



THE
WHITBY
SIXTH FORM





SIXTH FORM OPTIONS



Dear Students

At Key Stages Three and Four you will have studied a wide range of subjects. Sixth Form study, however, is about deepening your study of a much smaller range of subjects and it is therefore essential that you choose wisely. This brochure will give you the information that you need to start this decision making process.

In Year Twelve the majority of students will study three subjects. When choosing your subjects it is important to select courses that you are interested in and have researched thoroughly. It is essential to carefully read the subject information in this brochure and be sure that you understand the individual entry requirements for your chosen subjects.

At The Whitby High School we offer a wide range of subjects at a variety of levels:

Our Post-16 courses are usually suited to those who achieve at least 5 A*-C grades including 5's or above in English and Maths.

Maths and English will also be studied at GCSE level by all students who did not achieve a grade 4 in their subjects.

Mr B. Heeley
Headteacher

DRAMA

A-LEVEL

Course Content

Set texts will require students to articulate how they would perform in certain roles, and design for certain scenes, putting practical work at the heart of each specification. There is an opportunity for those students who wish to perform and those who wish to design. Students will learn how to explore a play practically and transfer that experience to answer the questions in the written examination. The examination questions will be clear and engaging for students, asking them to focus on the exploration work they have already participated in.

Additional Information

AS and A level Drama and Theatre will be changing from September 2016 for all Awarding Bodies and therefore the information in this prospectus is subject to change in line with government decisions, information is current and correct in December 2015. All new AS and A levels will be assessed at the same standard as they are currently. All new AS and A levels will be fully linear. AS levels will be stand-alone qualifications.

Entry Requirements

A combination of five grades: A*-C or new 9-4 at GCSE including Drama is required. If GCSE Drama has not been taken students must have achieved at least a grade B or new grade 6 in English. Other courses and qualifications such as LAMDA will be considered

Exam Board: Edexcel



Assessment

AS Level

Unit 1 - Exploration and Performance 60% - Internally assessed and externally moderated. Students will explore a performance text in light of a practitioner and record this in a portfolio.
Perform an extract from this text and perform a mono/duo from a different text.

Unit 2 - Theatre Makers in Practice 40% - Written exam 1 hour 45 minutes
Sec A: Live Theatre Evaluations
Sec B: Questions on a Set Text

Choice of one set text from six – set text to be explored practically and written about.
Evaluation of a piece of live theatre they have seen.

A Level

Unit 1 – Devising 40% - Internally assessed and externally moderated.
Students devise a piece of theatre which they then perform. They will record the process in a portfolio.

Unit 2 - Text in Performance 20% - Externally assessed by a visiting examiner.
Group performance from a performance text and perform a mono/duo from a different text

Unit 3 - Theatre makers in practice 40% - Written Exam 2 hours 30 minutes
Sec A: Live Theatre Evaluation
Sec B: Questions on a set text
Sec C: Director's interpretation

Choice of one set text from six – set text to be explored practically and written about.
Choice of one set text from six – set text to be interpreted as a director.
Evaluation of a piece of live theatre they have seen.



MUSIC

Course Content and Assessment

This is a two year music course with the emphasis on music technology.

Students will develop their musical knowledge, understanding and skills through a variety of tasks involving music technology, music production and audio recording.

There is an externally assessed exam covering listening, production techniques and analysing music.

The Areas of Study are:

- Recording and production techniques
- Principles of sound and audio technology
- The development of recording and production technology

Entry Requirement

GCSE or BTEC Level 2 Music and/or a genuine interest in music, music production, music technology and recording.

Career Opportunities

Many students from The Whitby have gone on to study Music, Music Technology, Music Journalism and Music Performance at university. This can lead to a good career as a performer, sound/recording engineer, teacher, journalist, composer or creative within gaming, movies and film.



ART & DESIGN

LEVEL 3 NATIONAL
EXTENDED CERTIFICATE

Course content

The course is a practical course with some written content still required through analysis and artist research but there is no written essay as required through the A level. Students will explore a variety of media and techniques and their ability to communicate their ideas through visual outcomes. Students will need to complete 4 units over the 2 years of which 3 are mandatory and 1 is chosen by the school.

This course equates to 1 A level :

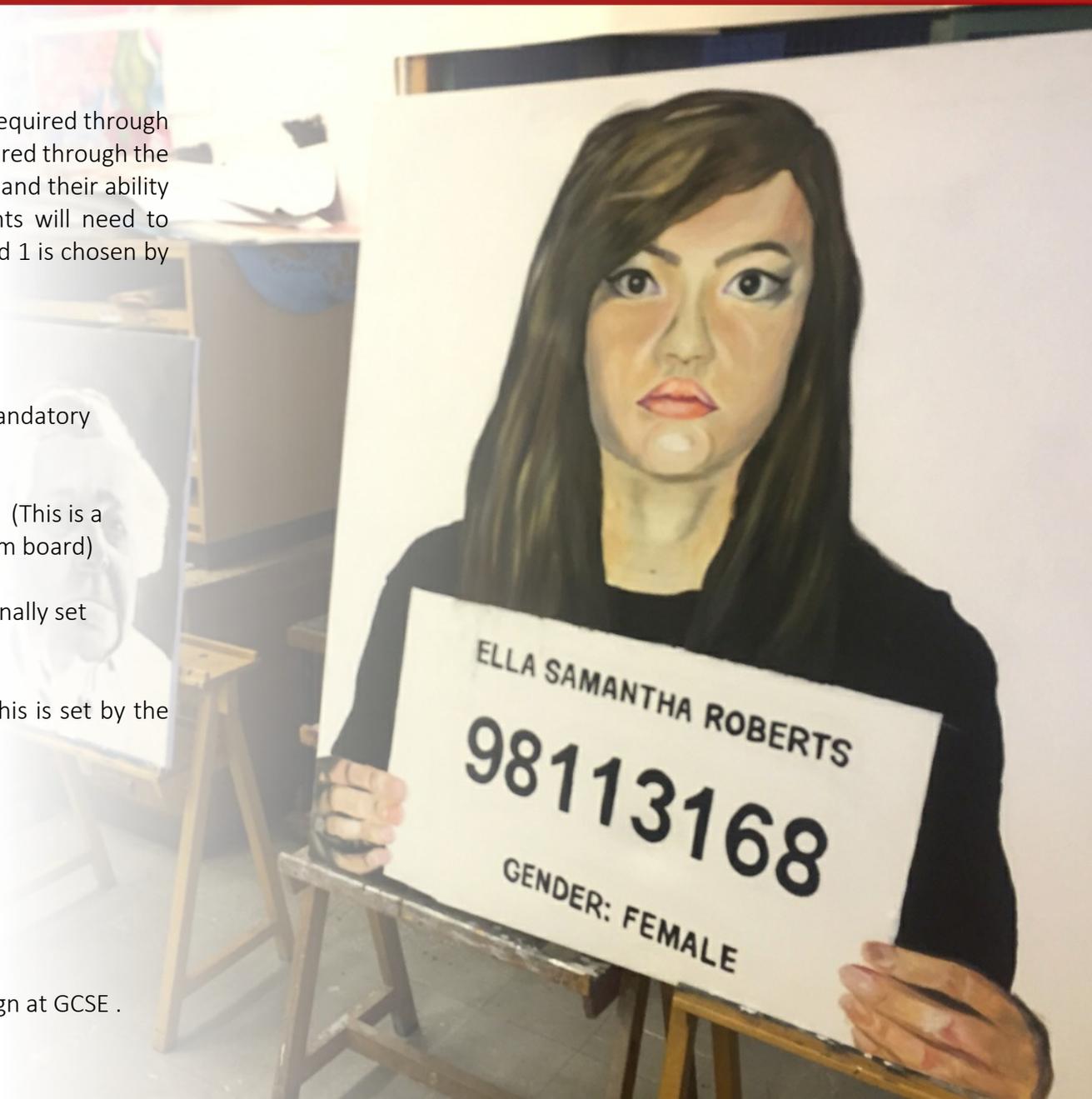
- Unit 1: Visual recording and communication (This is a mandatory externally assignment, set by the exam board)
- Unit 2: Critical and Contextual Studies in Art and Design. (This is a mandatory externally assignment set by the exam board)
- Unit 3: The Creative Process: (This is an mandatory internally set assignment).
- Unit 12: Fine Art Materials, Techniques and Processes. This is set by the department

All mandatory units must be passed .

Employers and Universities support the qualification.

Entry Requirements

Students must have gained a C grade and above in Art and Design at GCSE .



ART & DESIGN

Entry Requirements

For Fine Art A Level:

Ideally Grade A* - B at GCSE, but students with Grade C are welcome provided they show motivation and commitment. Students with no GCSE in

Art are also welcome, but should also show commitment, and prove they have an aptitude for the subject. Students will need to show a portfolio of their own work.

Career Opportunities

Design industry - Product Design, Graphic Design, Fashion Design, Interior, Industrial, Commercial Design, Television, Theatre and Film industry Special Effects, Costume, Make-Up, Set Design, Animation, Architecture, Garden and Exterior Design, Teaching, Art Gallery Curating and Management, Artist, Illustrator - to name but a few.

Everything has been designed by somebody - the art and design industry is huge, employing a vast number of people.

Which Subjects Link Well?

Photography which is particularly suitable for those students wishing to pursue a course of study and/or career in Art and Design, Product Design, Graphics and Textiles. Mathematics especially for those considering Architecture, Media Studies.



Assessment

A Level (2 Year Course)

Unit 1:

60% of A Level

Personal practical investigation supported by written material.

Set and marked by the centre and moderated by AQA

Unit 2:

Externally set assignment

40% of A Level

Preparatory period + 15 hours of supervised time



*"All children are artists.
The problem is how to
remain an artist once
he grows up"*

Pablo Picasso

PHOTOGRAPHY

A-LEVEL

Course Content

The main practical focus of the course is about taking photographs and manipulating them in computer software to produce personal and creative outcomes. Traditional and/or new media can be used to undertake documentary work, photojournalism, experimental imagery, photomontage, photographic or digital installation, animation, video and film. All of the content that applies to the AS Level course applies to the A Level. Students are expected to perform at a higher level and show more depth of understanding of creative processes.

As for the AS Level course the scope is very wide and allows for great personal input. Work may be presented as printed images, or electronically - for example as a slideshow installation using PowerPoint (or similar), on a CD-ROM, or via a website. Sound and lighting may also be used.

Entry Requirements

Five A*-C grades at GCSE required. This course uses digital cameras and image editing software to produce creative outcomes from photographic images – it is not a pure photography course. You will learn how to use digital cameras and you will learn how to use a range of image editing software. The course links very well with ICT, Media Studies and other Art courses.

You do not need to have completed a GCSE, in this subject to take it at A Level but you do need to be able to control and direct your own work. The nature of the subject is 100% coursework that is controlled by yourself.

Ownership of a camera is not essential as candidates are allowed to borrow them from the school. However, candidates having their own cameras have the advantage of being able to take photographs at any time and not just when there are cameras available for loan.



Assessment

AS Level

Set Assignment (100% of total AS)

One externally set task undertaken between January and April. It will require preparatory research work. Experimentation and the taking of photographs to be used in a controlled examination (10 hours) to produce the final outcomes to be presented for assessment.

A Level

Unit 1 – Art and Design Portfolio (60%)

A portfolio of work responding to a self-selected brief or scenario completed in terms four and five. This is supported by a 3000 word related written study.

Unit 2 – Set Assignment (40%)

An externally set assignment undertaken in the sixth term requiring preparatory research work, experimentation and the taking of photographs to be used in a controlled examination (15 hours) to produce the final outcomes to be presented for assessment.



HISTORY

A-LEVEL

Course Content

AS Level

Unit 1 - The making of a Superpower: USA, 1865–1975

- From Civil War to World War, 1865–1920
- The Era of Reconstruction and the Gilded Age, 1865–1890
- Populism, Progressivism and Imperialism, 1890–1920

Unit 2 - The Making of Modern Britain, 1951–2007 -

- Building a new Britain, 1951–1979
- The Affluent Society, 1951–1964
- The Sixties, 1964–1970
- The end of Post-War Consensus, 1970–1979

A Level

Unit 1 - The making of a Superpower: USA, 1865–1975

- Crises and the rise to World Power, 1920–1975
- Crisis of identity, 1920–1945
- The Superpower, 1945–1975

Unit 2 - The Making of Modern Britain, 1951–2007

- Modern Britain, 1979–2007
- The impact of Thatcherism, 1979–1987
- Towards a new Consensus, 1987–1997
- The Era of New Labour, 1997–2007

Unit 3 - Historical investigation (Non-Examination Assessment) Through undertaking the Historical investigation students will develop an enhanced understanding of the nature and purpose of history as a discipline and how historians work.





Assessment

AS Level

Unit 1: The making of a Superpower: USA, 1865–1975

Written examination: 1 hour 30 minutes - 50% of qualification

Unit 2: The Making of Modern Britain, 1951–2007

Written examination: 1 hour 30 minutes - 50% of qualification

A Level

Unit 1: The making of a Superpower: USA, 1865–1975

Written examination: 2 hours 30 minutes - 40% of qualification

Unit 2: The Making of Modern Britain, 1951–2007

Written examination: 2 hours 30 minutes - 40% of qualification

Unit 3: Historical investigation

3,000–3,500 words - 40 marks - 20% of A-level - Marked by Teachers - Moderated by AQA

Entry Requirements

5 GCSE's at grades A*-C including a 6 grade in English. It is essential to have a GCSE in History.

Which Subjects Link Well?

English Language and Literature, Politics, Economics, Geography, Business and German

Exam Board: AQA

GEOGRAPHY

A-LEVEL

Course Content

AS Level

Unit 1: Landscapes

- Changing Landscapes - Coastal or Glaciated Landscapes
- Tectonic Hazards
- Challenges in the 21st Century

Unit 2: Changing Places

- Changing Places
- Fieldwork Investigation in Physical and Human Geography

A Level

Unit 1: Changing Landscapes and Changing Places

- Changing Landscapes - Coastal or Glaciated Landscapes
- Changing Places

Unit 2: Global Systems and Global Governance

- Global Systems
- Global Governance

Unit 3: Contemporary Themes in Geography

- Tectonic Hazards
- Contemporary Themes in Geography - Five optional themes:
 - Ecosystems
 - Economic Growth and Challenge: India or China
 - Energy Challenges and Dilemmas
 - Weather and Climate
 - Development in an African Context

Unit 4: Independent Investigation



Assessment

AS Level

Unit 1 - Changing Places

Written examination: 2 hours 15 minutes - 60% of qualification

Unit 2 - Changing Landscapes

Written examination: 1 hour 15 minutes - 40% of qualification

A Level

Unit 1 - Changing Landscapes and Changing Places

Written examination: 2 hours 15 minutes - 30% of qualification

Unit 2 - Global Systems and Global Governance

Written examination: 2 hours 15 minutes - 30% of qualification

Unit 3 - Contemporary Themes in Geography

Written examination: 2 hours - 20% of qualification

Unit 4 - Independent Investigation

Non-exam assessment: 3000 to 4000 words - 20% of qualification

Entry Requirements

GCSE English Grade 5 or above.

Which subjects link well?

Economics and Biology

Exam Board: Eduqas



PHILOSOPHY & ETHICS

A-LEVEL



Course Content

Philosophy deals with difficult questions that other subjects find tricky to answer. It is the task of philosophers to debate these questions and offer possible solutions. For example:

- What is reality?
- What is the meaning of life?
- Why do we exist?
- Where did the universe come from?
- Is there a God?
- Is there life after death?

Ethics is a particular branch of philosophy (often called moral philosophy) and deals with issues of right and wrong. Within ethics we might ask:

- Where does our conscience come from?
- Do we have free will?
- Is abortion or war simply murder?
- Is genetic engineering morally acceptable?
- Should businesses sacrifice profit to benefit consumers?
- How should we treat the environment?

If you enjoy contemplating questions such as these, then Philosophy and Ethics may be the course for you!

Whilst studying Philosophy and Ethics you will have the opportunity to discuss, contemplate, read and write about intellectually stimulating and powerful questions such as those listed above. Throughout this process, your own assumptions will be challenged, perhaps forcing you to rethink or even reject beliefs which you have always accepted as true. The ancient Greek philosopher Socrates claimed, 'the unexamined life is not worth living.' Whilst the truth of this claim might be debatable, what is certain is that Philosophy and Ethics will broaden your mind in ways you could never have imagined!

Assessment

Students are assessed by writing essays on philosophical and ethical theories. All students are fully supported to develop their essay writing skills, and at the end of year 13 students will be thoroughly prepared to undertake the three separate two hour examinations. There is no coursework.

Entry Requirements

Five A*-C grades at GCSE required.

Career Opportunities

Where can this subject lead? You might try asking the former Prime Minister – David Cameron - who studied Philosophy, Politics and Economics (PPE) at Oxford University. Don't fancy leading the country? Perhaps being a famous political activist is preferable like Martin Luther King. Or if this sounds too serious, follow in the footsteps of Matt Groening (creator of the Simpsons) or comic actor Ricky Gervais. In fact the list of former philosophy students is immense including film directors Wes Craven and Woody Allen, actors Jake Gyllenhaal and Harrison Ford, musicians Jim Morrison and Moby, novelists Iris Murdoch and Philip K Dick, and even renowned martial artist Bruce Lee. By studying philosophy you can open doorways to unimaginable places, but this is not just about the rich and famous. The skills learned in philosophy are transferable to many respectable professions including law, teaching, business, finance, retail, marketing, journalism, science and medicine.

Which Subjects Link Well?

Philosophy and Ethics complements a wide variety of other subjects. This is because Philosophy and Ethics deals with the underlying principles of many subjects and so no stone is left unturned. The ability to think critically, creatively and with clarity is as relevant to Philosophy as it is to Art, History, Politics, English, Psychology and Mathematics. Whichever combination you choose Philosophy and Ethics can help you to flourish in your studies.



*"The unexamined
life is not worth
living"*

Socrates

PSYCHOLOGY

A-LEVEL

Course Content

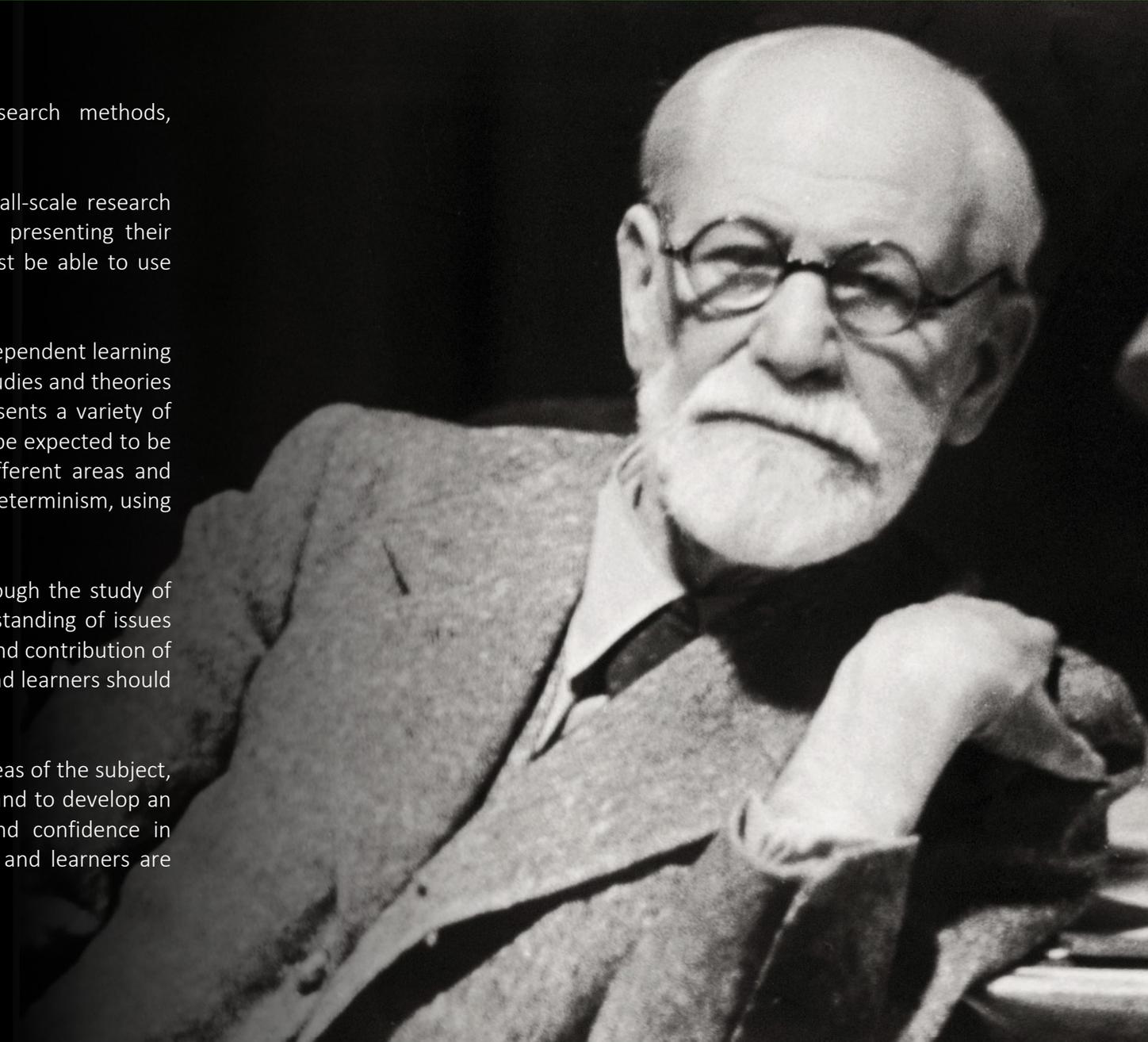
The course consists of three main elements: research methods, psychological themes and research, applied Psychology.

Students will be expected to be able to carry out small-scale research projects, planning activities and collecting data, then presenting their findings in a formal written research report. They must be able to use statistical techniques to analyse the data.

Learners will also develop their critical thinking and independent learning skills through the analysis and evaluation of research studies and theories in Psychology. Students will study research that represents a variety of research methodologies, issues and debates. They will be expected to be able to discuss the inter-relationship between the different areas and justify differing positions in debates, such as free-will/ determinism, using research to illustrate their viewpoint.

Understanding of Psychology is further developed through the study of how psychological research is used to help our understanding of issues such as mental health and criminality. The application and contribution of Psychology to society and the economy is considered and learners should be able to relate applications to novel situations.

This course enables learners to understand different areas of the subject, for example social, biological or cognitive Psychology, and to develop an understanding of scientific methods. Competence and confidence in mathematical and problem solving skills is developed and learners are prepared for careers associated with the subject.



Assessment

Assessment objectives are all tested through written examination at the end of the 2 year course

Entry Requirements

English 6 or above
Mathematics 6 or above
Science C or above

Career Opportunities

Specific: Educational Psychologist, Criminal Psychologist, Organisational Psychologist.

Any career in which understanding other people is an integral part e.g.: Teaching, Police, HR, Healthcare and Childcare.

Which Other Subjects Link Well?

PE, English, Philosophy, Biology, Media, History, Mathematics. Any subject that needs you to analyse and think critically.



"When inspiration does not come to me, I go halfway to meet it..."

Sigmund Freud

POLITICS

A-LEVEL

Course Content

Lively, relevant, controversial... there are many ways to describe A-level Politics. There is no denying that it is one of the most interesting and engaging qualifications, you can choose. Covering news and current affairs from the UK, Europe and the US; helping you to understand they are run. Politics develops research, written communication and debating skills. It also helps grow your confidence. It is ideal if you are considering studying politics, sociology, ethics, advertising or journalism at university and is highly regarded by employers in industries including politics, international organisations, the media, government and the civil service.

There are three broad areas of study in this specification:

- The government and politics of the UK
- The government and politics of the USA
- Political ideas

The Government of the UK

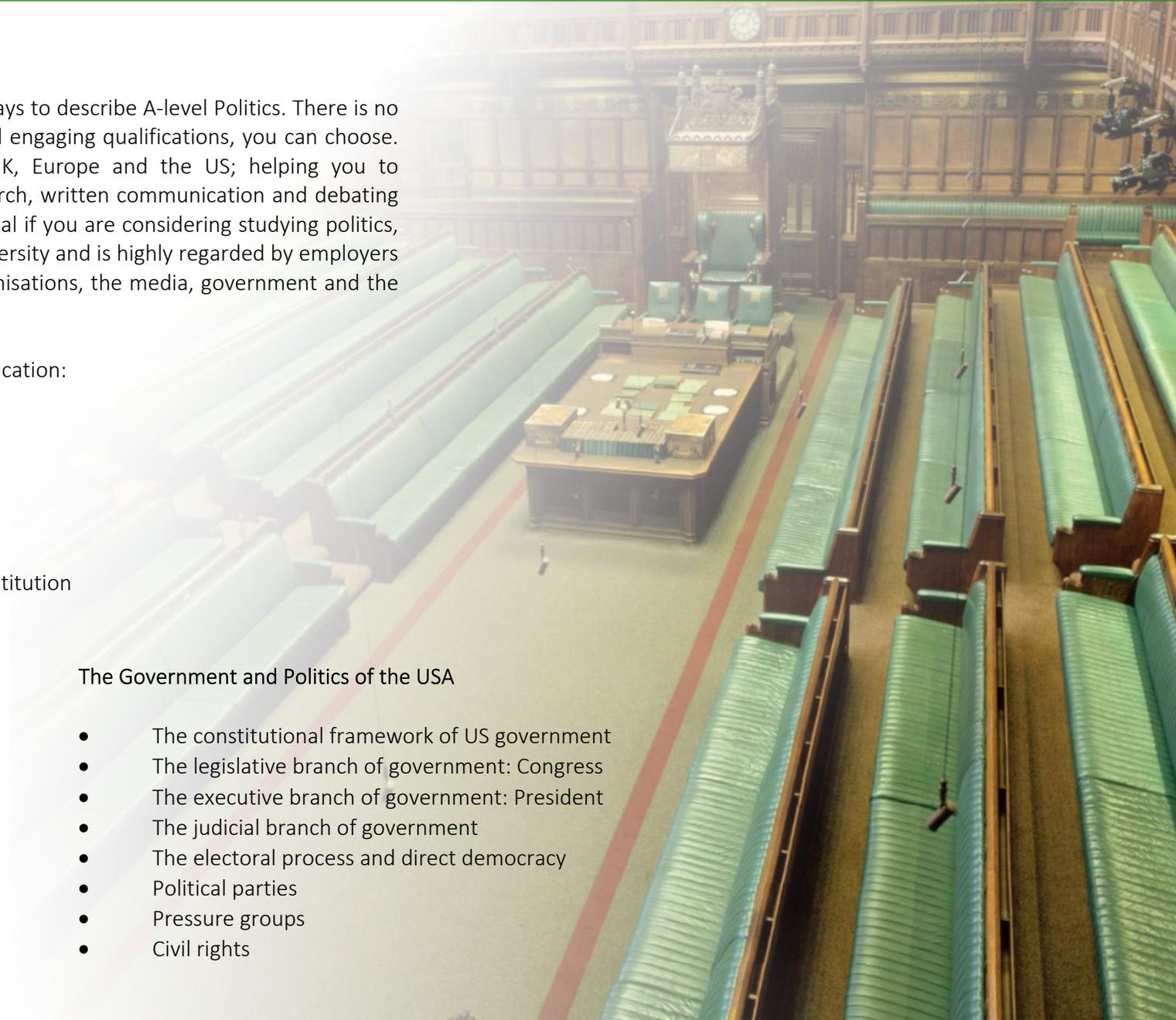
- The nature and sources of the British Constitution
- The structure and role of Parliament
- The Prime Minister and Cabinet
- The judiciary
- Devolution

The Politics of the UK

- Democracy and participation
- Elections and referendums
- Political parties
- Pressure groups
- The European Union

The Government and Politics of the USA

- The constitutional framework of US government
- The legislative branch of government: Congress
- The executive branch of government: President
- The judicial branch of government
- The electoral process and direct democracy
- Political parties
- Pressure groups
- Civil rights



Comparative Politics

Students will study the following three theoretical approaches to the study of comparative politics:

Structural

Rational

Cultural

Assessment

Paper 1 - 2 Hours - The Government and Politics of the UK - 33.3%

Paper 2 - 2 Hours - The Government and Politics of the USA - 33.3%

Paper 3 - 2 Hours - Political Ideas - 33.3%

Entry Requirements

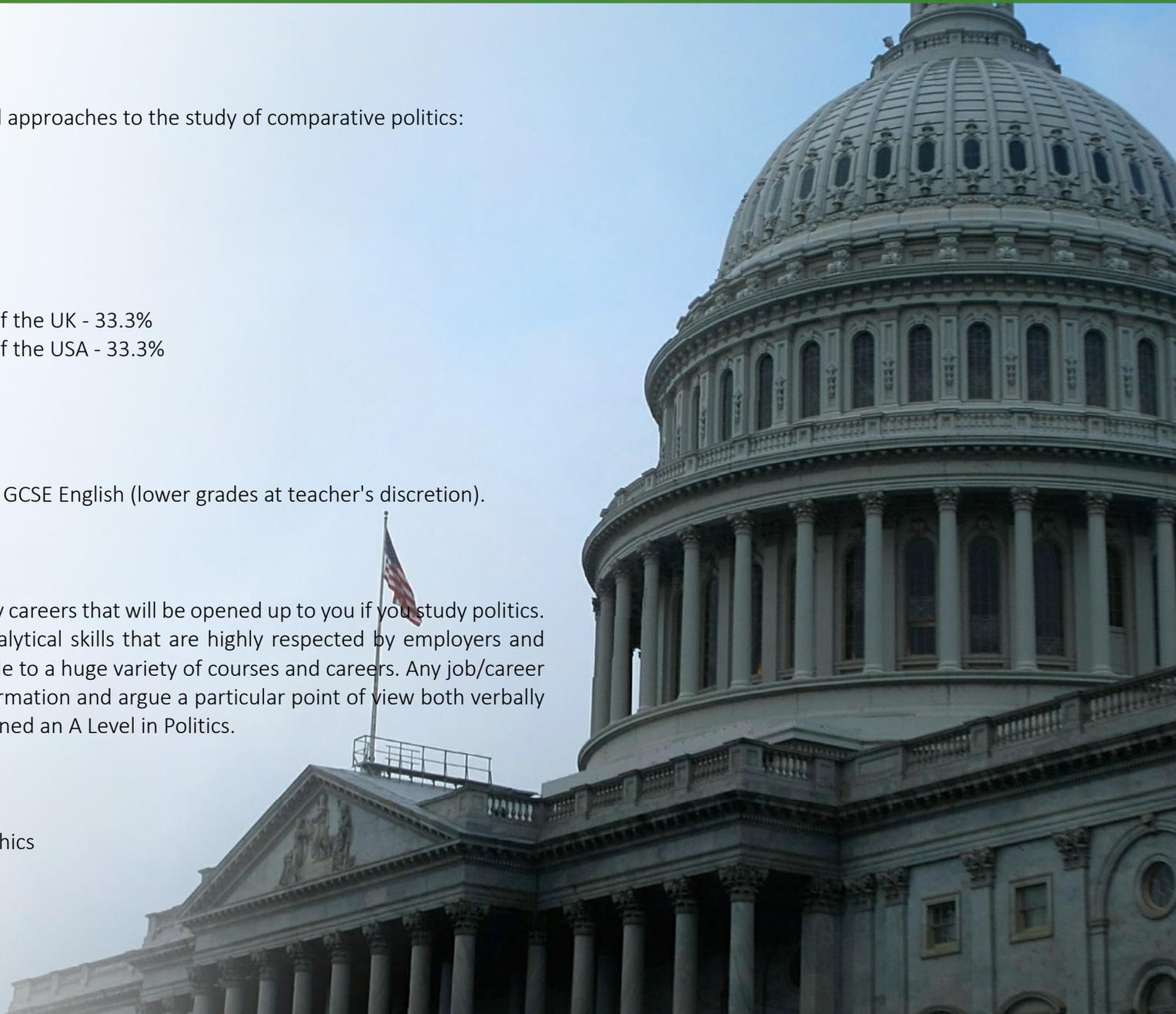
5 GCSE's A*-C with preferably at least a grade 6 in GCSE English (lower grades at teacher's discretion).

Career Opportunities

Law, Journalism and Politics are only three of many careers that will be opened up to you if you study politics. By studying A Level Politics, you will gain the analytical skills that are highly respected by employers and universities and prepare you with skills transferable to a huge variety of courses and careers. Any job/career that requires you to be able to think, analyse information and argue a particular point of view both verbally and in writing will welcome a student who has gained an A Level in Politics.

Which Subjects Link Well?

History, Economics, Geography, Philosophy and Ethics



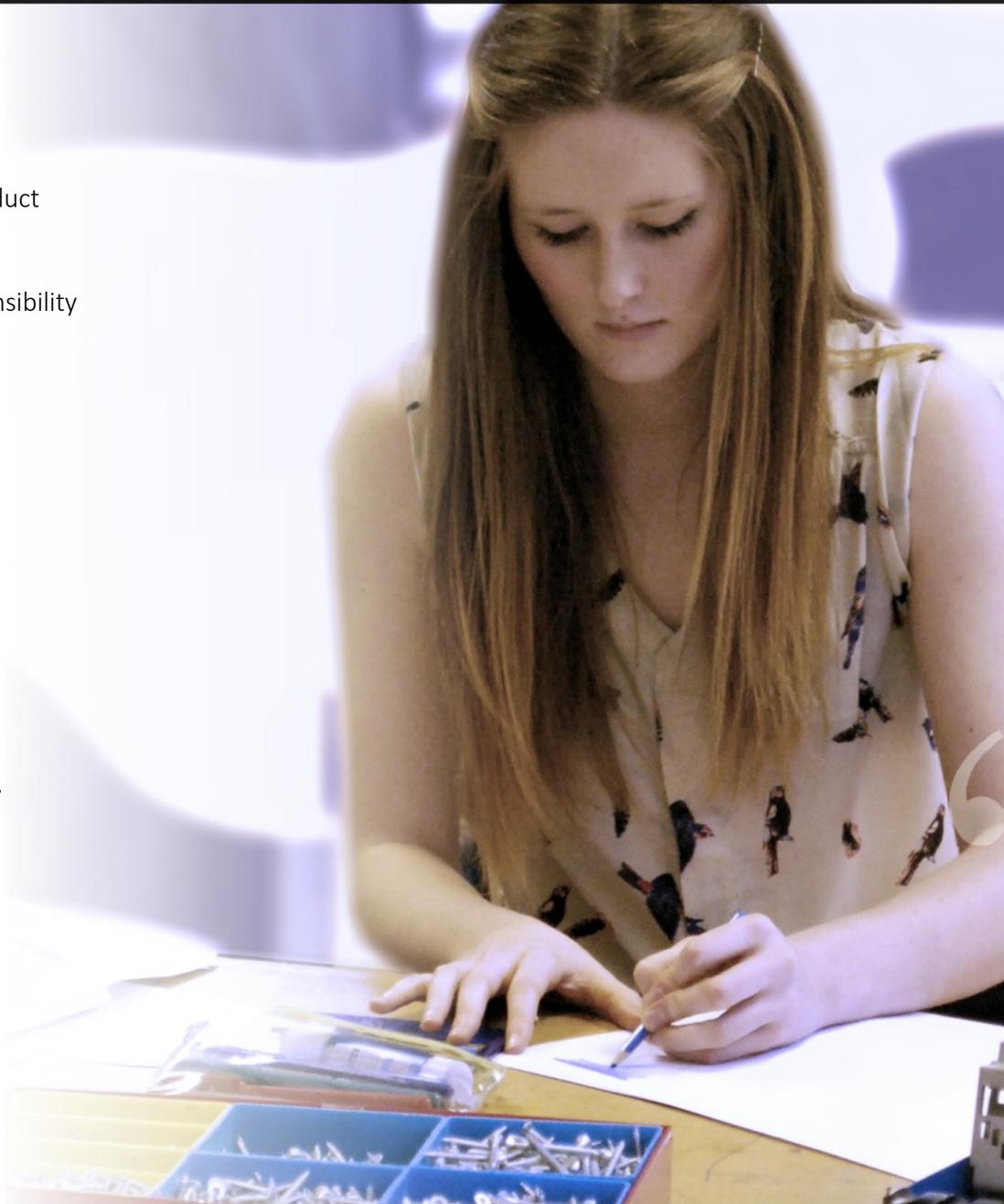
PRODUCT & GRAPHIC DESIGN

A-LEVEL

Course Content

AS and A level design and technology will encourage students to:

- Make use of knowledge and skills in order to work with tasks that are challenging and interesting
- Develop and sustain creativity and innovative practice
- Recognise and overcome challenges and constraints when working towards the production of high-quality products
- Develop a critical understanding of the influences of the processes and products of design and technological activities from a modern and historical perspective
- Draw on a range of skills and knowledge from other subject areas
- Draw on and apply knowledge, understanding and skills of production processes to a range of design and technology activities
- Develop an understanding of contemporary design and technology practices
- Use digital technologies and information handling skills to enhance their design and technological capability
- Recognise the values inherent in design and technological activities and develop critical evaluation skills in technical, aesthetic, ethical, economic, environmental, sustainable, social, cultural and entrepreneurial contexts.



Assessment

AS Level

Written Exam 40% (A2 20%) Designing and Materials
Practical Work 60% (A2 30%) Design Folder and Product

A Level

Written Exam - 40% - Technology and Human Responsibility
Design Folder - 30% - 20+ sheets of A2/A3
Practical Work - 30% - Board set task

Entry Requirements

Five A*-C grades at GCSE required.

Which Subjects Link Well?

Art, Maths, Sciences, Humanities and Languages

Career Opportunities

Careers in Design, Engineering, Manufacturing, Sales,
Marketing, Architecture and Theatre.

*"Design is not just
what it looks like and
feels like. Design is
how it works..."*

Steve Jobs

ENGINEERING

AQA LEVEL 3 FOUNDATION
TECHNICAL ENGINEERING

Engineers are in great demand in the UK, this area in particular has an abundance of opportunities for young people, girls in particular.

The traditional engineering courses at Whitby have proved to be very successful in providing valuable knowledge, skills and experience for students wishing to pursue a career in Engineering.

There are a number of changes in courses being offered from 2016, and the discontinuing of the A level course has resulted in a complete review of what the department is able to offer.

There are three courses currently being considered for post 16, and a final decision on what will be offered will be made following feedback from students and further review of courses as more information becomes available. The courses being considered are.

Engineering Mechatronics

This course may replace the current A level and is a two year course comprising of four assessed units that are.

Materials Technology and Science

- External examination

Mechanical Systems

- Externally set and marked assignment

Engineering Design

- Internally centre assessed

Production and Manufacturing

- Internally centre assessed



ENGINEERING

BTEC



BTEC Level 3 Engineering

This again is a two year course and very suitable for students who have not followed an engineering or Technology option at Key Stage Four. Three units are covered in Year 12 and the final three in Year 13.

Year 12 – Certificate Units

- Unit 1 Health & Safety in the Engineering Workplace
- Unit 6 Electrical & Electronic Principles.
- Unit 16 Engineering Drawing for Technicians

Year 13 – Diploma

In addition to above units the following Units need to be passed to gain the Diploma

- Unit 4 Mathematics for Technicians
- Unit 10 Properties & Applications of Engineering Materials.
- Unit 30 Setting & Proving Secondary Processing machines.

Further information can be provided by Mr Smith in Engineering.

HEALTH & SOCIAL CARE BTEC

Course Content

Students study four units:

- Human Lifespan Development
- Working in Health and Social Care
- Meeting Individual Care and Support Needs
- Supporting Individuals with Additional Needs

Aims of the Course:

- To develop and sustain an interest in Health and Social Care – issues affecting the care sector.
- To gain knowledge and understanding of issues affecting the Health and Social Care sector
- To develop skills that will help you make an effective contribution to the Care sector, including research, evaluation and problem solving.
- To apply knowledge and understanding.
- To prepare for further study and training

Students need to:

- Be focused on their work and be able to keep to target deadlines.
- Be prepared to complete guided research at home.
- Have regular attendance at lessons

Pupils following this course will need to complete two separate weeks work experience in a suitable placement linked to Health & Social Care.



Assessment

- 2 Portfolios
- 2 Written Exams

Entry Requirements

Five A*-C grades at GCSE required.

Which Subjects Link Well?

Art and Design, Business, English, History, Information Technology, Drama

Methods of Study

Students complete a range of tasks including: making Posters, booklets, presentations, case studies, role play and reports. The use of computers to aid work presentation is encouraged.

Additional Information

Students will be encouraged throughout the course to Take responsibility for their own learning.



TRAVEL & TOURISM

BTEC

Course Content

The travel and tourism sector continues to grow at a rapid pace, with the amount of travel undertaken by individuals for both leisure and business purposes continuing to increase. An expansion in the short-break market has led to a growth of regional airports in the UK and across Europe and a rise in the number of new hospitality enterprises including health spas and boutique hotels. This rapid expansion has led to huge demand for a more flexibly skilled workforce.

The BTEC Nationals in Travel and Tourism have been developed in the Travel and Tourism sector to:

- Give education and training for Travel and Tourism employees
- Give opportunities for Travel and Tourism employees to achieve a nationally recognised Level 3 vocationally-specific qualification
- Give full-time learners the opportunity to enter employment in the Travel and Tourism sector or to progress to vocational qualifications
- Give learners the opportunity to develop a range of skills and techniques, personal skills and attributes essential for successful performance in working life.

The **Subsidiary Diploma** course (Equivalent to 1 'A' level) consists of 4 **mandatory** units plus **optional** units that provide for a combined total of 60 Credits

The **Diploma** (equivalent to 2 'A' levels) consists of 4 **mandatory** units plus **optional** units that provide for a combined total of 120 credits

You will receive feedback on your progress throughout the course as you provide evidence towards the grading criteria. Evidence for assessment may be generated through a range of diverse activities such as visits to Alton Towers, Chester Zoo, Manchester Airport and includes role play and oral assessment.



Assessment

In BTEC Nationals all units are internally assessed. There are NO exams! Each unit within the qualification has specified assessment and grading criteria which are to be used for grading purposes.

A summative unit grade can be awarded at:

- Pass
- Merit
- Distinction
- Distinction*

- To achieve a 'Pass' a learner must have satisfied. All the Pass assessment criteria
- To achieve a 'Merit' a learner must additionally have satisfied all the Merit grading criteria.
- To achieve a 'Distinction' a learner must additionally have satisfied all the Distinction criteria.
- Learners who complete the unit but do not meet all the 'Pass' criteria are graded 'Unclassified'.



ENGLISH

LANGUAGE & LITERATURE

Course Content

This stimulating A-level enables you to develop your understanding of English Language and Literature as a combined discipline. It will give you the chance to gain independent study skills, engage with a variety of texts and write creatively.

Why Study this Course?

English is an exciting and important qualification which will enable you to develop your skills and abilities, providing you with progression routes to higher education, employment or further training. A-level English Language and Literature improves your ability to apply and integrate linguistic and literary approaches. You will develop techniques of analysis, evaluation and production of texts.

What Will I Study?

You will explore:

- How language choices shape meaning in texts
- Ways in which texts are interpreted by different readers or listeners
- Ways in which texts relate to each other and to the contexts in which they are produced and received
- How to apply linguistic and literary methodologies and concepts to inform your responses to and interpretations of texts



Entry Requirements

You need a combined grade of 11 - at least a 5 and a 6 in Language and Literature GCSEs (any combination).

How Will I Be Assessed?

Assessment is 80% by exam and 20% by coursework.

Careers

This course could be a valuable foundation for careers in areas such as teaching, publishing, human resources, journalism, public services and business development.



ENGLISH LANGUAGE

A-LEVEL

Course Content

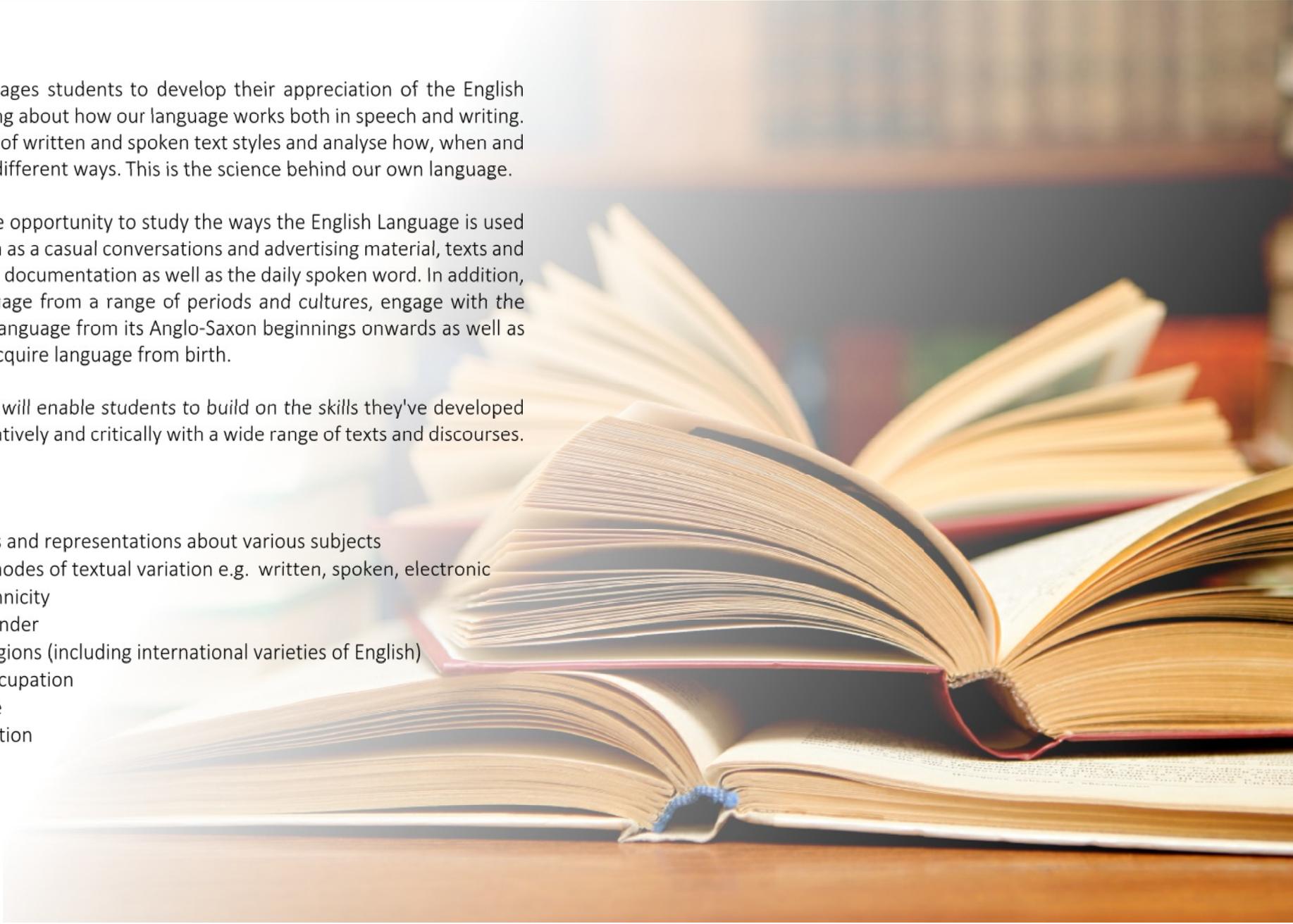
The specification encourages students to develop their appreciation of the English Language through learning about how our language works both in speech and writing. Students explore a range of written and spoken text styles and analyse how, when and why we use language in different ways. This is the science behind our own language.

Students will also have the opportunity to study the ways the English Language is used in a variety of forms: such as casual conversations and advertising material, texts and tweets, legal and medical documentation as well as the daily spoken word. In addition, students will study language from a range of periods and cultures, engage with the evolution of the English language from its Anglo-Saxon beginnings onwards as well as exploring how children acquire language from birth.

A-level English Language will enable students to build on the skills they've developed at GCSE, by engaging creatively and critically with a wide range of texts and discourses.

Topics Studied:

- Textual variations and representations about various subjects
- Introduction to modes of textual variation e.g. written, spoken, electronic
- Language and Ethnicity
- Language and Gender
- Language and Regions (including international varieties of English)
- Language and Occupation
- Language Change
- Language Acquisition



Assessment

The exam is worth 80% and coursework is worth 20%.

Students will produce one piece of original writing based on one of the following three areas:

- the power of persuasion
- the power of storytelling
- the power of information

Students produce a language investigation (2,000 words excluding data).

Students may choose to pursue an area of individual interest.

Entry Requirements

English 5 or above

Which Subjects Link Well?

English Literature, Psychology

Exam Board: AQA



ENGLISH LITERATURE

A-LEVEL

Course Content

This specification is based on a conviction that the study of literature should encourage enjoyment of literacy studies based on an informal personal response to a range of texts. Students will be expected to read widely and independently to support their studies.

If you have an interest in reading and literature, and want to improve your ability to analyse texts and think critically, our A Level in English Literature is a great choice. You'll learn about how and why authors use language to convey different meanings, develop your evaluative skills and improve your ability to compare different texts.

Using pre-twentieth century literature as well as some more modern works, the course examines the cultural and social contexts in which different books were written and encourages the effective use of textual evidence to form cohesive and convincing answers to essay questions.



Assessment

Paper 1 – Love through the ages

Shakespeare – *Othello*

Unseen poetry

Comparing *Wuthering Heights* and post 1900s poetry anthology

40%

Paper 2 – Texts in shared contexts

Prose study of *The Handmaid's Tale*

Comparative study of *Feminine Gospels* and *A Streetcar Named Desire*

Unseen prose study

40%

Non exam-assessment: Texts across time

A comparative study of two texts from different periods. 2000 words.

20%

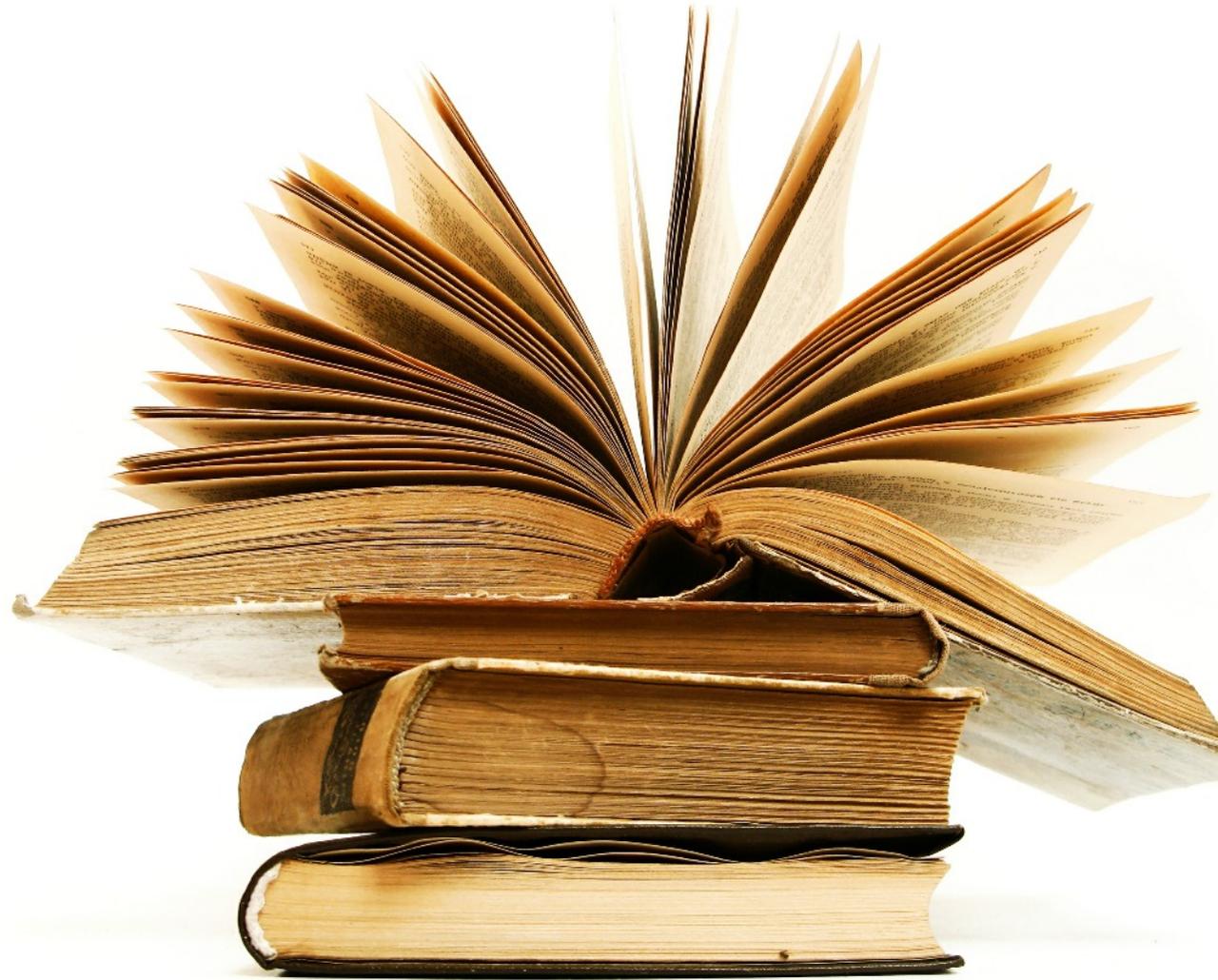
Entry Requirements

English 6 or above

Which Subjects Link Well?

English Language and History

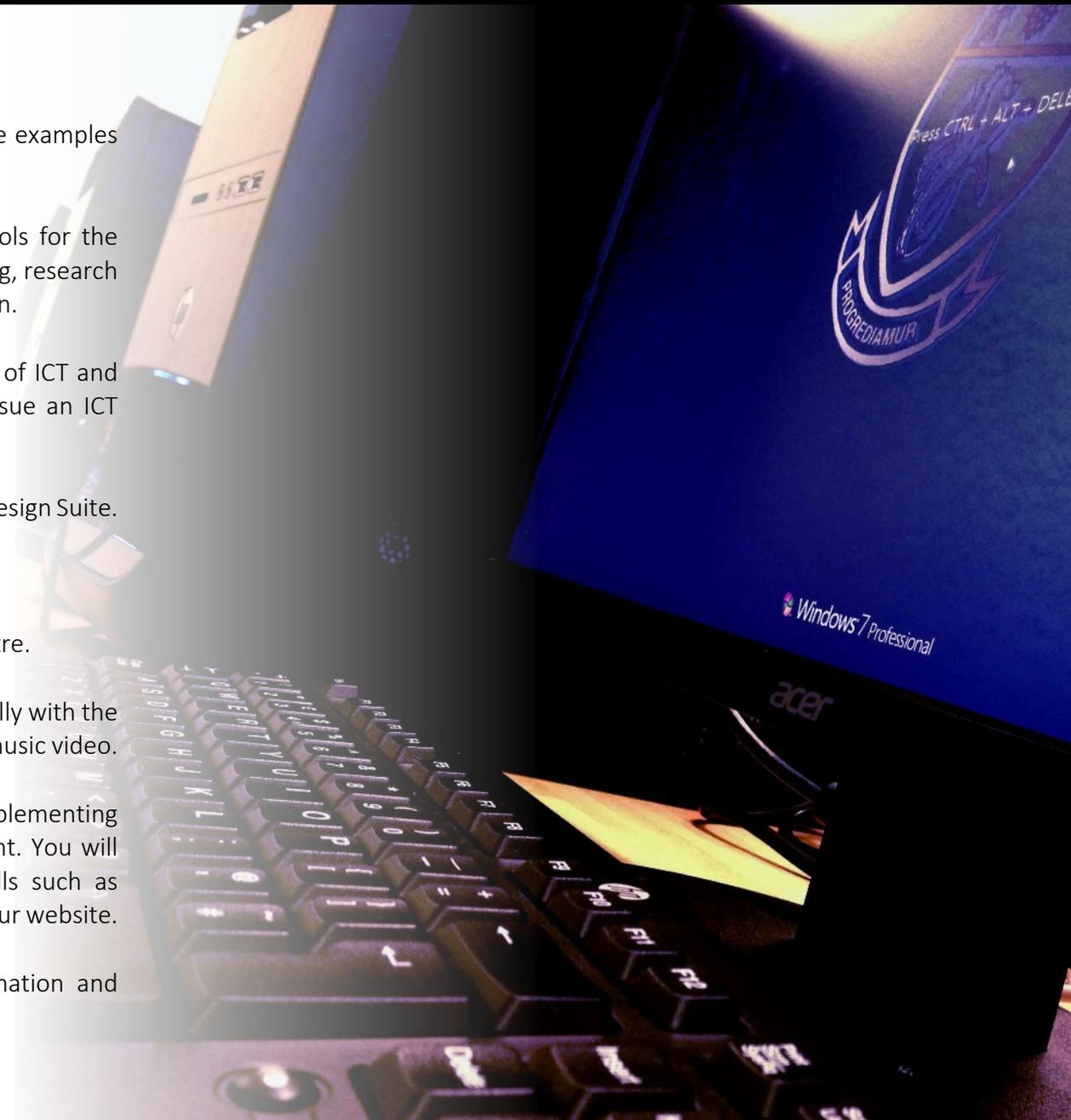
Exam Board: AQA



Course Content

You will learn a wide range of skills whilst studying this course, some examples include:

- The opportunity to acquire the essential knowledge and tools for the world of work by developing transferable skills such as planning, research and analysis, working with others and effective communication.
- The two mandatory units examine the more theoretical side of ICT and Business, you will acquire some of the skills needed to pursue an ICT related role in Business.
- Advanced skills in graphic design using Adobe Suite and Serif Design Suite.
- Advanced video editing in programs like Serif MoviePlus
- Design a multimedia terminal for use in a museum or city centre.
- Learn the skills needed to produce and edit videos professionally with the opportunity to record and edit your own mini feature film or music video.
- Acquire high level web design skills through designing and implementing your own website from scratch including all graphical content. You will also have the opportunity to examine more advanced skills such as cascading style sheets and inserting script such as JAVA into your website.
- Animation – you will examine the theoretical side of animation and produce your own animation in Serif Draw Plus.



Entry Requirements

Grade C or above in ICT at GCSE level

Which other subjects link well?

Media & Photography

Assessment

This qualification is internally assessed and externally moderated by OCR Visiting Moderators.

This qualification is graded: Pass, Merit, Distinction, Distinction*.

You will need to complete 6 units 2 mandatory and 4 optional units

Examination Board

OCR

Career Opportunities

- Course provides a suitable foundation for the study of ICT or a related area through a range of higher education courses e.g. Information Technology, Information Systems, Creative Media
- Learners wishing to gain a Level 3 qualification to support further study in Further Education (FE) and Higher Education (HE) in ICT.



MEDIA STUDIES

Course Content

Whilst studying the Level 3 Media Studies course you will learn a large array of authoring and editing skills in a variety of multimedia editing software packages. Some of the more common packages we use include Adobe Photoshop, The Serif Suite and various animation packages.

Some of the skills include graphic design, video editing, sound authoring and animation with clay and light boxes. The course aims to equip students with the skills needed to progress further at degree or foundation course level. It will also equip students with the skills needed to obtain an apprenticeship in this field. Two of our most recent pupils have gone onto secure apprenticeships with local firms working in a team producing promotional material and managing aspects such as their web and social media platforms.

The initial mandatory unit requires students to analyse media products including well known media institutions and the different media types available.

Students will research and plan a professional magazine and learn the skills needed to author a magazine to the standard and quality one would expect from a magazine bought from a general store. At a recent open evening parent's mistook the magazines our students had made for real world examples!

You will research the history of comic books and plan and develop a comic book featuring your own heroes and characters, you will expand further on your graphic design skills in the process.

You will research, plan and produce an animation and create your own characters in clay and then animate a scene with the addition of green screen/composite effects.

These are just some of the modules and content involved in the full two year course.

Assessment

This qualification is internally assessed and externally moderated by OCR Visiting Moderators. Graded - Pass, Merit, Distinction, Distinction*.

You will need to complete 6 units 1 mandatory and 5 optional units

Entry Requirements

Grade C or above in English and ideally you studied ICT at GCSE level.

Which Subjects Link Well?

ICT and Photography

Assessment

This qualification is internally assessed and externally moderated by OCR Visiting Moderators. Graded - Pass, Merit, Distinction, Distinction*.

You will need to complete 6 units 1 mandatory and 5 optional units

Entry Requirements

Grade C or above in English and ideally you studied ICT at GCSE level.

Which Subjects Link Well?

ICT and Photography

THE STATE
OF MUSIC
TODAY by
FLORENCE
+ THE MACHIN
JACK WHITE
D SOUNDSYSTEM
RIHANNA
KASABIAN
AURA MARLING
FOAL
MLA
BIFFY CLYRO
ACNE



MATHEMATICS

A-LEVEL

Course Content

The Course covers GCSE content to a higher ability and new topics including:

- Algebra and Functions
- Coordinate Geometry in the xy plane
- Proof
- Sequences and Series
- Trigonometry
- Exponential's and Logarithms
- Calculus
- Vectors
- Numerical Methods
- Mechanics
- Statistics

Entry Requirements

A Grade 7 in GCSE Maths and a Grade 5 in English

Career Opportunities

Pupils in the last few years have gone on to study the following subjects at University: Mathematics, Mathematical Sciences, Accountancy and Finance, Medicine, Business Information Technology, Engineering, Architecture, Law, Medical Engineering and Civil Engineering.

Which other subjects link well?

Biology, Psychology, Physics, Business and Geography



Assessment (Draft Specifications)

AS Level – One Year Course

2 Exams at the end of the year

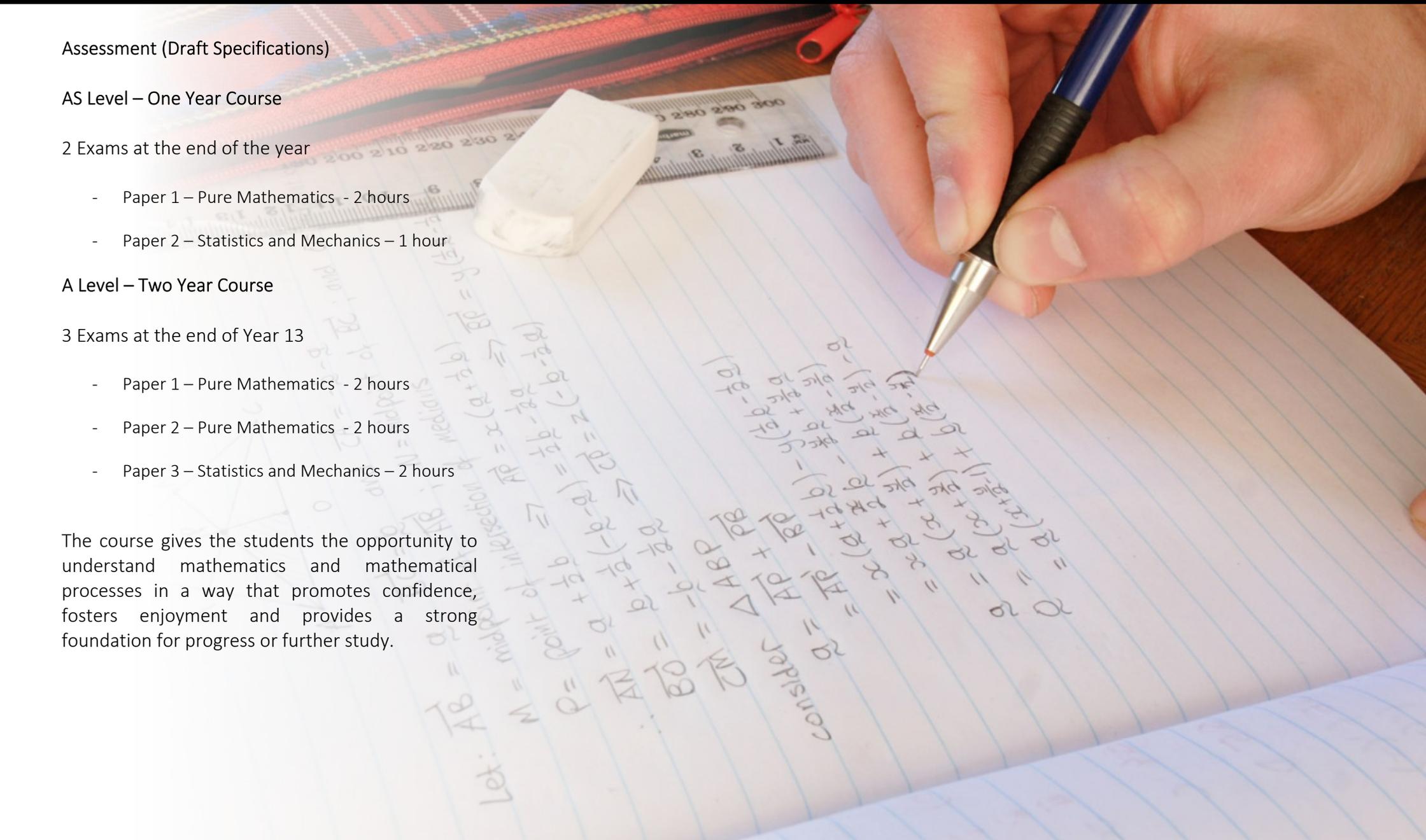
- Paper 1 – Pure Mathematics - 2 hours
- Paper 2 – Statistics and Mechanics – 1 hour

A Level – Two Year Course

3 Exams at the end of Year 13

- Paper 1 – Pure Mathematics - 2 hours
- Paper 2 – Pure Mathematics - 2 hours
- Paper 3 – Statistics and Mechanics – 2 hours

The course gives the students the opportunity to understand mathematics and mathematical processes in a way that promotes confidence, fosters enjoyment and provides a strong foundation for progress or further study.



BUSINESS

APPLIED GENERAL /
EXTENDED CERTIFICATE

Course Content

This is an applied course in business so it involves learning by referring to the context of actual businesses. You will need to learn to be good at assembling portfolio evidence of your learning and enjoy being investigative. Good written and ICT skills will be an important asset, but equally you must have an interest in the world of business and commerce.

Equally, since there is an externally examined component to this course you must also be good at revising for exams and be prepared to work hard.

Units covered on this course are as follows, and you would be well advised to carry out some research into these issues before making your choice to check that you have at least some idea about what might be involved.

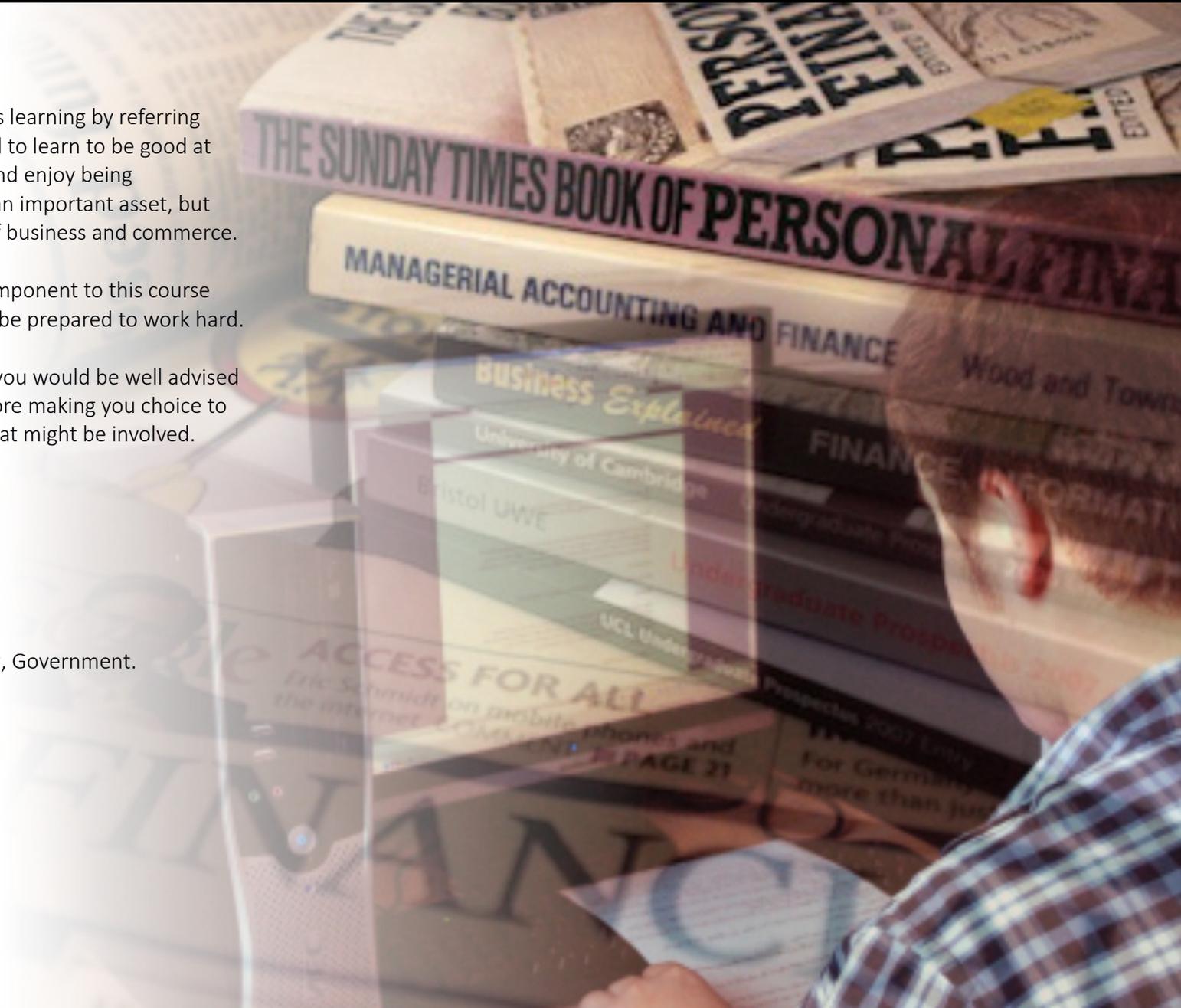
Entry Requirements

Five A*-C grades at GCSE required.

Career Opportunities

In Business, Accounting, Finance, Insurance, Law, Government.

Exam Board: AQA



In Year 12 the course comprises three units;

Unit 1: Financial Planning and Analysis

This unit is assessed via an external exam lasting 1 and a half hours.

Unit 2: Business Dynamics

This unit is internally assessed through the assembly of a portfolio of evidence.

Unit 3: Entrepreneurial Opportunities

This unit is assessed through an AQA exam board set assignment (not an exam as such), the preparation for which takes place in class.

The completion of three units in Year 12 would allow the student to earn the AQA Applied General Certificate in Business.

Three more units are followed in Year 13 to allow students to claim the Applied General Extended Certificate in Business (full A-Level).

Unit 4: Managing and Leading People

This unit is assessed via an external exam lasting 1 and a half hours.

Unit 5: Developing a Business Proposal

This unit is internally assessed through the assembly of a portfolio of evidence.

And one optional unit, most likely relating to e-business (Unit 6), which would be internally centre assessed.

The link below provides further details relating to subject and unit content for those who wish to consider this exciting option.

<http://www.aqa.org.uk/subjects/business-subjects/applied-general/business/statement-of-purpose-l3-ext-cert>



ECONOMICS

A-LEVEL

Course Content

The Operation of Markets and Market Failure

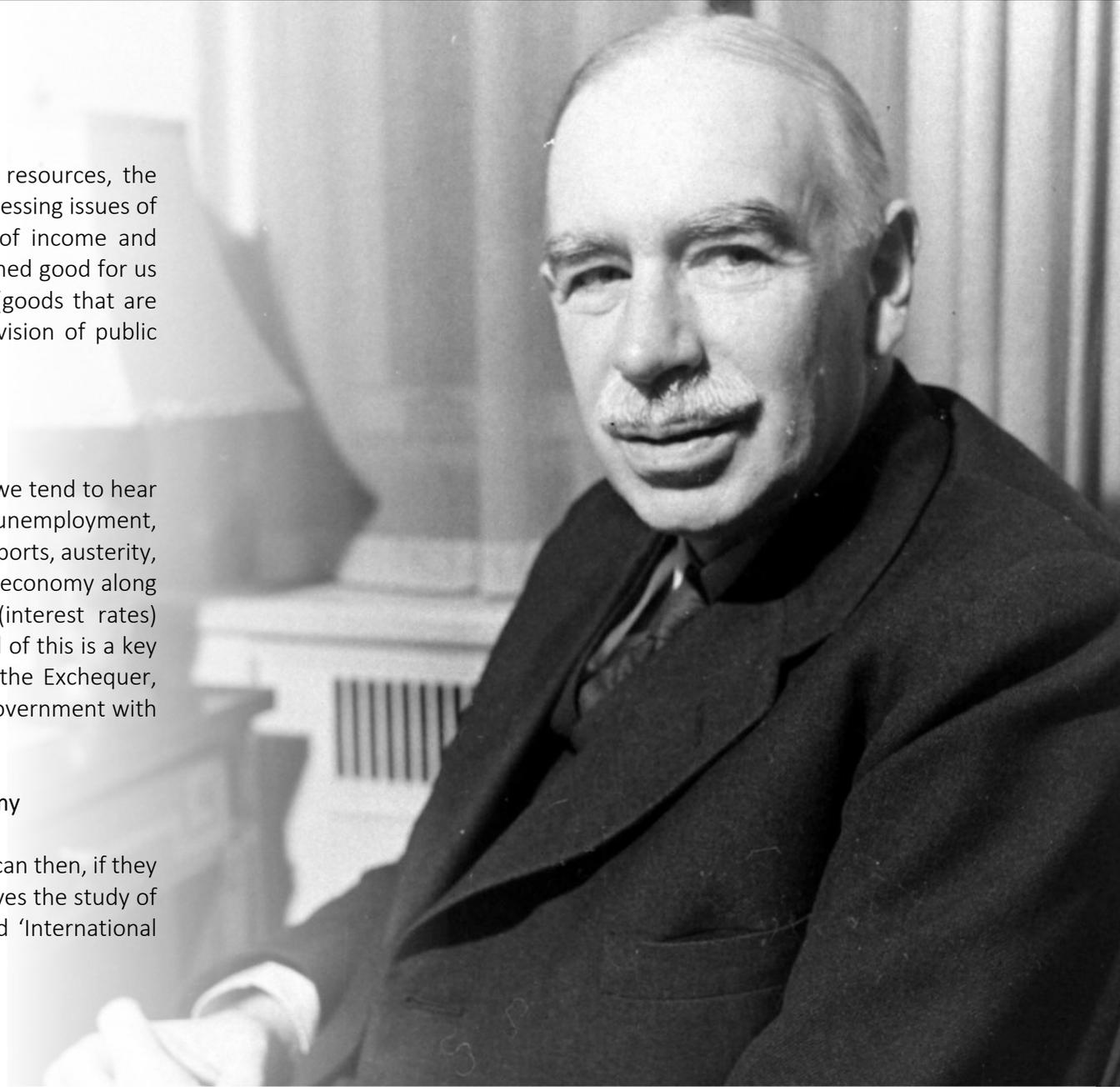
The Market System considers issues like needs, wants, scarce resources, the capitalist system, supply, demand, prices and incomes, later addressing issues of market failure like monopoly, inequalities in the distribution of income and wealth, under consumption of merit goods (things that are deemed good for us and society as a whole), over-consumption of de-merit goods (goods that are considered bad for us and society as a whole), the under provision of public goods, wasteful competition and externalities.

The National Economy in a Global Context

The National Economy focuses much more on those issues that we tend to hear much more about on the national news. Issues relating to unemployment, inflation, economic growth, the balance of payments, imports, exports, austerity, wages, employment and the government's attempt to steer our economy along a path to prosperity using the fiscal (taxes) and monetary (interest rates) instruments at its disposal. The role of the Bank of England in all of this is a key area of learning, and the reasons why the then Chancellor of the Exchequer, Gordon Brown, made the Bank of England independent of the government with regard to interest rate policy.

Markets and Market Failure & National and 'International Economy

Students who are successful in this subject at the end of Year 12 can then, if they so wish, continue onto the A2 section of the course, which involves the study of two further units Markets and Market Failure and National and 'International Economy.'



Entry Requirements

5 A* to C Grades - 6 in English and a 5 in Maths. A C in English may be considered at the discretion of the department.

An interest in current affairs and Economics in particular is important.

Career Opportunities

Teaching, Health Service, Local Government, National Government, Financial Institutions (Accounting, Banking, Insurance), Travel, Tourism, Leisure.

Exam Board: AQA



FRENCH

A-LEVEL

Course Content

Candidates will be required to study the following topics.

Social issues and trends, including travel, exploration, diversity and difference. Candidates will investigate the advantages of travelling and working abroad, the impact of travel on society and local culture and festivals in France and French-speaking countries. Candidates will study migration and integration, discrimination, cultural identity and marginalisation, along with cultural enrichment and celebrating difference.

Students will also study **political, intellectual and artistic culture**, including contemporary youth culture, France 1940-1950. The occupation and post-war years. Candidates will study media and digital culture, music, entertainment and the arts. Students will focus on the period in history from June 1940 – May 1945. They will research life in occupied France, rebuilding and restructuring and repercussions for modern day France.

Assessment

Unit 1 - is speaking. Candidates will present an independent research project and there is a follow up discussion about this. There is also a discussion based on a stimulus card.

Unit 2 - is Listening, Reading and Translation.

Unit 3 - is a written assessment based on a French book and a film.





Entry Requirements

Grade B or above at GCSE Level

Exam Board: WJEC

Career Opportunities

These are numerous. Obvious examples are banking, marketing, advertising and tourist industries. Secretaries, sales staff, telephonists and airline staff all need languages. A foreign language is very desirable for scientists, Engineers and accountants. You will have a distinct advantage in the job market if you can offer a foreign language.

GERMAN

A-LEVEL

Course Content

Candidates will be required to study the following topics.

Social issues and trends, including travel, exploration, diversity and difference. Candidates will investigate the advantages of travelling and working abroad, the impact of travel on society and local culture and festivals in France and French-speaking countries. Candidates will study migration and integration, discrimination, cultural identity and marginalisation, along with cultural enrichment and celebrating difference.

Students will also study **political, intellectual and artistic culture**, including contemporary youth culture and the making of modern Germany. Candidates will study media and digital culture, music, entertainment and the arts. Students will focus on the period in history from 1989 onwards. They will research the initial and subsequent process of reunification, social cohesion in present-day Germany, artistic and political movements and the economic impact of a united Germany.

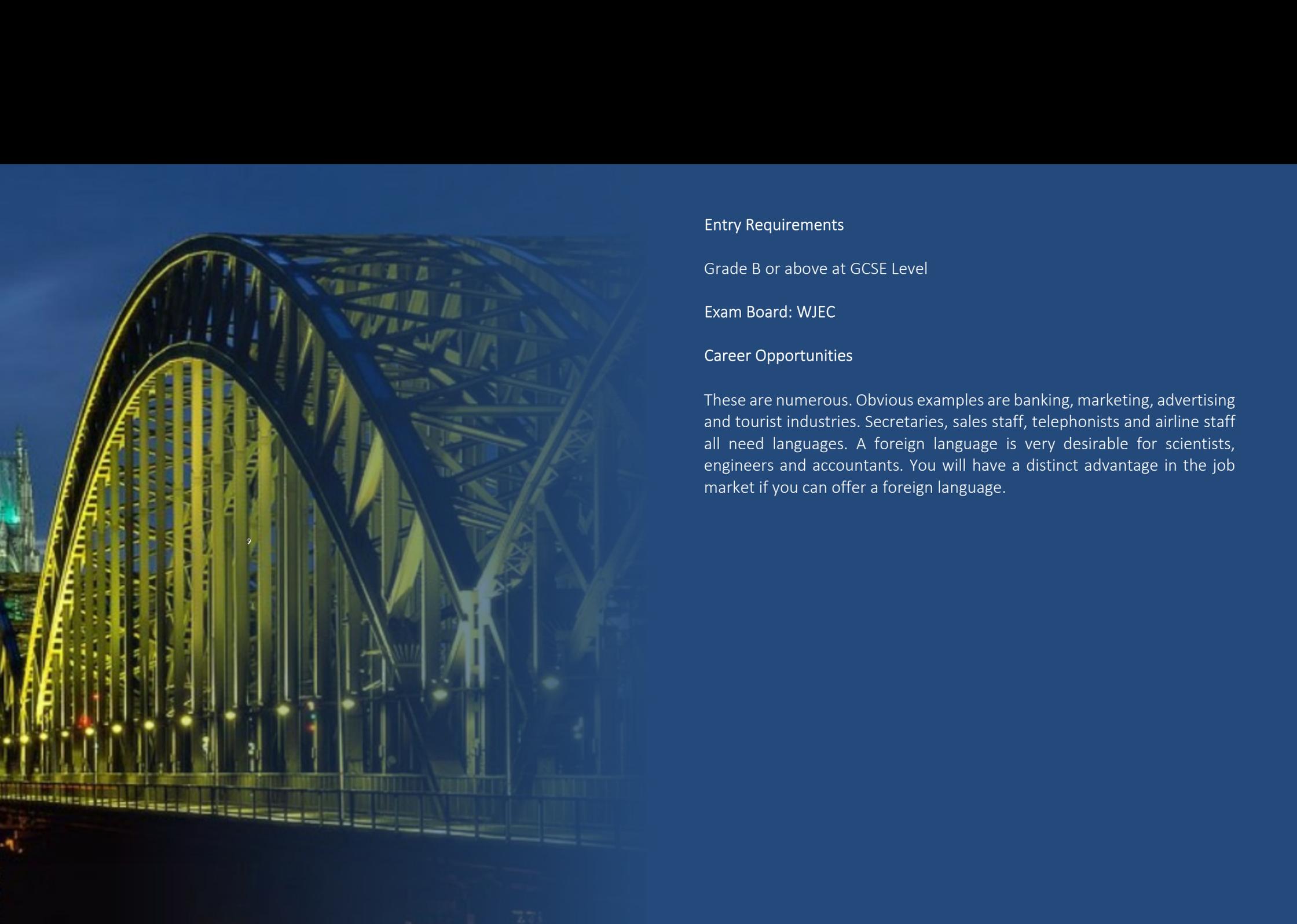
Assessment

Unit 1 - is a speaking exam. Candidates will present an independent research project and there is a follow up discussion about this. There is also a discussion based on a stimulus card.

Unit 2 - is Listening, Reading and Translation.

Unit 3 - is a written assessment based on a German book or film.





Entry Requirements

Grade B or above at GCSE Level

Exam Board: WJEC

Career Opportunities

These are numerous. Obvious examples are banking, marketing, advertising and tourist industries. Secretaries, sales staff, telephonists and airline staff all need languages. A foreign language is very desirable for scientists, engineers and accountants. You will have a distinct advantage in the job market if you can offer a foreign language.

APPLIED SCIENCE

BTEC

Course Content and Assessment

Students will be studying the Extended Certificate pathway, which requires 360 credits.

Year 12

Unit 1 - Principles and Applications of Science 1 (90 Credits)

- Written examination set and marked by Pearson.
- 1.5 hours.
- 90 marks.

Unit 2 - Practical Scientific Procedures and Techniques (90 Credits)

- Assignment based coursework.

Year 13

Unit 3 - Science Investigation Skills (120 Credits)

- A task set and marked by Pearson and completed under supervised conditions.
- The supervised assessment is arranged over two sessions in a three-week period timetabled by Pearson.
- The supervised assessment sessions are 3 hours for Part A and 1.5 hours for Part B.
- Practical investigation and written submission.
- 60 marks.

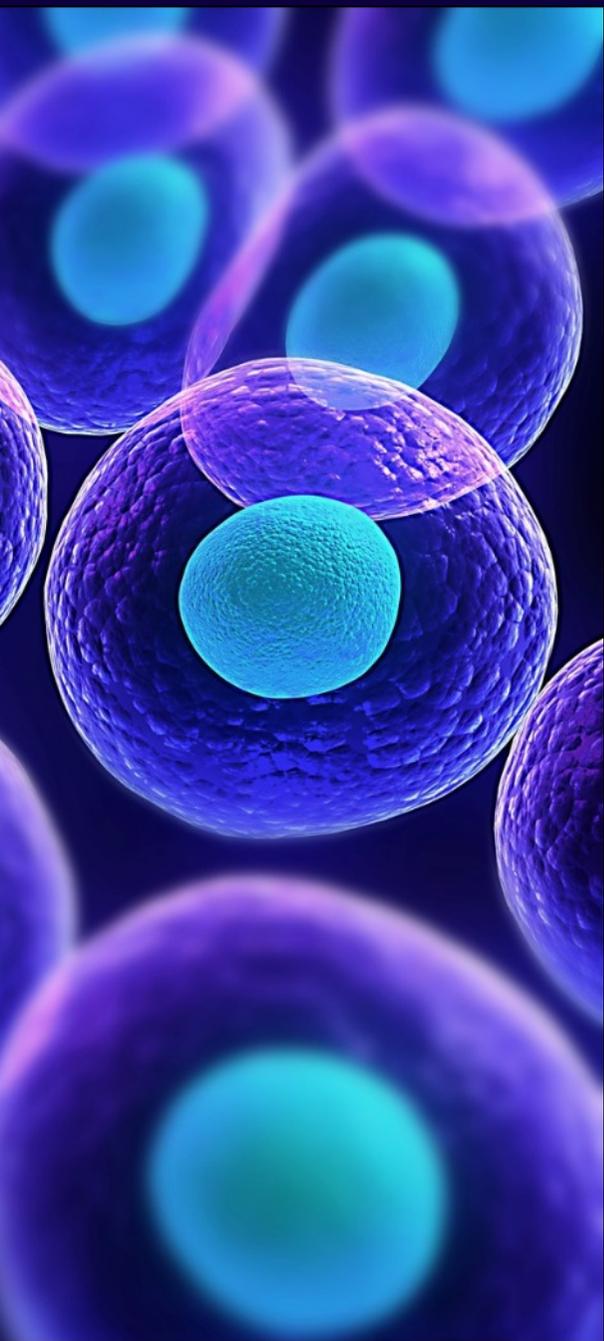
Unit 11 - Genetics and Genetic engineering (60 Credits)

- Assignment based coursework.

OR

Unit 16 - Astronomy and Space Science (coursework) (60 Credits)

- Assignment based coursework.



Entry Requirements

Students should have a minimum of 5 GCSE's at grade 5 or above including Mathematics, English and Additional Science.

Which Other Subjects Link Well?

BTEC Applied Science links in well with other Science subjects and other BTEC Level 3 courses. This is a useful course for students who have an interest in Science, are organised, hardworking, and good at producing coursework.

Examination Board

Edexcel (Pearson)

Career Opportunities

Studying BTEC Applied Science provides students with the required knowledge to gain a place at University in many Science based degrees such as Forensic Science. There is also a great opportunity to gain employment or Apprenticeships in the Chemical or Science industry with this qualification.

Additional Information

Students who study this should be good independent learners, have good attendance and be able to manage their time effectively.



Entry Requirements

The qualification builds on the knowledge, understanding and practical skills that you gained in GCSE Science, GCSE Additional Science or GCSE Biology.

It is expected that you should have obtained at least a grade 6 in GCSE Biology. You should also have at least a 6 grade in GCSE Mathematics, as numerical and mathematical skills are important in Biology. A grade 5 in English is also required. You will also need to be able to communicate effectively, and be able to plan and carry out research and think critically about problems.

Career Opportunities

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

An undergraduate degree in Life Sciences, Medicine, Environmental Science, Forensic Science and related courses.

Employment, for example in the areas of Biological Testing, Biotechnology, Independent Research, the Food Industry, Agriculture, Conservation, Environmental Management, Communication and Education.

Exam Board: AQA

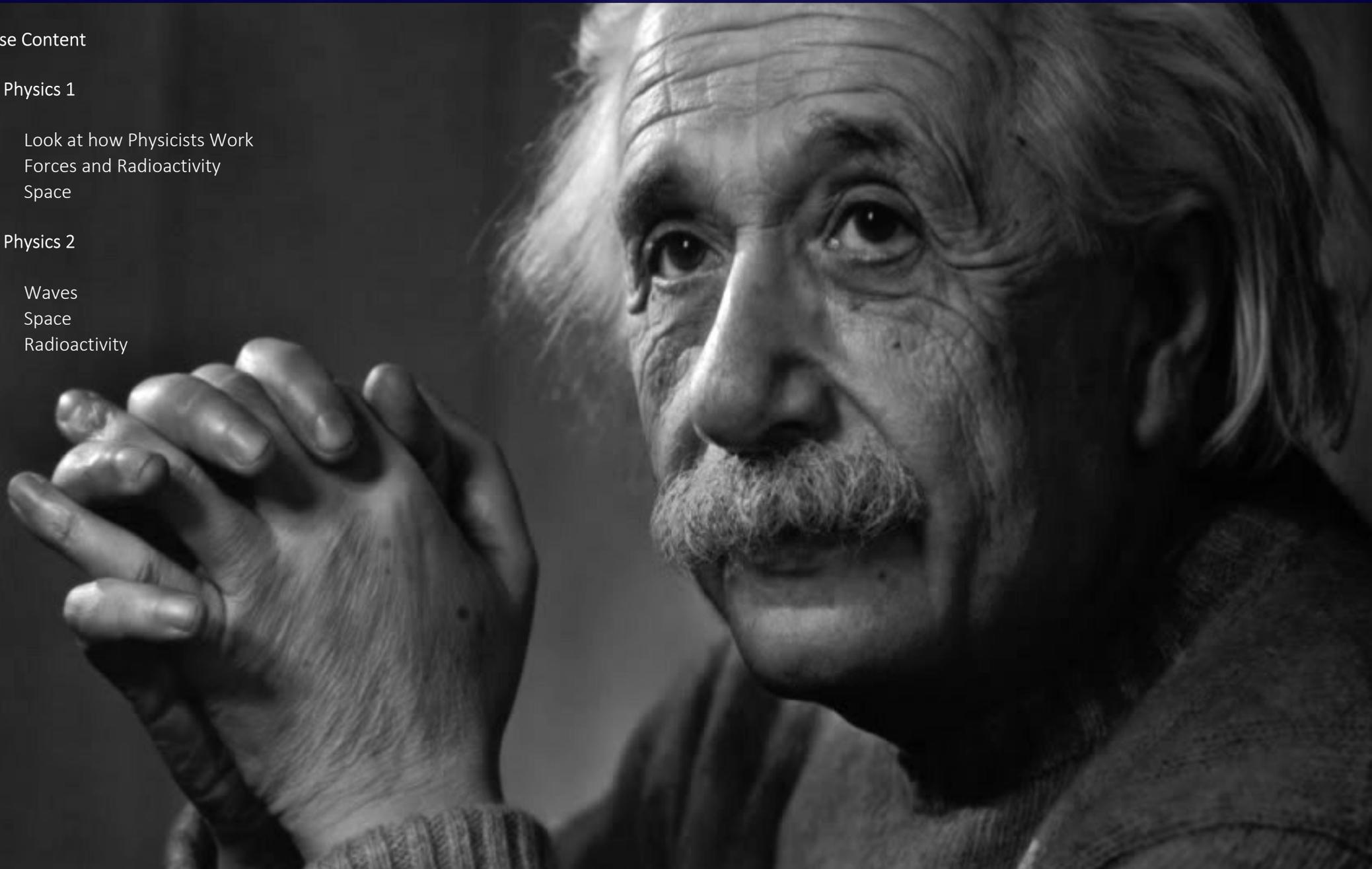
Course Content

Core Physics 1

- Look at how Physicists Work
- Forces and Radioactivity
- Space

Core Physics 2

- Waves
- Space
- Radioactivity



CHEMISTRY

A-LEVEL

Course Content

This is a two year course building on the Chemistry you will have studied at GCSE. You will study the Chemistry that is in the media and part of your life.

Year 1

Atoms, Bonds and Groups: Atoms and Reactions, Electrons, Bonding and Structure. The Periodic Table Chains, Energy and Resources: Basic concepts and Hydrocarbons, Alcohols, Halogen and Analysis Energy

Year 2

Rings, Polymers and Analysis: Rings, Acids and Amines. Polymers and Synthesis, Analysis Equilibrate, Energetic's and Elements: Rates, Equilibrium and pH. Energy, Transition Elements

Additional Information

Whilst many job opportunities specifically using Chemistry require higher qualifications, most laboratory-based jobs benefit from a chemistry qualification, for instance Dental Assistant or Veterinary Assistant. Many employers view success at GCE Chemistry as a clear indication of sound academic ability.

Many university courses have a significant proportion of Chemistry content and a GCE in Chemistry is excellent preparation for such further study. UK HE institutions currently offer over 200 courses where chemistry is the primary subject such as medicine, veterinary science, dentistry, forensic science.

Other examples include:

- Chemistry with Medicinal Chemistry
- Chemistry with Forensic Science and Toxicology
- Chemistry with Pharmacology
- Chemistry and Sports Science
- Chemistry and Politics
- Chemistry with Computer Science



Assessment

Total of 6 hours of examinations

- Two 2 hours and 15 minutes Exam
- One 1 hour and 30 minutes Exam

Which will be taken at the end of the course

Entry Requirements

It is expected that you should have at least the equivalent of GCSE Grade B in Chemistry or Additional Science, and a GCSE Grade 6 in Mathematics and a GCSE Grade 5 in English. Vocational course grades not considered.

Which Subjects Link Well?

Most other subjects but especially Mathematics and other Science subjects.

Exam Board: OCR



PHYSICAL EDUCATION

Course Content and Assessment

AS Level

70% theory (2 hour written exam)
30% practical

Theory

Section A – applied physiology

Section B – Skill acquisition and sports psychology

Section C – sport and society and technology in sport

Practical performance in 1 sport and analysis and evaluation of performance

A Level

70% theory (2 x 2 hour written exam)
30% practical

Theory

Paper 1 – applied anatomy and physiology, skill acquisition and sport and society

Paper 2 – exercise physiology and biomechanics, sports psychology and sport and society and technology in sport

Practical performance in 1 sport and analysis and evaluation of performance



Entry Requirements

Ideally grade A* - B at GCSE, although students with a grade C are welcome provided they show motivation and commitment. Students who have not studied Physical Education at GCSE are also welcome, but will need an aptitude for science and are required to show a passion and enthusiasm for developing their knowledge of sporting activity.

Career Opportunities

Pupils who have studied A Level PE have gone on to careers including physiotherapist, personal trainer, nutritionist, PE teacher, sports scientist and sports journalist.

Which Subjects Link Well?

Biology and Psychology

Exam Board: AQA





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