
Find out more: Speak to Dr Ankerson or go to www.astronomygcse.co.uk	

L1 + Course title:	Physical Education: GCSE preparation	
Qualification/ Award:	You will work towards a half GCSE, which can be added onto, at L2.	
What type of student should choose this course?	Students that are interested in sport, have good practical skills in at least two sports, in health and fitness or in exercise and lifestyles. This course is particularly recommended for those on UCL Academy Development Squads such as Spurs or in Athletics and those working at or above D1 in PE.	
What will I learn?	In Unit 1 – Knowledge and understanding for the Active Participant – you will learn about healthy active lifestyles, the roles the active participant can adopt and what constitutes effective performance in these different roles. In Unit 2 – The Active Participant – you will participate as a player/performer, organiser, official or leader/coach in a wide range of sports. You will learn to take responsibility for your own physical growth and development as part of a healthy active	

	lifestyle.
How will I learn? and How will I be assessed?	You will learn through a mixture of theory lessons as well as through Master Classes and practical sessions. You will be in charge of monitoring your performance and achievements and keeping a record of your learning through an online portfolio. You will complete a written examination paper and two practical assessments in the roles of performer and one other from either performer, official, leader, organiser.
Taking it further	This course can be continued into L2 at GCSE level award or BTEC Physical Education
Find out more: Speak to Mr Demetriou or go to www.aqa.org.uk/subjects/physical-education/gcse/physical-education-4890	

L1 + Course title:	Learn What You Love: Project Qualification	
Qualification/ Award:	You will work towards a Level 1 Foundation Project qualification	
What type of student should choose this course?	Students that are interested in something and who want to pursue a topic they love for a whole year. In this course you really can learn what you want, a bit like the way you did Genius Hour. This course is particularly recommended for those working at or above D1 in a Humanities subject.	
What will I learn?	What do you want to learn? It really is that open as long as it is not a simple, shallow, googleable question. Alongside side learning about a topic you love you will also enhance a range of skills including independence, research and record, reflection, evaluation and skills that can be applied across a large range of subject areas.	
How will I learn? and How will I be assessed?	You will learn through a mixture of Master Classes, tutorials, and lectures but mostly through your own self-driven research. You will design your project and pursue it with assistance from relevant experts. You will keep an online project journal throughout which will contribute to the final assessed piece. The final assessed piece can either be an object/artefact that you make or a written report.	
Taking it further	This course can be continued into L2 at a Level 2 Higher qualificaton. Alternativley this course helps you develop skills which will enable you to successfully undertake a Humanties GCSE such as History.	
Find out more: Speak to Mr Gratton or go to www.aqa.org.uk/subjects/projects/aqa-certificate/PQ1-7991		

I have thought about and had an informed discussion with my parent/guardian about the options I want to choose:

Parent/Guardian

Signature _____ Date: _____

I have thought about and had an informed discussion with my tutor about the options I want to choose:

Tutor

Signature _____ Date: _____

My agreed 3 options, in order of preference, are:

1: _____

2: _____

3: _____

Once these options have been agreed by your tutor go to www.uclacademylearningplatform.co.uk to make your choices online.

This must be completed by the **1st June.**