

# ACCOUNTS

Level: AS and A2

Examination Board: AQA

## Course Outline:

### AS Level:

**Unit 1: Introduction to Financial Accounting** - a strong emphasis is put upon double-entry book-keeping, income statements and balance sheets of sole traders; suspense accounts and control accounts are also examined.

**Unit 2: Financial and Management Accounting** - This develops the skills learned in unit 1 and students study the accounts of companies, make more complex adjustments to sole trader accounts, accounting concepts, cash book etc.

### A2 Level:

**Unit 3: Further Aspects of Financial Accounting** - this includes the study of incomplete records, cash flow, partnership accounts, inventory valuation, International Accountancy Standards and so on

**Unit 4: Further Aspects of Management Accounting** - this includes topics including the following- marginal costing, standard costing, Capital Investment Appraisal and manufacturing accounts

## How will you be assessed?

### Internally:

Your progress will be assessed by your teacher regularly through formative marking, past paper questions, presentations etc.

### Externally:

AS has two modules that are both assessed at the end of the year in May.

A2 is assessed through a January module exam for Unit 3 and a June module exam for Unit 4.

There is no coursework component - 100% examination based assessment.

## What are the course entry requirements?

In addition to the general Sixth Form entry requirements, a B grade minimum in Maths is required.

At both levels a commitment to personal study outside the classroom is required. Students will be expected to plan their time so that tasks are completed effectively and that deadlines are met. There is a huge emphasis on students practising questions both in class and at home.

## Who should apply for the course?

Students considering this option should note that they will be working with numbers, analysing and interpreting information in different forms e.g. accounting documents, reports, tables, graphs and charts. A great deal of the work is undertaken independently, learning numerous accounting formats; a methodical and logical approach to solving problems is required. An interest in, and a liking for, this type of work is crucial.

## Career Paths:

Many students who take accounting go on to university and become qualified accountants, working for accountancy practices or within an organisation. Many choose to take up apprenticeships at 18 and access their career more vocationally. With a few years' experience, some accountants then decide to start their own practice. But your financial acumen can support a wide number of other careers. For example, you could work in local government if you like politics or for a phone company if you like communications technology. Perhaps you'd like to work in general management, banking, retail or leisure - money is the common denominator. With accounting skills you could end up working in just about any area you choose.

For more information contact the Head of Department at: [mgardner@crypt.gloucs.sch.uk](mailto:mgardner@crypt.gloucs.sch.uk)

# ART

Level: AS and A2

Examination Board: AQA

## Course Outline:

### AS Level:

All Students follow the AQA specification which is made up of coursework and Exam work components each of which contribute to 50% of the A/S qualification. In Year 12 Students complete unit 1 a practical portfolio component and complete unit 2 a five hour examination both of which results in studying the work of artists, craftsmen and designers to inform their intentions. A sketchbook is kept to record ideas, research and experimentation with a range of processes, materials and techniques leading up to the final outcome.

### Unit 1 – Coursework Portfolio

- 50% of AS, 25% of A Level
- No time limit
- 80 marks
- Portfolio of work set and marked by the centre and moderated by AQA
- Available in June only

### Unit 2 – AS Externally Set Assignment

- 50% of AS, 25% of A Level
- Supervised time 5 hours
- 80 marks
- Work produced will be marked by the centre and moderated by AQA
- Available in June only
- A2 Examinations

In year 13 students complete the A2 year which results in a full A Level qualification. Students complete two units of work throughout the year both of which contribute to 50% of their final grade. Unit 3 is a coursework component which is practically based supported by a 3000 word illustrated essay. Unit 4 is the exam component which is a 15 hour long unaided activity where students refer to and respond to a series of artists to inform their ideas in their sketchbook work which is essential in indicating their ideas and findings.

All students are taught as a group but undertake individual projects within that group which reflect their strengths and interests. Each student is assessed on an individual basis and is offered guidance and support with their work. This dialogue is recorded in a logbook within the department so progress can be monitored.

A2 Level: In year 13 students complete the A2 year which results in a full A Level qualification. Students complete two units of work throughout the year both of which contribute to 50% of their final grade. Unit 3 is a coursework component which is practically based supported by a 3000 word illustrated essay. Unit 4 is the exam component which is a 15 hour long unaided activity where students refer to and respond to a series of artists to inform their ideas in their sketchbook work which is essential in indicating their ideas and findings.

### Unit 3 – Personal Investigation

- 25% of A Level
- No time limit
- 80 marks
- Personal investigation supported by written element of 1000-3000 words, set and marked by the centre and moderated by AQA
- Available in June only

#### **Unit 4 – A2 Externally Set Assignment**

- 25% of A Level
- Supervised time 15 hours
- 80 marks
- Work produced will be marked by the centre and moderated by AQA
- Available in June only

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#### **How will you be assessed?**

Each student is assessed on an individual basis and is offered guidance and support with their work. This dialogue is recorded in a logbook within the department so progress can be monitored.

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#### **What are the course entry requirements?**

Minimum of grade B at GCSE level.

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#### **Who should apply for the course?**

Those who meet the entry requirements and are prepared to work hard to achieve their potential.

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#### **Career Paths:**

A range of Art based careers including Architecture, Design and Advertising as well as the more traditional Fine Art based options.

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For more information contact the Head of Department at: [CMEDCROFT@crypt.gloucs.sch.uk](mailto:CMEDCROFT@crypt.gloucs.sch.uk)

# BIOLOGY

Level: AS and A2

Examination Board: OCR

## Course Outline:

### AS Level:

**F211 : Cells, Exchange and Transport.** Cells – Exchange and Transport

**F212 : Molecules, Biodiversity, Food and Health.** Biological Molecules – Food and Health – Biodiversity and Evolution

**F213 : Practical Skills in Biology 1.** Controlled internal assessment of practical skills.

### A2 Level:

**F214 : Communications, Homeostasis and Energy.** Communications and Homeostasis – Excretion – Photosynthesis – Respiration

**F215 : Control, Genomes and Environment.** Cellular Control – Biotechnology – Ecosystems and Sustainability – Responding to the Environment

**F216 : Practical Skills in Biology 2.** Controlled internal assessment of practical skills.

## AS Course

F211, F212 will be examined at the end of the first year. You will do examined practicals throughout the year.

## A2 Course

F214 will be examined in January and F215 will be examined at the end of the year. You will also do examined practicals throughout the year.

## What are the course entry requirements?

A minimum of BB double award science or a grade B at Biology GCSE, plus a B in Chemistry are preferable, particularly for the pupils wishing to take both AS and A2.

## Who should apply for the course?

If you are well motivated are interested in Biology and enjoy a challenge then this is the course for you. You must be able to work independently at home to review and learn the material that has been covered in class. It is a significant step up from GCSE Biology.

## Career Paths:

### Career opportunities:

Biologists are found in a wide variety of scientific careers:

Medical, forensic, pharmaceutical.

Agriculture and food science.

Biotechnology and genetics research.

Environmental protection and conservation.

For more information contact the Head of Department at: [csturge@crypt.gloucs.sch.uk](mailto:csturge@crypt.gloucs.sch.uk)



# BUSINESS STUDIES

Level: AS and A2

Examination Board: AQA

## Course Outline:

### AS Level:

**Unit 1: Planning and Financing a Business-** Enterprise, generating and protecting business ideas, Business Planning, adding value, sources of finance, types of business, location and people management; financial aspects including cash flow, break even and budgets and so on

**Unit 2: Managing a Business -** Improving profit, cash flow; workforce planning, organisational structures, recruitment, selection and training, measuring workforce performance; quality, customer service and stock control; effective marketing

### A2 Level:

**Unit 3: Strategies for Success -** assessing real world financial, marketing, personnel and production strategies

**Unit 4: The Business Environment and Managing Change-** impact of change on businesses and how they deal with it, including changes in the economic environment, management, strategy, aims/objectives of the business

## How will you be assessed?

### Internally:

Your progress will be assessed by your teacher regularly through formative marking, past paper questions, presentations etc.

### Externally:

AS has two modules (case study - all questions are compulsory) that are both assessed at the end of the year in May.

A2 is assessed through a January module exam for Unit 3 (Case study - all questions are compulsory) and a June module exam for Unit 4 (Essays - two essays from five titles, one essay is based on student's research based on a pre-release theme from AQA).

There is no coursework component - 100% examination based assessment.

## What are the course entry requirements?

In addition to the general Sixth Form entry requirements, a B grade minimum in Maths is required.

At both levels a commitment to personal study outside the classroom is required. Students will be expected to plan their time so that tasks are completed effectively and that deadlines are met.

## Who should apply for the course?

Students considering this option should note that they will be working with numbers, analysing and interpreting information in different forms e.g. accounting documents, reports, tables, graphs and charts. A great deal of the work is undertaken independently, learning numerous accounting formats; a methodical and logical approach to solving problems is required. An interest in, and a liking for, this type of work is crucial.

## Career Paths:

The course lays an appropriate foundation for further study of Business Studies, Management or related subjects in higher education. Equally, the material studied would be useful for candidates intending to pursue careers in any area of business (including starting their own business - including any small enterprise, a small shop owner, dentist, carpenter, architect, accountant, clothes designer, the list is endless.)

For more information contact the Head of Department at: [mgardner@crypt.gloucs.sch.uk](mailto:mgardner@crypt.gloucs.sch.uk)



# CHEMISTRY

Level: AS and A2

Examination Board: OCR

## Course Outline:

### AS Level: **(H034)**

Candidates take three compulsory units of assessment for the Advanced Subsidiary qualification, which comprise two formal written exams and a unit composed of formal practical assessments. Experimental skills are assessed during the practical assessments throughout the course and candidate results are submitted to OCR for moderation at the end of the year. The Units studied are:

- F321: Atoms Bonds and Groups
- F322: Chains, Energy and Resources
- F323: Practical Skills in Chemistry 1

The specification also provides opportunities for the development of the Key Skills which consider spiritual, moral, ethical, social, legislative and economic issues. The course promotes an awareness of the issues of sustainable development, health and safety considerations and the avoidance of bias.

### A2 Level: **(H434)**

The A2 course follows the same structure as the AS course with three units in total being assessed; two formal written units and one practical skill assessment unit. Advanced Subsidiary and A2 combined constitute the full Advanced GCE qualification. The Units studied are:

- F324: Rings, Polymers and Analysis
- F325: Equilibria, Energetics and Elements
- F326: Practical Skills in Chemistry 2

## How will you be assessed?

Formal written exams and continuous practical assessment.

## What are the course entry requirements?

- A/A\* in Double Award Science **or** at least a B grade (A/A\* preferred) in Chemistry GCSE
- At least a B grade in Mathematics
- It is recommended that Mathematics is studied to at least AS level, particularly if A2 Chemistry is to be studied

## Who should apply for the course?

You should apply for the course if you are committed to hard work throughout.

Many students who choose Chemistry also study Physics and/or Biology at AS level. I strongly recommend that Mathematics should be studied to at least AS level, particularly if it is your intention to complete Chemistry to A2 level, since the A2 modules contain a significant numerical content.

## Career Paths:

The Chemistry course prepares candidates to progress into further or higher education. It prepares them to follow courses in Chemistry, Medicine, Biochemistry, one of the other sciences, or related subjects. A level Chemistry is a requirement if you wish to study Medicine or Veterinary Medicine.

Chemistry is regarded as one of the most challenging A level courses. Therefore, a good grade in the subject at AS level will be held in high regard, even if the subject is not studied at A2 level. The study of AS or Advanced GCE Chemistry should be seen as making a contribution towards life-long learning.

*Candidates who wish to make applications to Oxford or Cambridge Universities should be aware that those Universities closely examine the achievements of students at AS level.*

For more information contact the Head of Department at: [ewaterson@crypt.gloucs.sch.uk](mailto:ewaterson@crypt.gloucs.sch.uk)

# DESIGN AND TECHNOLOGY

Level: AS and A2

Examination Board: Edexcel

## Course Outline:

### AS Level:

Three internally assessed coursework modules. One on Design, one on Product Analysis, and one on Manufacture. These build into a single coursework portfolio. Further time is spent on theory, in preparation for the end-of-year 2 hour exam.

### A2 Level:

A single year-long Design and Make project is set, in which the students go through the entire Design Cycle, from research, to modelling, and then manufacture.

Lessons are also put aside for pure theory to be taught, in preparation for the end-of-year exam.

## How will you be assessed?

AS will comprise two units:

Unit 1 - Portfolio of Creative Skills

60%

Unit 2 - Design and Technology in practice

Exam: 40%

## Who should apply for the course?

'A' level Design and Technology provides an opportunity for students to involve themselves in practical problem solving activities and relate knowledge and skills to that activity. It is inter-disciplinary and student-focused and is designed to be either a complementary subject to Mathematics, Physics or Art or a contrasting subject with English, History, Geography and Modern Languages. It provides the facility to integrate work-related activities and/or links to the commercial and industrial world.

## Career Paths:

### Career Opportunities:

Employment opportunities for qualified Design Technologists exist in an ever-increasing variety of areas:

## What are the course entry requirements?

Grade B at GCSE

Including	Education
Business	Design
Leisure	Industry
Consumer Affairs	Retailing
Interior Designs	Architecture
Civil Engineering	Graphic Communications
Building	Industrial Design
Surveying and Services	Product Design
Technical illustrations	Computer Graphics
Town Planning	

For more information contact the Head of Department at: [pcoleman@crypt.gloucs.sch.uk](mailto:pcoleman@crypt.gloucs.sch.uk)

# ECONOMICS

Level: AS and A2

Examination Board: Edexcel

## Course Outline:

### AS Level:

**Unit 1: Competitive Markets – How They Work and Why They Fail.** There is great emphasis on information problems in markets and factors influencing the demand and supply of goods and services - including labour.

**Unit 2: Managing the Economy.** It will include specific mention of the factors influencing the components of Aggregate Demand, such as the wealth effect on consumption and causes and costs of growth for developed and developing economies.

### A2 Level:

**Unit 3: Business Economics and Economic Efficiency.** This unit studies firms' behaviour, barriers to market entry and exit, economics of scale and game theory.

**Unit 4: The Global Economy.** It includes the use of policies by governments to achieve their macro and microeconomic objectives; international trade (including exchange rates and comparative advantage) and globalisation; the competitiveness of different countries; poverty and inequality in countries, and what can be done to prompt their growth and development.

## How will you be assessed?

### Internally:

Your progress will be assessed by your teacher regularly through formative marking, past paper questions, presentations etc.

### Externally:

AS has two modules that are both assessed at the end of the year in May.

A2 is assessed through a January module exam for Unit 3 and a June module exam for Unit 4.

There is no coursework component - 100% examination based assessment.

## What are the course entry requirements?

In addition to the general Sixth Form entry requirements, a B grade minimum in Maths is required. Students considering this option should note that they will be working with diagrams, analysing and interpreting information in different forms e.g. tables, graphs and charts. Economics is a very technically difficult and demanding subject. The language is also very different to that used in Business Studies and it requires independent reading in order to become familiarised with it. A methodical and logical approach to solving problems is required.

At both levels a commitment to personal study outside the classroom is required. Students will be expected to plan their time so that tasks are completed effectively and that deadlines are met.

## Who should apply for the course?

Economics is a fascinating subject to study, as it helps you to look more deeply into the world around you - how and why it functions as it does. Anyone interested in current affairs and in gaining new perspectives on some of the most pressing and challenging problems facing the world today should apply for the course. Proficiency in Maths and English is an advantage since the course contains numerical elements as well as requiring extensive writing.

## Career Paths:

AS and A2 Level Economics are well respected qualifications that are a valuable asset whatever career path a student wishes to follow. It is obviously a useful grounding for those seeking to study Economics, Business, Management or Finance based courses at university but, as the UK economy's future is likely to be increasingly reliant on the creative industries, it is a valuable learning experience for all.

For more information contact the Head of Department at: [mgardner@crypt.gloucs.sch.uk](mailto:mgardner@crypt.gloucs.sch.uk)



# ENGLISH LANGUAGE

Level: AS and A2

Examination Board: AQA

## Course Outline:

### AS Level:

- You develop confidence and fluency in using and discussing vocabulary, grammar, sentence structures and text types. You become an authority amongst your social group on how to use language accurately and effectively.
- You learn to sharpen your creative writing skills so that you can imply ideas subliminally and encourage or discourage attitudes in your readers.

### A2 Level:

- You gain specialism in conducting social science investigations, overlapping with skills in sociology and psychology, studying the everyday speech of those around you.
- You learn how language has changed through history and how it varies across the world. This includes those fascinating facts about where words come from and what their Greek and Latin roots mean – the kind of knowledge that you can drop into a conversation and gain instant respect for your intellect!

## How will you be assessed?

### AS Level:

- One coursework task exploring how texts create attitudes (20%)
- One coursework task of creative writing (20%)
- One exam (2 hours) with two essay questions (60%):
  - One question on analysing the language in an unseen text;
  - One question on how children learn language.

### A2 Level:

- One coursework task investigating spoken language (20%)
- One coursework task of creative writing (20%)
- One exam (2 hours) with two essay questions (60%):
  - One question on way language has changed across time, referring to an unseen text;
  - One question on theories and attitudes to language change and variation.

## What are the course entry requirements?

- You will have B grade GCSE English Language or higher (GCSE English is less suitable but will be considered)

## Who should apply for the course?

- People who like getting technical about words and grammar
- People who enjoy creative writing
- People who like to have “impressive” knowledge
- People who like a course with a semi-scientific approach
- People who are interested in exploring how stereotypes are made and how they can be broken

## Career Paths:

- You get credibility on your CV by having a qualification that is traditional and well-understood by employers and universities.
- Journalism is an obvious career path. However, you get technical competence with language that opens doors to everything. If you can think of a job where you don't need to speak, listen, read or write well, then you have thought of a job that you wouldn't want anyway.
- You get language skills that make all other learning easier, especially for handling the complex language demands of university courses. Study of foreign languages especially is much easier with a technical command of your own language.

For more information contact the Head of Department at: [mbennett@crypt.gloucs.sch.uk](mailto:mbennett@crypt.gloucs.sch.uk)



# ENGLISH LITERATURE

Level: AS and A2

Examination Board: AQA

## Course Outline:

### AS Level:

- You get to know major works of literature (novels, poems and plays) that have influenced our culture and are part of the general knowledge of well-educated adults. This includes developing a general knowledge of European history and social issues as you set the works in context.
- You learn to write critical and analytical essays that include overview as well as reference to precise detail – the kind of thinking needed for effective managerial work.
- You develop social skills through discussion of literature and find that, not only is reading a pleasure, but the pleasure of reading increases when thoughts, opinions and personal theories are shared with like-minded, cultured and intelligent friends.

### A2 Level:

- You continue to develop AS skills, but you get choice over the texts you study and more independence to research critical perspectives.

## How will you be assessed?

### AS Level:

- One coursework task exploring tragedy in a Shakespeare play (20%)
- One coursework task exploring tragedy in a modern play (20%)
  - One of these can be creative, writing in the style of the playwright.
- One exam (2 hours) with two essay questions (60%):
  - Explore how the story is told in two novels and two collections of poetry, with the texts to refer to in the exam.

### A2 Level:

- One coursework task comparing two texts (20%)
- One coursework task exploring one text, referring to a set anthology of criticism (20%)
- One exam (2 hours) with two essay questions (60%):
  - Explore the Gothic genre in three set texts.

## What are the course entry requirements?

- You will have B grade GCSE English Literature

## Who should apply for the course?

- People who read books for pleasure
- People who are prepared to think outside their own lives
- People who have an interest in culture, history and getting “quality” experiences
- People who can write essays to deadlines
- People who have strong opinions and like to talk about them

## Career Paths:

- You get credibility on your CV by having a qualification that is traditional and well-understood by employers and universities.
- You get analytical skills that are valuable in any job that requires criticising the effectiveness of something, especially if this involves writing reports; i.e. any managerial role.
- You get deeper access to an interest for life that can both personal and social and a training in exploring how others think, accelerating your experience of life by seeing it through other people’s eyes.

For more information contact the Head of Department at: [mbennett@crypt.gloucs.sch.uk](mailto:mbennett@crypt.gloucs.sch.uk)

# FRENCH AND GERMAN

Level: AS and A2

Examination Board: AQA

## Course Outline:

AS Level: Candidates cover 4 main topic areas:

MEDIA, POPULAR CULTURE, HEALTHY LIVING AND LIFESTYLE & FAMILY RELATONSHIPS. Each topic is broken down into sub-topics to give an in-depth knowledge of each area in preparation for the exam.

A2 Level: Candidates follow 3 main topic areas:

ENVIRONMENT, THE MULTICULTURAL SOCIETY, CONTEMPORARY SOCIAL ISSUES. They also study a cultural topic to be discussed in the speaking exam, based on a region, 20<sup>th</sup> century history, an author, a dramatist / poet or an artist from France or Germany.

Students will spend approximately 3 weeks on each of the sub-topics and should be prepared to do a good deal of independent research and commit to reading and listening out of class to really consolidate the work they do with the teachers. Each candidate will be given a half hour slot per week with the language assistant to practise their speaking skills and prepare for the speaking exam.

## How will you be assessed?

The Examination - the candidate's ability in all four skill areas (listening, speaking, reading and writing) will be tested in a variety of mixed skill papers.

**AS details** - students will prepare for the following papers:

<b>Unit 1</b>	<b>Listening, Reading and Writing</b>
	35% of AS, 35% of A Level
	2 hour written examination
	110 marks
<b>Unit 2</b>	<b>Speaking Test</b>
	15% of A Level, 15% of A Level
	35 minutes speaking test (including 20 minutes preparation)
	50 marks

**A2 details** – students will prepare for the following papers:

<b>Unit 3</b>	<b>Listening, Reading and Writing</b>
	35% of A2 Level
	2 hours 30 minutes written examination
	110 marks
<b>Unit 4</b>	<b>Speaking Test</b>
	15% of A Level
	35 minutes speaking test (including 20 minutes preparation)
	50 marks

**What are the course entry requirements?**

Candidates should have a high 'B' Grade in the GCSE and have done exam papers at Higher Tier. A good understanding of grammar at GCSE level is also essential.

**Who should apply for the course?**

The AS and A2 French & German courses are for students of a high linguist ability, who are preparing for a variety of possible futures in the spheres of Higher Education, employment and leisure.

The aims of the courses are:

- to develop in students a range of practical skills which will enable them to understand and communicate in written and spoken language for leisure purposes and in the world of work;
- to make students aware of the cultural, social, commercial, historical, geographical and political background of the countries where French and German is spoken;
- to offer enjoyment, challenge and intellectual stimulation;
- to develop study skills which will help students in their acquisition of other foreign languages;
- to allow students to complement their other studies by pursuing selected areas of interest in greater depth;
- to encourage maximum use of the foreign language by students.

**Career Paths:**

All British universities offer courses in French and German, either by itself, combined with another foreign language, or as part of a composite European Studies course. French and German can also be studied in a variety of more broadly based combinations such as French with Business, History, Philosophy, Law, and Engineering amongst many others! Teaching, translating, and interpreting can all require specialist knowledge of French and German. There are many other careers, however, in which a knowledge of another language to a higher level is becoming increasingly useful and indeed, sometimes a necessary qualification: export marketing and sales, banking, insurance, chartered accountancy, law, travel, advertising, civil service, the BBC, librarianship, secretarial work, journalism and computing.

For more information contact the Head of Department at: [jjoynson@crypt.gloucs.sch.uk](mailto:jjoynson@crypt.gloucs.sch.uk)

# FURTHER MATHEMATICS

Level: AS and A2

Examination Board: AQA

## Course Outline:

AS Level:

Mathematics 33%

Algebra and Graphs of Rational functions, Conic sections, Complex numbers, Roots of Quadratic equations, Series, Calculus, Numerical Functions, Trigonometry and Matrices and Transformations.

Mechanics: 33%

Mathematical Modelling, Kinematics in one and two dimensions, Statics and Forces, Momentum, Newton's Laws of Motions, Connected Particles and Projectiles.

Decision: 33%

Ideas of Algorithms, Graphs and Networks, Spanning Tree problems, Matchings, Shortest paths in Networks, Route Inspection problems, Travelling Salesman problems, Linear Programming and Mathematical modelling.

A2 Level:

Mathematics 67%

Roots of Polynomials, Further Complex Numbers, Proof by Induction, Finite Series, Hyperbolic functions, Further Calculus.

Series, Polar Co-ordinates, Differential Equations, Determinants and solutions of systems of equations.

Decision: 33%

Critical Path Analysis, Allocation, Dynamic Programming, Network Flows, Further Linear Programming, Game Theory and Zero Sum Games and further Mathematical Modelling.

## How will you be assessed?

AS : Mathematics - Further Maths FP1 33%, Decision D1 33%, Mechanics M1 33%

A2 : Mathematics - Further Mathematics FP2 and FP3 67%, Decision D2 33%

There is also the option to take an additional module - FP4

## What are the course entry requirements?

Preferable minimum high Grade A in GCSE Mathematics.

## Who should apply for the course?

Students who :-

- 1) enjoy Mathematics and are 'good' at this subject.
- 2) Are good at problem solving and enjoy logical thinking.
- 3) Enjoy challenges!
- 4) Will find Mathematics helpful in other subjects, eg. Physics, Chemistry, Economics, etc

**Career Paths:**

- 1) University for Maths related degrees.
- 2) Wishing to pursue Financial/Business careers.
- 3) Teaching.
- 4) Wishing to pursue any career where Mathematics is a significant support.

For more information contact the Head of Department at: [proberts@crypt.gloucs.sch.uk](mailto:proberts@crypt.gloucs.sch.uk)

# GENERAL STUDIES

Level: AS and A2

Examination Board: OCR

## Course Outline:

General Studies is one of the ways in which the Sixth Form curriculum is broadened. General Studies AS Level is taken by all students in Year 12, and the majority of these continue it at A2 Level.

General Studies aims to give candidates the opportunity to:

- extend their interests to a wide range of disciplines;
- recognise the interdependence of different areas of study and experience;
- think critically and logically;
- develop the skills of study, analysis and evaluation of chosen issues, and provide clear, accurate and effective communication of information and evaluation.

The AS Level General Studies specification is based around three domains:

- social;
- culture, arts and humanities;
- science, mathematics and technology.

It offers candidates studying these domains an insight into all aspects of society and the way the three domains interact in their lives. It constitutes a discrete package of material for those candidates who do not wish to progress to A2, at the same time providing a foundation for greater analysis for those who choose to move on to further study.

The aims of the course is to encourage students to:

- view issues from a wider range of perspectives than those offered by subject specialisms;
- integrate knowledge from a range of disciplines in order to:
  - \* develop an understanding of the interrelationship between them
  - \* encourage a broader and deeper understanding of issues;
- think logically and creatively in order to:
  - \* assess the relative merits of evidence
  - \* make informed decisions
  - \* reach justifiable conclusions.

General Studies AS Level also forms a necessary and integral component of the AQA Baccalaureate qualification that a large number of students undertake. Both General Studies and the AQA Baccalaureate offer additional UCAS points, which can significantly enhance a student's potential to secure the university destination of their choice.

General Studies subject material will be largely covered during timetabled Personal Education (PEd) lessons. Students will also be prepared for the examination with a series of specialist study seminars and lectures, which address exam technique and focus upon content relevant to the three domains, discussed above.

Results in AS / A2 General Studies are amongst the highest in the school.

For more detailed information about specification content, please go to the OCR website: [www.ocr.org.uk](http://www.ocr.org.uk)

## How will you be assessed?

**AS Unit F731: The Cultural and Social Domains**

- \* 2 hour written paper 120 marks

**AS Unit F732: The Scientific Domain**

- \* 1 hour written paper 60 marks

**A2 Unit F733: Domain Exploration: Applying Synoptic Skills**

- \* 1½ hour written paper 100 marks

**A2 Unit F734: Culture, Science and Society: Making Connections**

- \* 1½ hour written paper 100 marks

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**What are the course entry requirements?**

All Year 12 students who have successfully achieved a place in the Crypt School Sixth Form will have already achieved the required grades to be entered for General Studies, which is why all Year 12 students will automatically be entered for this subject.

No prior knowledge of the subject is required, although candidates are encouraged to apply their knowledge gained from other disciplines.

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**Who should apply for the course?**

All Year 12 students will automatically be entered for this subject.

Any student considering the AQA Baccalaureate must take AS Level General Studies and pass with a minimum of a C Grade.

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**Career Paths:**

Many universities will include A2 Level General Studies as part of the offer of a place to students. Those universities who do not include it as part of their offer may still take it into consideration when reviewing a student's breadth of study at A Level. Equally, employers or trainers may look favourably on the successful completion of this qualification, which shows a willingness to study in areas outside a student's main A Levels.

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For more information contact the Head of Department at: [mbrough@crypt.gloucs.sch.uk](mailto:mbrough@crypt.gloucs.sch.uk)

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# GEOGRAPHY

AS and A2 Level

Examination Board: AQA

## Course Outline:

The specification has a two unit Advanced Subsidiary (AS), qualification. This is the 'first half' of the 'A' Level course. The other 'half' comes from two A2 units studied in the second year of 'A' Level. You can just take the 'AS' Level on its own.

AS Level:

### Unit 1 (GEOG1)

70% of the total AS marks

35% of the total A-level marks

The physical units studied will include: **Rivers, floods and management** and a choice of one of the following - Cold environments, Hot desert environments and their margins, and **Coastal environments**.

The human units will include: **Population change** and a choice of one of the following - Food supply issues, **Energy issues** and Health issues.

Units in bold are the areas currently studied.

### Unit 2 (GEOG2)

30% of the total AS marks

15% of the total A-level marks

This will assess the ability of candidates to apply their knowledge and skills to unseen information/resources and with reference to fieldwork. A range of skills taken from at least three of the six categories; basic, investigative, ICT, graphical, cartographical and statistical will be examined in each exam series. Investigative skills, and consequently the assessment of fieldwork, will always be tested in this paper. Candidates will therefore need to take part in personal investigative work in the field to ensure familiarity with these.

**Details of Fieldwork:** A three day residential trip at the end of October/start of November to Appledore, North Devon. This will give the candidates the opportunity to learn about aspects of the course first hand and to develop the skills and knowledge required for the Skills assessment section in the AS examination.

A2 Level:

### Unit 3 (GEOG3) A2 Unit 3: Contemporary Geographical Issues

30% of the total A-level marks

In this unit, candidates must study at least three of the six sections, at least one from the three Physical options and at least one from the three Human options.

The Physical units comprise of: **Plate tectonics and associated hazards**, Weather and climate and associated hazards and Ecosystem change and challenge. The Human units comprise of: **World cities**, Development and globalisation and **Contemporary conflict and challenges**.

Units in bold are the areas currently studied.

Either

### Unit 4A (GEOG4A)

Structured short and extended questions based on candidates own fieldwork investigation

A2 Unit 4A: Geography Fieldwork Investigation

1½ hours

20% of the total A-level marks

Unit 4A will be assessed in a 1½ hour examination, with open ended questions being set which will differ from series to series. The examination may include questions on any stages of the fieldwork process.

Each candidate should bring his/her fieldwork folder into the examination and use this to analyse and evaluate their own data and results in response to the questions set.

Or

### Unit 4B (GEOG4B)

Structured short and extended questions based on an Advance Information Booklet, prereleased on 1 April and 1 November each series.

A2 Unit 4B: Geographical Issue Evaluation

1½ hours

20% of the total A-level marks

We currently sit the 4B option.

### How will you be assessed?

AS

Unit 1: Physical and Human Geography

The exam format comprises of structured short and extended questions and lasts for 2 hours.

Unit 2: Geographical Skills

Structured skills and generic fieldwork questions

1 hour

*All AS exams take place in the summer term.*

A2

Unit 3: Contemporary Geographical Issues

The exam format comprises of structured short and extended questions and an essay and lasts for 2½ hours.

*This exam is taken in the summer term.*

Unit 4B: Geographical Issue Evaluation

Structured short and extended questions based on a pre-released Advance Information Booklet and lasts 1½ hours.

*This examination is taken in January.*

### What are the course entry requirements?

The course has been designed for candidates who have successfully completed a GCSE Geography course, gaining a grade B or above.

### Who should apply for the course?

At a personal level, you should be interested in the world around you and in learning about people, places and environments. The course will encourage you to be interested in local and global issues and in practical work outside the classroom. Up to date knowledge of current affairs is essential.

### Career Paths:

Geography graduates have one of the highest rates of graduate employment and studying geography will provide you with transferable skills and a firm base for life-long learning. Geographers look at issues from a wide perspective and develop a range of skills which are attractive to a very broad range of future employers.

[http://www.prospects.ac.uk/options\\_geography\\_job\\_options.htm](http://www.prospects.ac.uk/options_geography_job_options.htm)

<http://www.rgs.org/NR/exeres/452912F2-5103-4FC8-8732-D64F2E7923BD.htm>

Town planning/urban regeneration

Hazard management

Tackling world inequality

National park management

Transport sector

Finance, accountancy and construction

Meteorology

Coastal management

Sustainable development

Mineral resource exploration

Environment Agency/consultants

Land reclamation

Geotechnical engineering

Armed Services

For more information contact the Head of Department at: [creynolds@crypt.gloucs.sch.uk](mailto:creynolds@crypt.gloucs.sch.uk)

# GOVERNMENT AND POLITICS

Level: AS and A2

Examination Board: OCR

## Course Outline:

### AS Level:

- You will learn about the work of parliament, the ideas of different political parties and their contribution to democracy, pressure group politics, the work of the Prime minister and the Cabinet, the judiciary, and study the nature of the British Constitution
- You will also analyse the structures of authority and power within the political system of the UK and how these may differ from those of other political systems –for example the European Union and the United States of America

### A2 Level:

- We will find out about the US constitution, differences between the Republic and Democratic Parties, pressure groups in the USA, the work of Congress and the powers of President. You will find out about groups such as the Tea Party and how they and many Americans are very much against Obama's policies, despite his initial popularity.
- You will also analyse how politics works in the USA and to what extent it may differ from those of other political systems studied – for example The UK and the European Union

## How will you be assessed?

The units and assessment are:

AS Unit F851: Contemporary Politics of the UK

1.5 Hour written examination

AS Unit F852: Contemporary Government of the UK

1.5 Hour written examination

A2 Unit F853: Contemporary US Politics

2 hour written paper

A2 Unit F855: US and European Politics (comparative study)

2 hour written paper

## What are the course entry requirements?

No prior knowledge or understanding of any political systems, institutions or ideologies is required, although prior study of politics or a similar subject such as History and Citizenship at GCSE would provide a helpful introduction. It is more important that you have a lively and enquiring mind, an interest in politics and current affairs, a desire to explore new ideas and an ability to communicate your ideas effectively. We do require that you have achieved a B grade in GCSE English Language and History ( if taken)

Please see Mr Morgan or Mr Dyer for more information a full course handbook

## Who should apply for the course?

This course will appeal to those students who:

- enjoy debating current affairs and politics
- have a keen appreciation of the need to participate in the decision making process
- like doing a subject that affects their everyday lives
- like doing a subject that offers the opportunity to progress to a career in politics
- want to keep their options open – Politics can be a useful choice for a wide range of careers and can be combined with a wide range of social sciences and humanities subjects

## Career Paths:

- Politics can be a useful choice for a wide range of careers, such as journalism. law, teaching and research, as well as management training programmes that require three good A levels/a degree of any discipline
- Government and politics A levels can be combined with and complement a wide range of social sciences and humanities subjects.
- This subject can also offer the opportunity to progress to a career in politics

For more information contact the Head of Department at: [amorgan@crypt.gloucs.sch.uk](mailto:amorgan@crypt.gloucs.sch.uk)

# HISTORY

Level: AS and A2

Examination Board: OCR

## Course Outline:

AS Level:

Unit 1 Anglo-Saxon England and the Norman Conquest 1050 - 1087

Unit 2 Italian Unification 1815 – 70

A2 Level:

Unit 3 The Cold War 1941 – 1956

Unit 4 Russia and its rulers 1855-1963

Students also complete a piece of independent research and writing which is linked to their Cold War studies. This can be about the Cold War or a related area of study (an event or person of importance from history) of particular interest can be chosen.

## Assessment

### AS (Lower Sixth)

Unit 1: **European study**

1 Hour/2 structured questions 50% of AS

Unit 2: **English History**

45 minutes/2 questions 50% of AS

### A2 (Upper Sixth)

Unit 3: **Historical interpretations and Investigations**

Completion of 2 coursework essays of 2000 words -one is an investigation of Student's own choice) 20% of A level

Unit 4: **Themes in history**

2hours/2 questions 30% of A level

### Who should apply for the course?

Students wishing to take 'A' Level History must first enrol on the AS. The normal entry qualification will be a **Grade B or above at GCSE** but the department is willing to consider applications from students who have not taken GCSE History. AS examinations will be in January and June the Lower Sixth. Those students wishing to proceed with the A2 course will need to have passed AS and to have demonstrated a certain level of competency and aptitude in study skills. All students taking History will receive advice and support from the department in the form of "academic mentoring" through which we will help you to maximise your potential in the subject.

'A' Level History students must have a genuine interest in the subject, together with commitment to wide background reading and a willingness to develop a clear yet analytical written style. In addition, it helps lively classroom debate if students are prepared to form ideas and opinions of their own on the subjects they are studying. The department has its own ICT and video facilities and appropriate use is made of these throughout the course.

### Career Paths:

History is highly regarded as a route into higher education and although many of you may not wish to become professional historians, history can be a valuable preparation for a range of subjects such as law, psychology, management, communications, sociology and archaeology. It is also a subject that has a high credibility with many employers.

Please feel free to ask for advice from Mr. A. Morgan, Mr. A. Courtenay, Mr. J. Standen, Mr. N. Dyer or Mr. G. Anthony.

For more information contact the Head of Department at: [amorgan@crypt.gloucs.sch.uk](mailto:amorgan@crypt.gloucs.sch.uk)



# APPLIED INFORMATION AND COMMUNICATION TECHNOLOGY

Level: AS and A2

Examination Board: WJEC

## Course Outline:

The new WJEC GCE in Applied ICT provides students with a wholly new perspective on the world of Information and Communication Technology. Students will be assessed on a paperless basis with a combination of Electronic Case Studies, On-screen Examinations and tasks based on real/realistic organisations. 60% of the assessment is internal and 40% external. Students will need to operate within an environment of ideas and demonstrate an understanding of ICT spanning state of the art applications to the complex networks of contemporary society.

### AS Level:

#### **AICT 1 - eBusiness**

Gaining skills in eBusiness

##### Introduction

We all know that ICT is constantly changing - hardware and software is forever developing and evolving. Businesses also have to change in order to remain competitive and many adopt developments in ICT to gain a competitive advantage. The ways in which we need to work and interact with others have changed: email; mobile communications; videoconferencing; home working and hot-desking are but a few of these changes. We need to be competent users of a variety of different devices and software applications: computers; laptops; PDAs; smartphones all use a variety of software essential to the eBusiness. New jobs have developed as a result of eBusiness, such as web designers and database managers. Nearly all businesses demand ability in ICT these days, and for many jobs specific ICT skills are essential.

#### **AICT 2 – eSkills**

Managing eBusiness data

##### Introduction

For eBusinesses to succeed they must make a profit – forecasting and data management is critical to success. eBusinesses use ICT to plan, monitor and forecast their daily progress and require experts in the use of spreadsheets and databases to manage this process. The ability to effectively interpret situations; forecast events and monitor data trends will offer the eBusiness the potential to succeed.

### A2 Level:

#### **AICT 5 – eProject**

Project planning for ICT.

##### Introduction

A project of any size needs effective planning to maximise success. Managing eProjects are no different. In fact effective project management is essential to the completion of any ICT based project. eProject managers need to be skilled in applying their knowledge and eSkills to solve problems and be able to manage available resources. Team working skills are essential. Self-discipline to complete individual tasks is a prerequisite. eBusinesses need good eProject managers.

#### **AICT 6 – eStudio**

ICT Marketing communications.

##### Introduction

In the eMarketplace, price alone cannot be the only factor when comparing similar products or service. The strength of product branding and image is critical. Driving promotional campaigns to raise consumer awareness is necessary when marketing new or re-launching existing products or services. The effective eStudio must provide accurate information; communicate effectively with its audience whilst maintaining a superior product image whilst meeting their client's expectations. The successful eStudio must be equipped with eCompetent employees complete with imagination, foresight and up to date graphics and multimedia skills.

## How will you be assessed?

<u>Unit Teacher / Lecturer – Mr A S Birkett</u>	<u>Unit Teacher / Lecturer - Ms R Roden</u>
1.eBusiness Mandatory (40%) A/S Level Mandatory (20%) A Level External: 3 hour on-screen examination	2.eSkills Mandatory (60%) Mandatory (30%) A Level Internal: Awarding Body devised assignment
6.eStudio Optional (Select either unit 6,8or 9 ) (30%) A Level Internal: Awarding Body devised assignment	5.eProject Mandatory (20%) A Level External: controlled assignment

## What are the course entry requirements?

There is no specific requirement for prior learning: although some learners will have already gained a knowledge and understanding of relevant areas through their study of ICT at GCSE or GCSE in Applied ICT, it is expected that for some this will be a new subject area. It is desirable for learners to have achieved Grades A-C in GCSE, or the equivalent, in English and Mathematics before beginning this specification, although no formal qualification is required. Some learners are likely to have one or more of the following.

- A profile of GCSEs at grade C or above
- A level 2 qualification such as
- GCSE in Applied ICT (Double Award) at grades CC or above
- Appropriate NQF level 2 qualification
- An appropriate level 2 NVQ qualification

This specification may be followed by any candidate, irrespective of age, sex, ethnic, religious or cultural background.

## Who should apply for the course?

All assessment units require the candidate to exhibit essential skills developed through the study of Applied ICT, i.e. the ability to identify, understand, analyse and evaluate key critical concepts and issues from ICT theory and practice. The structure of the specification draws together different key elements of the subject.

This specification:

- Serves as a discrete Advanced Level course, or as the first half of a full Advanced Level course (AS)
- Builds upon the knowledge, understanding and skills specified in the GCSE criteria for ICT
- Promotes progression through the AS and A Level and provides a suitable foundation for the study of ICT, or a related area of study, at Further or Higher Education and/or preparation for future employment and the world of work
- Encourages candidates to develop the ability of critical thinking, both with respect to ICT theory and practice, and in terms of local, national and international issues and topics, including the nature of a changing technological, business and organisational environments
- Provides opportunities for candidates to consider ethical problems in the context of research into ICT
- Promotes interest in contemporary local, national and international ICT related issues
- Provides opportunities for candidates to develop key skills in the areas of Communication, Application of Number and Information technology.
- Is available through the medium of English and Welsh

**Career Paths:**

This qualification supports progression into appropriate further/higher education, employment or training.

This specification has been designed to provide a suitable foundation for the study of ICT, or a related area of study, at further or higher education and/or preparation for future employment. Examples of appropriate further/higher education include:

- Honours and Foundation degrees in ICT or a related subject
- Higher Nationals in ICT or a related subject
- Level 4 and Level 3 NVQs in ICT or a related subject.

For more information contact the Head of Department at: [proberts@crypt.gloucs.sch.uk](mailto:proberts@crypt.gloucs.sch.uk)

# MATHEMATICS - DECISION

Level: AS and A2

Examination Board: AQA

## Course Outline:

AS Level:

Mathematics 67%

Algebra, Functions, Sequences, Co-Ordinate Geometry, Transformations, Differentiation, Integration, Trigonometry and Exponential/Logarithms. There is a particular emphasis on problem solving.

Decision: 33%

Ideas of Algorithms, Graphs and Networks, Spanning Tree problems, Matchings, Shortest paths in Networks, Route Inspection problems, Travelling Salesman problems, Linear Programming and Mathematical modelling.

A2 Level:

Mathematics 67%

Further Algebra, Functions, Transformations, Further Differentiation and Integration, Numerical Methods, Further Trigonometry and Exponential/Logarithms. Once again here is a particular emphasis on problem solving.

Decision: 33%

Critical Path Analysis, Allocation, Dynamic Programming, Network Flows, Further Linear Programming, Game Theory and Zero Sum Games and further Mathematical Modelling.

## How will you be assessed?

AS : Mathematics - two papers C1 & C2 67%, Decision D1 33%

A2 : Mathematics - two papers C3 & C4 67%, Decision D2 33%

## What are the course entry requirements?

Preferable minimum Grade A in GCSE Mathematics. Will consider high grade B

## Who should apply for the course?

Students who :-

- 1) enjoy Mathematics and are 'good' at this subject.
- 2) Are good at problem solving and enjoy logical thinking.
- 3) Enjoy challenges!
- 4) Will find Mathematics helpful in other subjects, eg. Physics, Chemistry, Economics, etc.

## Career Paths:

- 1) University for Maths related degrees.
- 2) Wishing to pursue Financial/Business careers.
- 3) Teaching.
- 4) Wishing to pursue any career where Mathematics is a significant support.

For more information contact the Head of Department at: [proberts@crypt.gloucs.sch.uk](mailto:proberts@crypt.gloucs.sch.uk)

# MATHEMATICS - MECHANICS

Level: AS and A2

Examination Board: AQA

## Course Outline:

AS Level:

Mathematics 67%

Algebra, Functions, Sequences, Co-Ordinate Geometry, Transformations, Differentiation, Integration, Trigonometry and Exponential/Logarithms. There is a particular emphasis on problem solving.

Mechanics: 33%

Mathematical Modelling, Kinematics in one and two dimensions, Statics and Forces, Momentum, Newton's Laws of Motions, Connected Particles and Projectiles.

A2 Level:

Mathematics 67%

Further Algebra, Functions, Transformations, Further Differentiation and Integration, Numerical Methods, Further Trigonometry and Exponential/Logarithms. Once again here is a particular emphasis on problem solving.

Mechanics: 33%

Further Mathematical Modelling, Moments and Centres of Mass, Kinematics, Applications of Differential Equations, Uniform Circular Motion, Vertical Circular Motion and Work and Energy.

## How will you be assessed?

AS : Mathematics - two papers C1 & C2 67%, Mechanics M1 33%

A2 : Mathematics - two papers C3 & C4 67%, Mechanics M2 33%

## What are the course entry requirements?

Preferable minimum Grade A in GCSE Mathematics. Will consider high grade B

## Who should apply for the course?

Students who :-

- 1) enjoy Mathematics and are 'good' at this subject.
- 2) Are good at problem solving and enjoy logical thinking.
- 3) Enjoy challenges!
- 4) Will find Mathematics helpful in other subjects, eg. Physics, Chemistry, Economics, etc

## Career Paths:

- 1) University for Maths related degrees.
- 2) Wishing to pursue Engineering careers.
- 3) Wishing to pursue Financial/Business careers.
- 4) Teaching.
- 5) Wishing to pursue any career where Mathematics is a significant support.

For more information contact the Head of Department at: [proberts@crypt.gloucs.sch.uk](mailto:proberts@crypt.gloucs.sch.uk)



# MATHEMATICS - STATISTICS

Level: AS and A2

Examination Board: AQA

## Course Outline:

AS Level:

Mathematics 67%

Algebra, Functions, Sequences, Co-Ordinate Geometry, Transformations, Differentiation, Integration, Trigonometry and Exponential/Logarithms. There is a particular emphasis on problem solving.

Statistics: 33%

Numerical Measures, Probability, The Binomial and Normal Distributions, Estimation, Confidence Intervals and statistical inference, Correlation and Regression. Again, the main purpose of this topic is to learn how to interpret and analyse information.

A2 Level:

Mathematics 67%

Further Algebra, Functions, Transformations, Further Differentiation and Integration, Numerical Methods, Further Trigonometry and Exponential/Logarithms. Once again here is a particular emphasis on problem solving.

Statistics: 33%

Discrete Probability Functions, Poisson Distribution, Continuous Probability Functions Chi Square Goodness of fit, Further Estimation and Hypothesis testing.

## How will you be assessed?

AS : Mathematics - two papers C1 & C2 67%, Statistics S1 33%

A2 : Mathematics - two papers C3 & C4 67%, Statistics MS2 33%

## What are the course entry requirements?

Preferable minimum Grade A in GCSE Mathematics. Will consider high grade B

## Who should apply for the course?

Students who :-

- 1) enjoy Mathematics and are 'good' at this subject.
- 2) Are good at problem solving and enjoy logical thinking.
- 3) Enjoy challenges!
- 4) Will find Mathematics helpful in other subjects, eg. Physics, Chemistry, Economics, etc

**Career Paths:**

- 1) University for Maths related degrees.
- 2) Wishing to pursue Financial/Business careers.
- 3) Teaching.
- 4) Wishing to pursue any career where Mathematics is a significant support.

For more information contact the Head of Department at: [proberts@crypt.gloucs.sch.uk](mailto:proberts@crypt.gloucs.sch.uk)

# MEDIA STUDIES

Level: AS and A2

Examination Board: AQA

## Course Outline:

### AS Level:

- You get to know a range of films, television series, magazines, newspapers and advertising campaigns and understand how they attempt to influence their audiences.
- You learn the skills to produce media texts of your own, as the course is 50% practical. This includes photography, digital editing on Photoshop, website creation on Dreamweaver and making trailers.

### A2 Level:

- You gain an understanding of post-modern critical theories that enable study at university level. This area is highly academic and will influence the way you think about life, the universe and everything.
- You continue with practical work (20%) but informed by an independent research project – you choose the text and the media issue you want to research.

## How will you be assessed?

### AS Level:

- Two coursework tasks to create film media, web media or print media, each with 750 word evaluations (50%)
- One exam (1½ hours) with two sections (50%):
  - Four short analysis questions on unseen film media, web media or print media;
  - One essay question based on wider study of the media.

### A2 Level:

- One coursework research task, written up as a university-style essay (30%)
- One practical production task – no evaluation needed (20%)
- One exam (2 hours) (50%):
  - Three essay questions on new media technologies and representations, based on two unseen media texts.

## What are the course entry requirements?

- You will have B grade or higher in GCSE English or GCSE English Language.
- Note that skills in ICT and Art are useful and qualifications in these areas are also preferred.

## Who should apply for the course?

- People who read, watch and listen to the media for information and entertainment
- People who have good ICT skills and want to develop them further
- People who have an eye for making effective images and an interest in visual composition
- People who can write essays to deadlines
- People who like to think and talk about the modern world and how it works

## Career Paths:

- You get highly employable ICT skills that lend themselves to creative careers in behind-the-scenes media production.
- You get analytical skills that are valuable in any job that requires criticising the effectiveness of something, especially if this involves writing reports; i.e. any managerial role.
- You get deep insight into who really has power and influence in society, how they achieve it and how, in a small way, to use it yourself.

For more information contact the Head of Department at: [mbennett@crypt.gloucs.sch.uk](mailto:mbennett@crypt.gloucs.sch.uk)

# MUSIC

Level: AS and A2

Examination Board: OCR

## Course Outline:

AS Level: There are 3 units:

1. Performing Solo and Performing in an ensemble. The standard is Grade 4 as a minimum.
2. A Set of 6 exercises showing ability to add a piano accompaniment to a melody. A composition for at least 4 instruments.
3. A History paper where you need to show ability to analyse music aurally and show understanding of 6 pieces of music. There are 3 pieces representative of the development of western orchestral music and 3 showing the development of Jazz. An essay question is set.

A2 Level: There are 3 units:

1. A solo recital lasting approximately 12 minutes. You need to be performing pieces of a good grade 6 - 7 standard.
2. A set of 6 exercises in a given style and a composition - normally the composition of a song.
3. A History paper showing understanding of early 20<sup>th</sup> century vocal writing and the study of a specific genre.

## How will you be assessed?

All performances as assessed by a visiting examiner. (Unit 1 of AS and A2))

All exercises and compositions are coursework and will be internally assessed and externally moderated. (Unit 2)

History units are examined by written examination and assessed externally.

## What are the course entry requirements?

Grade B at GCSE or Grade 4 Practical and Music Theory. Candidates must be able to prove that their performance ability is of the standard required.

## Who should apply for the course?

Those who have an interest in developing performing and creative skills. If you already are a capable performer on an instrument or voice a third of the marks more accessible to you.

## Career Paths:

Music is very good as a subject for any student considering work in the Media, Theatre, Education, Music Therapy, Caring professions. It is viewed by Universities as a strong academic subject.

For more information contact the Head of Department at: [ihiscock@crypt.gloucs.sch.uk](mailto:ihiscock@crypt.gloucs.sch.uk)



# MUSIC TECHNOLOGY

Level: AS and A2

Examination Board: Edexcel

## Course Outline:AS

- 1) Present a portfolio of a Sequenced piece of music, a multi-track recording and a Sequenced arrangement (set stimulus from the exam board) 70%

This means that you need to be able to listen to a piece of music on a commercially produced CD and replicate this using sequencing software. You also need to use the recording desk to present a fine, finished CD of a group performance.

- 2) A written, aural examination on styles of popular music from 1910. 30%

A2

- 3) A Portfolio of three pieces: A Live & Sequenced Integrated recording, a multi-track recording and a composition from a set brief. 60%

- 4) Analysing and Producing. From given midi-data produce a final mixed sequence under exam conditions. This exam requires you to work from a CD sent by the exam board.

40%

## How will you be assessed?

For both AS and A2 you need to burn your work to CD and this, together with your log and evaluation, will be sent to the examining board for external marking.

The written paper is also assessed externally.

## What are the course entry requirements?

Grade B at GCSE Music or Grade 4 Practical and Music Theory.

## Who should apply for the course?

This course is for those students who have an interest in working with computers as a sequencing tool and the use of the recording desk. Although composition is not assessed access to areas of the course are greatly enhanced if you play the keyboard, guitar or drumkit. You do need to be able to read music and have an understanding of music theory and compositional techniques.

## Career Paths:

Music Technology is very good as a subject for any student considering work in the Media, Theatre, Education, and the world of electronically generated sounds.

For more information contact the Head of Department at: [ihiscock@crypt.gloucs.sch.uk](mailto:ihiscock@crypt.gloucs.sch.uk)

# PHYSICAL EDUCATION

Level: AS and A2

Examination Board: OCR

## Course Outline:

AS Level: The syllabus is diverse and focuses on following the areas of study, Anatomy and Physiology, Acquisition of Skill and Socio-cultural studies. Within A & P, students study joints, muscles and the mechanics of movement along with the cardiovascular and respiratory systems. Skill Acquisition includes skill classification, information processing, motor skills control and learning skills in PE. The Socio-cultural aspect includes PE and sport in schools, sport and culture and sporting issues analysis.

For the practical assessment students are required to take part in two activities as a performer, coach or an official. They are also assessed in an EPIP which is a talk based on analysing the performance of another student in their main sport.

A2 Level: The syllabus progresses the knowledge and understanding from AS level, Exercise Physiology, Sports Psychology and Comparative studies. Within Ex Phys, students study energy systems, ergogenic aids, principles of training and health components of physical fitness. Sports Psychology includes personality, attitudes, group dynamics and mental preparation. The Comparative aspect focuses on the organisation, opportunities, participation and excellence of Sport in the UK, USA and Australia.

For the practical assessment students are required to take part in one activity as a performer, coach or an official. They are also assessed in an E & A which is a talk based on analysing the performance of another student in their main sport, bringing together the theoretical knowledge acquired over the two years.

## How will you be assessed?

The course is 60% theory and 40% practical. The theory comprises of three separate units which are all examined in one 2 hour exam (AS)/2 and a half hour(A2) at the end of the course in June.

The practical is internally assessed and standardised through external moderation.

## What are the course entry requirements?

Science GCSE Grade - B  
PE GCSE Grade - B

## Who should apply for the course?

Students who have not studied PE at GCSE are still able to opt for A Level Physical Education. All candidates need to be aware of the level of practical levels that are required to access the higher level marks. Therefore regular participation in sport to a good standard is expected.

## Career Paths:

Sports Science related degrees, physiotherapy, teaching, coaching, fitness instructor.

For more information contact the Head of Department at: [ahamilton@crypt.gloucs.sch.uk](mailto:ahamilton@crypt.gloucs.sch.uk)

# RELIGIOUS STUDIES - PHILOSOPHY AND ETHICS

Level: AS and A2

Examination Board: WJEC

**Course Outline:** *There are two areas of study: the Philosophy of Religion and Religious Ethics.* The course is open to all pupils whether or not they have religious beliefs. The Philosophy modules consider the fundamental questions of human existence and the challenges posed to religious belief by the discipline of psychology/science and atheism. The revolutionary ideas of Plato and Aristotle form an integral part of the course as we go on to discuss the appropriateness of a belief in God in the 21<sup>st</sup> Century. The Ethics modules cover Moral Theory, as well as contemporary moral issues such as IVF, euthanasia, genetic engineering, sexual ethics, business and environmental ethics and the morality of warfare.

Research has suggested that Religious Studies leads to greater self-awareness and the likelihood of better grades in other post-16 subjects. This subject can raise the student's awareness of the moral dimension of modern life and nurture the student's ability to think clearly about the philosophical questions that face mankind. An unexamined life is not worth living. "It is better to be a human being unsatisfied than a pig satisfied; better to be Socrates unsatisfied than a fool satisfied..." J S Mill

## AS Level: RS1/2 PHIL: Introduction to Philosophy of Religion (AS)

It provides the opportunity for study of fundamental philosophical themes, including issues raised by human experiences of evil and suffering.

An awareness of the contribution of modern scholarship to understanding these topics is expected.

Four structured questions will be set, of which candidates will be required to answer two. All questions will carry equal marks.

### Subject Content

1. Cosmological Arguments
2. Teleological Arguments
3. Evil and Suffering
4. An introduction to Religious Experience: Mysticism

## RS1/2 ETH: Introduction to Religion and Ethics (AS)

It provides the opportunity for study of different approaches to the identification and resolution of moral issues of importance in human experience. An awareness of the contribution of modern scholarship to understanding of these topics is expected.

### Subject Content

1. Aquinas' Natural Law
2. Situation Ethics: Joseph Fletcher
3. Utilitarianism : Bentham and Mill
4. Applied Ethics

A2 Level:

## RS3 PHIL: Studies in Philosophy of Religion (A2)

It provides the opportunity for candidates to further their study and develop a synoptic understanding of Philosophy of Religion by examining some complex philosophical themes. An awareness of the contribution of modern scholarship to understanding these topics is expected.

1. Is religious faith rational?
2. Is religious language meaningful?
3. Is religious faith compatible with scientific evidence?
4. Are we 'free beings'?

## RS4 HE: Studies in Religion and Human Experience (A2)

It aims to provide candidates with the opportunity to make a holistic study on a specified theme and also draw together synoptically knowledge, understanding and skills learned throughout their Advanced course and apply them to a human experience issue.

Candidates will be required to write an essay under controlled conditions on a specified aspect of **EITHER** Religious Authority **OR** Religious Experience **OR** Life, Death and Life After Death.

**How will you be assessed?**

For each unit:

Four structured essay questions will be set, of which candidates will be required to answer two. All questions will carry equal marks.

**What are the course entry requirements?**

School GCSE general requirements.

Minimum 'B' in RE (ideally minimum 'B' in related humanities subject)

**Who should apply for the course?**

This subject will appeal particularly to those who have an interest in conceptual thought, a capacity for analytical thinking, and like arguing a case and can write clearly and fluently about their views.

Philosophy and Ethics is a subject that by its nature requires candidates to consider individual, moral, ethical, social, cultural and contemporary issues. Candidates will:

- consider moral values and attitudes of individuals, faith communities or contemporary society;
- develop skill in reasoning on matters concerning values, attitudes and actions;
- develop the ability to make responsible judgements on significant teaching and issues.
- the quest for meaning in life, truth and ultimate values;
- awareness of aspects of human life other than the physical and material;
- human experiences of transcendence, awe, wonder and mystery;

**Career Paths:**

This subject is a particularly relevant preparation for studying Philosophy And Ethics at University, but the wide range of skills and concepts involved in this flexible subject make it an effective preparation for all humanities and many of the social sciences.

Students can go on to study a wide range of courses at university and are then enabled to pursue a variety of careers such as in Law, Teaching, Management Consultancy, Business and Research.

For more information contact the Head of Department at: [kreynolds@crypt.gloucs.sch.uk](mailto:kreynolds@crypt.gloucs.sch.uk)

# PHYSICS

Level: AS and A2

Examination Board: OCR

Course Outline: See also

[http://www.ocr.org.uk/qualifications/type/gce/science/physics\\_b/](http://www.ocr.org.uk/qualifications/type/gce/science/physics_b/)

<http://www.gosford-hill.oxon.sch.uk/physics/html/helpforstudents.html>

## AS Level:

OCR Advanced Subsidiary GCE in Physics B (Advancing Physics) H159

Units G491 and G492 are assessed via a single examination in each with options for examination in January and June. Unit G493 is assessed via a time restricted practical task, and a research task culminating in a formal presentation to assessors.

### Unit G491: *Physics in Action*

The main focus in this unit is on varieties of physics in action, preparing the way for more theoretical 'curiosity driven' material in Unit G492. This is not to say that fundamental ideas are neglected: important ideas about information are approached through imaging and signaling; basic concepts of measurement are approached through sensors, in which work the fundamental concepts of electrical circuits are encountered; the crucial problems of relating macroscopic and microscopic views of the world are approached through the study of modern materials. Fundamental understandings of the world have a place too: for example, the existence of atoms, information from astronomical images, basic structures of matter, the fact that matter is made of charged particles.

It is split broadly into two areas of study: i) Communication and ii) Designer Materials

### Unit G492: *Understanding Processes and Experimentation and Data Handling*

*Understanding Processes* - provides progression from the strong orientation towards application of *Physics in Action*. *Understanding Processes* is organised around different ways of understanding processes of change: motion in space and time, wave motion, quantum behaviour. Its focus, more than in *Physics in Action*, is on 'curiosity-driven' physics. While providing a sound foundation in the classical physics of mechanics and waves, the unit takes the story further forward, touching on the quantum probabilistic view.

It is split broadly into two areas of study: i) Waves and Quantum behaviour and ii) Space, Time and Motion

### Unit G493: *Physics in Practice*

Throughout the Advancing Physics course candidates develop their ability to learn independently, and develop their experimental and investigational skills and their research and communication skills. There are many opportunities for formative assessment as a candidate follows the course. Candidates can see their progress through the levels in the assessment criteria. The assessment recognises the wide range of skills candidates develop during the course. i) Quality of Measurement - Practical Task and ii) Physics in Use - Research/Presentation Task

## A2 Level:

OCR Advanced GCE in Physics B (Advancing Physics) H559

Units G494 and G495 are assessed via a single examination in each with options for examination in January, May and June. Unit G496 is assessed via a time restricted practical task, and a research task culminating in the submission of formal report on the student's chosen topic.

### Unit G494: *Rise and Fall of the Clockwork Universe*

*Rise and Fall of the Clockwork Universe* - develops the grand conception of the world as a 'mathematical machine'. Some of its limits are also shown. Models and rules covers the core physics of random decay and the decay of the charge on a capacitor, energy and momentum, the harmonic oscillator and circular orbits. The field model is developed through consideration of gravitational fields.

Matter in extremes shows how theories of matter and atoms explain behaviour: covering the kinetic theory of gases, thermal behaviour of matter and the effect of temperature.

It is split broadly into two areas of study: i) **Models and Rules** and ii) **Matter in Extremes**

#### Unit G495: *Field and Particle Pictures*

*Field and Particle Pictures* - introduces the modern picture of fields and particle interactions as fundamental mechanisms of nature. Fields covers ideas about electromagnetism, electric field and potential. Fundamental Particles is about atomic, nuclear and sub-nuclear structure, with attention to ionising radiation and risk. This unit also consolidates, puts together and uses physics ideas from the whole course. A number of case studies show how different aspects of the physics in the course are used to tackle problems.

It is split broadly into two areas of study: i) **Fields** and ii) **Fundamental Particles**

#### Unit G496: *Researching Physics*

There are two coursework tasks in the A2 half of the Advanced GCE course. Each provides an opportunity for candidates to work independently, choosing their own topic for study. The tasks require more time from the candidate and it is expected there will be a significant difference in the outcome in comparison with those tasks tackled in the AS course. i) **Practical Investigation** and ii) **Research Briefing**

#### How will you be assessed?

AS Units (All available in January and June)	Time
G491 <i>30% of AS, 15% of A2</i> - range of structured questions, including extended writing	1h
G492 <i>50% of AS, 25% of A2</i> - range of questions, including extended writing, one section based on advance notice material	1h 45m
G493 <i>20% of AS, 10% of A2</i> - completion of tasks: Quality of Measurement and Physics in Use, marked by teachers using criteria	-
A2 Units (All available in January and June)	
G494 <i>15% of A2</i> - range of structured questions, including extended writing	1h 15m
G495 <i>25% of A2</i> - range of questions, including extended writing, one section based on pre-released material	2h
G496 <i>10% of A2</i> - completion of a Practical Investigation and a Research Briefing, marked by teachers using OCR criteria	-

ADVANCING PHYSICS COURSEWORK INFORMATION DOCUMENT

[http://www.ocr.org.uk/download/sm/ocr\\_12544\\_sm\\_gce\\_ch.pdf](http://www.ocr.org.uk/download/sm/ocr_12544_sm_gce_ch.pdf)

What are the course entry requirements?

Grade B GCSE minimum (Triple Award) or AA GCSE (Double Award)

plus

Grade A/A\* in Mathematics

Who should apply for the course?

Anyone who wishes to complete:-

1. Degree Courses in Physics or Engineering (including Medical Engineering and Nano Engineering)
2. Medicine (not actually required as such, but a greater percentage of students with Physics complete their course in Medicine)
3. Engineering Graduate Apprenticeship Training Schemes eg GE Aviation
4. Ultimate Finance Positions in the city.

Career Paths:

1. Engineering (Civil, Mechanical, Aeronautical, Electrical, Mining, Nuclear, Nano, Medical, Cybernetic, Materials)
2. Physics Research
3. Finance in the city
4. Teaching/Lecturing
5. Medicine

For more information contact the Head of Department at: [kdownes@crypt.gloucs.sch.uk](mailto:kdownes@crypt.gloucs.sch.uk)

# PSYCHOLOGY

Level: AS and A2

Examination Board: AQA

## Course Outline:

***“Psychology is the scientific study of the mind and behaviour”***

It gives fantastic insight into what we do and answers some of the questions we may have about why we do them. Key theories and key pieces of research will be analysed within each topic area. During your course of study you will learn a diverse range of topics. For example; how to improve memory, factors which affect eye witness testimony, the impact of different forms of day care on children’s development, the body’s physical response to stress, stress management techniques, causes and treatments of abnormality, explanations of social influence e.g. obedience and much, much, more! All this and only in your first year.

### AS Level:

Unit 1 – Cognitive Psychology Developmental Psychology and Research Methods

Unit 2 – Biological Psychology, Social Psychology and Individual Differences

### A2 Level:

Unit 3 – Bio Rhythms, Relationships and Aggression

Unit 4 – Psychopathology (Depression), Psychology in Action (addiction), Research Methods

## How will you be assessed?

- Two exams AS
- Two exams A2
- **NO** coursework

Please note that there will be essay questions involved within the assessment process.

## What are the course entry requirements?

At least 2 B’s in Science, higher if course demand exceeds space.

## Who should apply for the course?

### You should apply if;

- You are interested in people
- You want to know why people behave the way they do
- You enjoy discussions about issues relevant to you and the society you live in and are willing to actively participate in lessons.
- You are analytical i.e. you don't just take things at face value
- You enjoy science and practical research
- You can write essays or are willing to develop this skill
- You are prepared to read around the subject
- You are organised
- You are willing to work hard

### Don't apply if;

- You want to study body language
- You think that you will be able to read minds
- You think it's the easy option

### Career Paths:

The best thing about Psychology is its diverse application as an academic qualification. You do not need to have studied it at GCSE or be intending to study it at University, but employers think it is a great A Level to have because it has so many diverse applications.

There are so many transferable skills from studying Psychology such as skills of analysis, team working, organisation, independent research, presentational skills, essay writing and report writing that it doesn't really matter what your career choice is. You will find a topic or skill set relevant to that career and Psychology will compliment any other subject that you chose. You could eventually go on to train in the following areas;

- Clinical Psychology
- Counselling Psychology
- Educational Psychology
- Forensic/Criminal Psychology
- Health Psychology
- Occupational Psychology
- [Sport](#) and Exercise Psychology
- Further & Higher Education Psychology Teaching

A degree in Psychology is essential in order to obtain employment or further training in these occupations. See the **British Psychological Society (BPS)** website for more details:

[www.bps.org.uk/careers](http://www.bps.org.uk/careers)

**For more information contact the Head of Department at: [jhart@crypt.gloucs.sch.uk](mailto:jhart@crypt.gloucs.sch.uk)**



*Jonathan Standen - Headmaster*

## Parents

Thank you for your interest in The Crypt School at this important stage of your son's / daughter's life. We pride ourselves on high academic standards, high expectations, strong pastoral care, and a personalised curriculum to tailor sixth form education for the individual. We support and challenge our students to ensure they meet their academic targets and grow personally so that they leave school as well rounded young adults, with the confidence, knowledge and skills required for life in the modern world.

Our Year 13 results in 2011 were the best ever recorded at Crypt, and demonstrate "value added" for our students – that is they achieved at least as well as could be expected. 87% of our students gained their places at their first choice of university in a highly competitive year. 33% of our students are now studying at one of the top 30 most selective universities, and 5 of our students are now studying at Oxford or Cambridge.

The message is clear: students who choose Crypt for sixth form studies will achieve as well here as they would in any other institution. Academic success lies at the heart of every school's mission, and is based in large part upon a supportive structure in which teachers and tutors make time for each individual. A happy student is likely to be a successful one, and I am proud of our welcoming, friendly environment. Crypt also offers a wide range of extra curricular enrichment opportunities to support the formal curriculum. Sports, music, trips, the arts and other activities underpin a vibrant and exciting phase in your son's / daughter's life. There are numerous opportunities for leadership from formal prefect roles to mentoring younger students.

The school itself continues to develop. Our VI form students now have use of a £1.4m state of the art Learning Resource Centre, which includes an ICT suite and four dedicated sixth form teaching rooms in addition to a library. This new building offers 21<sup>st</sup> century private study facilities for our students, with formal work zones and an informal coffee bar area. In 2011 we have opened a Food Technology Room, and we offer all of our VI form students' core cooking skills – tasty meals on a university budget! The size of our sixth form has grown in the past four years, and the percentage of female students has increased markedly. With well over 200 students in the VI form we retain the advantages of a middle sized school in which we can get to know each student personally, whilst at the same time that growth has enabled us to develop our curriculum offer. For example we now offer our students the AQA Baccalaureate and Open University modules, which will enhance their chances of securing places at the most prestigious universities.

Success is judged primarily upon academic results, but a sixth form education at Crypt entails so much more than this. Fond memories of my school days remain with me. I want our students to feel, as I did, that they are a part of something very special.

My staff and I look forward to meeting you.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Jonathan Standen". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Welcome!



Thank you for visiting The Crypt School and its Sixth Form. We are confident that you will be impressed with what we can offer to you and trust that your evening with us will be both positive and rewarding.

Our Sixth Form offers challenge and opportunity: for the first time you are able to choose to continue your education and we believe that we can offer something that will suit your own interests, personality and abilities.

At Crypt we value success and we are firmly committed to the development of academic excellence. Life in the Sixth Form will be different in a number of ways from what you have been used to in Y11 and we are delighted with the confident young men and women and independent learners who leave us at the end of Year 13.

Essentially, successful AS and A2 study is a partnership between students and teachers, working towards a common goal. However, you will now need to become more responsible for your own learning within a challenging environment and you will be encouraged to think for yourself and to develop the self-discipline and rigour needed for success at Advanced Level.

As well as your academic work we want to encourage you to be fully involved in the life of the school. We believe that leadership and teamwork are important skills for all young adults and we are keen to provide chances for you to develop them as well as making a contribution to the wider community.



*The Student Executive*



*Some of the Sixth Form Prize-Winners*

Not only are Sixth Form students encouraged to participate in extra-curricular and enrichment activities such as Drama, Music, Sport and community projects but we will also expect you to take a lead in developing these activities in the sixth form and with younger pupils. I hope that many of you aspire to the role of School Prefect or even becoming part of the Student Executive team.

We expect you to aim high and academic ambition is encouraged. You will find your working environment at Crypt both challenging and cheerful - but high standards are never achieved without appropriate effort. You will be given plenty of support to enable you to develop as students but it is crucial that you play your part as well. Not only do we want you to leave the Sixth Form having done your best but also we want your time spent at The Crypt to be happy and stimulating.



*There has been an increase in the number of girls in our Sixth Form.*

*Preparing for life after sixth form: students learning how to cook healthy meals on a budget.*



*The Year 13 Students co-ordinate their own formal Leaver's Dinner*

So, please make sure that you have a good look around this evening: ask appropriate questions of the staff and students who are here to help you and, above all, if you feel that Crypt is right for you, please complete an application form.

I hope that you have a rewarding evening and I look forward to meeting you individually.

*Matt Bough*

Assistant Headteacher (14-19)  
Head of Sixth Form



## A Student's View

In comparison to the secondary education you will have previously experienced, sixth form life at Crypt is significantly different. As a sixth form student you are expected to take your education much more into your own hands, making the best possible use of your time and working hard to achieve, and exceed, your potential.

Although there is great emphasis upon hard work, in the Crypt Sixth Form, we get the balance right. Designated private study periods provide students with the opportunity to complete tasks and assignments, as well as increasing the depth of your subject knowledge by conducting further research and reading beyond the syllabus. In these sessions the restraints that you may have experienced in previous years are lifted, and you are able to gain a greater sense of independence. As well as acquiring this freedom for your learning, you may also be offered the opportunity to study at home in the afternoons, as long as you are meeting all of your other targets! This allows students to use their day in the most effective way. Most importantly however, is the mutual respect that is felt between students and with the teaching staff.

Teachers recognise sixth formers as young adults and treat them accordingly, building strong working relationships. It is this ethos that creates the Crypt's wholesome, friendly atmosphere that makes it so welcoming to newcomers.

In terms of academia, it is different from anything you will have come across so far, as teachers endeavour to personalise your learning. Not only does this make lessons more engaging, but it allows students the opportunity to further their knowledge and develop a passion for their subjects. Teachers recognise that not every student in the sixth form is the same, and that not everyone may achieve top grades, yet they continue to stretch individuals beyond the confines of the syllabus in order to get the best out of them. Although you may think this will be a struggle, do not be surprised if you surpass the expectations that even you may have had of yourself; this has become a regular feature of the Crypt Sixth Form.

Now, more than ever, the Crypt is able to provide the most up-to-date resources and facilities to enhance your learning experience. During breaks and lunches, the John and Joan Cooke Centre, opened in April 2009, along with the common room and terrace, provide exclusive sixth-form only space, which is perfect for students to relax and unwind, as well as to integrate with the rest of the sixth form. The recently refurbished Learning Resource Centre is abundant in fictional books for the purpose of pure enjoyment, whilst also being thoroughly stocked with extensive non-fiction reading materials in all subjects. With the addition of the new I.T. suite in the Cooke Centre, and the many others around the school, finding a computer is never a problem. The newly opened Food Technology room is not only modern and up-to-date, but will be extremely influential upon sixth form students, providing them with life-skills for the impending prospect of university.

Although we primarily join the sixth form to gain qualifications, Crypt is fundamental in the personal development of students and encouraging them to become well-rounded people. Crypt has a great sense of community, especially so in the sixth form. We hold a number of social events throughout the year, which not only allows students to interact and have fun outside school, but also doubles up as a great way of raising money; either for charities selected by the sixth form, or for the Student Executive body to invest in the sixth form itself to improve facilities and the lives of sixth formers. Of course there are other opportunities to engage in student life: countless sports, drama, music and fundraising clubs mean that there is something for everyone. Students are also given the opportunity to apply for a number of student roles within the school. These range from being a member of the Sixth Form Council, undertaking the role of Prefect, mentoring younger pupils, or even in the upper sixth becoming a member of the Student Executive. These roles provide individuals with the chance to represent themselves and their peers, and have a say as to what they want to see happen in the school.

From my personal point of view, the Crypt has been the perfect choice for my sixth form study. I have worked hard to achieve the qualifications I have, but more importantly have had fun whilst doing so. Teachers acknowledge the importance of this balance; when it is essential for them to turn up the pressure and require nothing but your best, and when to reward your efforts. The Crypt is place where traditions are embraced by students but we are also innovative and forward-thinking. If, like me, you choose Crypt, I know that you will be successful but also fully enjoy your Sixth Form experience.



Caitlin Davies  
Crypt School Captain

## University and A-Level Subject Choice

The A level subject choices you make when in Year 11 can have a significant impact on the course options available to you at university. In considering your advanced level choices, it is a good idea to consider the broad ways in which certain subject combinations tend to relate to broad groups of university degree courses.

A student who is good at science often chooses Chemistry, Biology, Mathematics and Physics. This will keep open all the science/mathematics options at university. For the sake of maintaining a wider outlook on life, however, many students will replace one of the sciences with an arts/humanities subject or a social science. In terms of science choices, if you know you are inclined towards the life sciences you should choose Chemistry and Biology. If you know you are on the engineering side you should choose Mathematics and Physics.

A student who is good at arts/humanities/social sciences often chooses a combination of subjects at advanced level from 'essay' based subjects. A large range of university degrees in the arts/humanities, social sciences and business fields will be open to such a student, but not normally degrees in the mathematics/sciences field.

Some students will emphasise their linguistic abilities by doing not one but two foreign languages. Students that study languages are highly sought after by universities for language degrees or degree courses with a language component.

If you have a talent in music you may well want to study it at university. If so, it is important that you take Music to advanced level.

If you have a talent in art you may well be thinking about an art foundation course as a precursor to a degree programme. Studying a subject like Art or Design Technology at advanced level will provide you with the basis for your portfolio, which you will need to gain entry to an art foundation course.

### Which subjects are required for different degree courses?

You are advised to consult the list provided by Russell Group universities at <http://www.russellgroup.ac.uk/uploads/InformedChoicesupdated.pdf> in conjunction with more detailed information on the UCAS website and on university websites.

It is important to note that this list notes essential advanced level qualifications only and not the other subjects which will be useful preparation for a degree course in a specific discipline.

- Accountancy: usually no subjects are essential although one or two universities require Mathematics
- Actuarial Science/Studies: Mathematics.
- Aeronautical Engineering: Mathematics and Physics.
- American Studies: requirements vary but English and/or History are often asked for.
- Anthropology: no subjects are essential.
- Archaeology: no subjects are essential.
- Architecture: some courses say they want an arts/science mix. Some may require Art.
- Art and Design: Art or Design Technology.
- Biochemistry: always Chemistry and some degrees will say that you must have Biology as well, while some say Chemistry plus one from Mathematics/Physics/Biology. Doing Chemistry, Biology and Mathematics or Physics will keep all Biochemistry courses open to you.
- Biology: Biology and Chemistry.
- Biomedical Sciences (including Medical Science): normally two from Biology, Chemistry, Mathematics and Physics. Chemistry is essential for some courses.

- Business Studies: no subjects are essential.
- Chemical Engineering: Chemistry and Mathematics and sometimes Physics as well.
- Chemistry: Chemistry and occasionally Mathematics. Most courses require Chemistry and would like Mathematics and one other science subject (for example, Physics or Biology).
- Childhood Studies: no subjects are essential.
- Classical Studies: for Classics courses Latin or Ancient Greek are required. For Classical Studies and Classical Civilisation courses most subjects will be considered. Do note that there are some Classics courses which will allow you to start Latin and/or Classical Greek from scratch.
- Computing: for some courses, Mathematics.
- Dentistry: Chemistry and Biology for most courses, but some require Mathematics and Physics as well.
- Dietetics: Chemistry, Biology.
- Drama: some courses require English Literature and for a few courses English and/ or Theatre Studies.
- Economics: usually Mathematics.
- Electrical/Electronic Engineering: Mathematics, Physics.
- Engineering (General): Mathematics and Physics.
- English: English Literature. Some courses will accept English Language.
- Environmental Science/Studies: many courses will ask for two from Biology, Chemistry, Mathematics, Physics and Geography.
- European Studies: a modern foreign language.
- French: French.
- Geography: most degrees require Geography.
- Geology/Earth Sciences: usually two from Mathematics, Physics, Chemistry and Biology.
- German: German (a handful of universities offer the opportunity to study German from scratch, without German A level).
- History: most degrees require History.
- History of Art: no subjects are essential.
- Italian: Italian or another language such as French, German or Spanish.
- Law: usually none, although a few universities require English.
- Management Studies: sometimes Mathematics.
- Materials Science (including Biomedical Materials Science): normally two from Chemistry, Mathematics, Physics, Biology (also Design Technology for some universities).
- Mathematics: Mathematics and sometimes Further Mathematics.
- Mechanical Engineering: Mathematics, Physics.
- Media Studies (including Communication Studies): a few courses ask for English or Media Studies.
- Medicine: If you do Chemistry, Biology and one from Mathematics or Physics you will keep all the medical schools open to you. If you do Chemistry and Biology you will keep open the vast majority. If you do Chemistry and one from Mathematics and Physics you will limit your range of choices much more.
- Music: for most traditional courses, Music and Grade VII/VIII
- Nursing and Midwifery: usually Biology or another science.
- Occupational Therapy: some courses ask for Biology.
- Optometry (Ophthalmic Optics): two from Biology, Chemistry, Mathematics or Physics (some courses prefer Biology as pen of the choices).
- Orthoptics: Biology.
- Pharmacy: Chemistry and one from Biology, Mathematics and Physics keeps the vast majority of courses open to you. Some courses like to see Chemistry, Biology and Mathematics. Doing Chemistry and Biology keeps most courses open.
- Philosophy: no subjects are essential.
- Physics: Mathematics, Physics.

- Physiotherapy: most courses will consider you with just Biology, however some also require a second science from Chemistry, Mathematics or Physics.
- Politics: no subjects are essential.
- Psychology: a few courses ask for one from Biology, Chemistry, Mathematics, Physics.
- Religious Studies/Theology: no subjects are essential.
- Sociology: no subjects are essential.
- Spanish: Spanish (some degrees will also consider French, German or Italian).
- Speech Therapy: some degrees want a science such as Biology, Chemistry or Physics. Some specify Biology, but some degrees will consider candidates with none of these.
- Sports Science/Physical Education: many courses want to see one from Biology/Chemistry/Mathematics/Physics (some courses will treat Physical Education as a science equivalent).
- Surveying: no subjects are essential.
- Teacher Training (Primary and/or Secondary): at least one from Art, Biology, Chemistry, Design and Technology, Drama (Theatre Studies), English, French, Geography, German, History, ICT, Italian, Mathematics, Music, Physics, Physical Education, Religious Studies (Theology), Spanish (those best for primary teaching shown in italics).
- Veterinary Science: you should do Chemistry and Biology and one from Mathematics/Physics so that you have all universities open to you.

### **The Crypt School University Support Programme**

Expert support and guidance is offered to all students who are considering applying for university study. Each year the majority of our students proceed to their first choice universities. The school will offer detailed guidance on how to complete the university application or UCAS form and provide all students with mock interview experience. Students are encouraged to attend university open days, and all year 12 students attend a UCAS convention to begin to think about their choice of course and university. At the end of year 12, all students are registered on the UCAS system and attend a number of university seminars delivered at school, whilst parents are invited to a Higher Education information evening in June.

### **Oxbridge**

Each year a significant number of Crypt students apply to Oxford and Cambridge Universities and a pleasing number of them achieve success. In 2011 for example, 5 students gained entry. Competition is fierce, and anything which you can do to differentiate yourself from the competition will help. You should be reading widely and taking every opportunity given to you in class to extend your work beyond that required by the syllabus. Successful applicants have always shown a proactive approach to developing their love of learning in their chosen field.



Some subjects require applicants to take a special test; this may be a national test such as the BMAT for medicine or may be a paper set and marked by the university. Many courses will also require you to send in examples of marked work from Year 12. You should ensure that you familiarise yourself with all the details so that you can plan your preparation accordingly.

We provide students with a number of opportunities throughout the year to aid their application to Oxford and Cambridge universities. These include organised visits to both Oxford, attendance at an Oxbridge regional conference and a talk at School by an Oxbridge Admissions tutor. Past students also frequently offer their help and advice. We also arrange mock interviews.

### **The Open University (OU) Young Applicants In Schools Scheme (YASS)**

To support students who want to study for degrees at the most competitive universities or wish to extend their understanding of their favourite subject further, the School offers students in Year 12 the opportunity to study for an OU undergraduate module in a range of different subject areas.

The OU YASS enables academically gifted students in Years 12 and 13 to study a range of selected undergraduate modules at first-year level alongside their subjects. The scheme gives students the opportunity to study at university level, encourages independent learning, builds confidence and has the added bonus of differentiating them from other students when it comes to applying to traditional universities

Students study OU modules in their own time; mostly evenings and weekends or during some of their non-contact periods at school. OU modules can be fitted around their school studies and offer considerable flexibility.

In the academic year 2009 / 10 some 21 students in Year 12 embarked on an OU course in 2010/11 the number was 14. They studied a range of OU modules and through this experience developed a deeper knowledge of the topic areas under study, improved their independent study skills and had a taste of undergraduate study.

The students involved greatly valued the experience. Universities also support the scheme and studying for an OU module undoubtedly enhances a student's UCAS form. In fact, at university interviews, panels were very interested to hear about the OU experience.

Studying for an OU module certainly strengthens students' chances of gaining entry onto the most competitive university courses; further differentiating them from their peers

### **Employment, careers and apprenticeship support and guidance**

Many students decide not to proceed directly to university and wish to embark on a training programme or go direct into employment. Apprenticeships are also very sought after by students and the School has developed an excellent track record in supporting students into apprenticeships. For example, a strong relationship has developed with Gloucester-based Messier-Dowty, where students with A-levels in Physics and/or Maths for example have been recruited on Messier -Dowty's apprenticeship programme. Local company Renishaw have also expressed interest in recruiting top scientists onto their training and university bursary programmes. We will seek to strengthen these relationships over the coming years to the benefit of our students. In addition, all students are given careers advice in school and have the opportunity to benefit from external expertise through prospects, our in-house careers fair and the excellent u-explore website.

### **Enrichment**

All students are encouraged to get involved in life beyond their A-levels and the classroom. Participation in sport, music, drama, Duke of Edinburgh, cooking and other enrichment activities is encouraged. We also allow students to use Wednesday afternoons for work experience or for volunteering. Students can strengthen their leadership skills through perfecting, mentoring, the Sports leaders programme and becoming a member of the prestigious Sixth Form Executive. With new facilities available for fitness, dance and drama the enrichment provision available will only strengthen in the future.



## **Admissions Policy for 2012 Intake**

**Lead Person :** Headmaster  
**Governing Body Committee :** Admissions

The Crypt School is an Academy and the Governing Body is the admissions authority. As such the school is responsible for determining its admissions arrangements.

### **Admissions criteria for entry to the VI form – year 12**

The VI form at Crypt is mixed gender. Admission to the VI form is open to both internal and external candidates. The entry criteria for year 12 is a minimum of 7 A\*-C in a broad range of subjects, including English and Maths and which should include at least 4 B grades. In all subjects a minimum of a B grade at GCSE is required to study the subject at A level. Access to certain courses will require a higher minimum level of entry, which will be determined by the Headmaster and the Head of VI form. Application forms and details of entry requirements will be available at the Open Evening and from the school office. Deadlines for applications will be on the application form.

The admissions number for external candidates for year 12 is 40 students, although this can be exceeded if the school is able to meet demand for available courses.

### **Admissions criteria for entry to the VI form – year 13**

Admission is dependent upon satisfactory progress at AS level against predicted grades.

Reviewed and Approved by Admissions Committee : September 2011

## SPANISH

Level: AS and A2

Spanish will be offered in the Sixth Form from September 2012

Further details will be available at a later date.

# STATISTICS

Level: AS and A2

Examination Board: AQA

## Course Outline:

AS Level:

Statistics: 33%

Numerical Measures, Probability, The Binomial and Normal Distributions, Estimation, Confidence Intervals and statistical inference, Correlation and Regression. Again, the main purpose of this topic is to learn how to interpret and analyse information.

Statistics 2: 33%

Time Series Analysis, Sampling, Discrete Probability functions, Poisson Distribution, Data Interpretation and Hypothesis testing.

Statistics 3: 33%

Goodness of Fit using Chi Square, Distribution Free Methods in Statistics, Analysis of Paired Comparisons and Correlation.

A2 Level:

Statistics 4:

Continuous Probability Functions, Distributional Approximations, Further Estimation and Hypothesis testing.

Statistics 5:

Further Continuous Probability Distributions, Estimation and Further Chi Square Goodness of Fit.

Statistics:

Experimental Design, Analysis of Variance, Statistical Process Control and Acceptance sampling.

## How will you be assessed?

AS : Statistics S1 34% Statistics S2 33%, Statistics S3 33%

A2 : Statistics S4 33% Statistics S5 34% Statistics S6 33%

## What are the course entry requirements?

Preferable minimum Grade B in GCSE Mathematics.

## Who should apply for the course?

Students who :-

- 1) enjoy Mathematics/Statistics and are 'good' at this subject.
- 2) Are good at problem solving and enjoy logical thinking.
- 3) Enjoy challenges!
- 4) Will find Statistics helpful in other subjects, e.g. Business, etc.

## Career Paths:

- 1) University for Maths related degrees.
- 2) Wishing to pursue Financial/Business careers.
- 3) Teaching.
- 4) Wishing to pursue any career where Mathematics is a significant support.

For more information contact the Head of Department at: [proberts@crypt.gloucs.sch.uk](mailto:proberts@crypt.gloucs.sch.uk)

# THEATRE STUDIES

Level: AS and A2

Examination Board: AQA

## Course Outline:

### AS Level:

Unit 1: Study a text from a chosen list - A Doll's House currently - to write an essay from an actor's, a director's or a designer's point of view.

See several live performances, study the text and write an evaluative essay. Both are in an examination format, 45 minutes per question.

Unit 2: perform an extract from a published play

to an internal examiner and an external moderator. This is supplemented by written notes on the preparation process.

### A2 Level:

Unit 3: A written examination on two studied texts, one question from a directorial standpoint - on Coram Boy - the other from an actor's, director's or a designer's point of view - Lady Windermere's Fan currently. Each question is 1 hour in length.

Unit 4: a devised play on a topic chosen by the centre, performed to an audience, an internal examiner and a visiting moderator.

## How will you be assessed?

Coursework is required for both performances which is marked by the internal examiner who also marks the performances; these marks are moderated after each performance has taken place.

## What are the course entry requirements?

At least a 'B' grade in Drama at GCSE. It is possible to follow the course without GCSE Drama but it is very difficult to catch up. An audition would be necessary.

## Who should apply for the course?

Students who enjoy performing, like reading and have an analytical mind will normally succeed. Working with other people effectively is also essential and the need to be able to compromise is a prerequisite. Visits to the theatre are regular throughout the course. They are not compulsory but the examinations cannot be written without students having seen live performances so several visits are recommended.

## Career Paths:

University courses in performing arts leading to careers in theatre or films/television; teaching drama; drama schools for performing careers.

For more information contact the Head of Department at: [igriffiths@crypt.gloucs.sch.uk](mailto:igriffiths@crypt.gloucs.sch.uk)



The entrance requirements for our sixth form in September 2012 are as follows:

- ◆ Admission to the VI form is open to both internal and external candidates. The entry criteria for year 12 is a minimum of 7 GCSE grades at A\*- C in a broad range of subjects, including English and Maths and which should include at least 4 B grades. In all subjects a minimum of a B grade at GCSE is required to study the subject at A level, with access to certain courses requiring a higher minimum level of entry.
- ◆ You must have passed GCSE Maths and English Language at Higher Tier GCSE B grade or above.
- ◆ For most A-Level courses it is advisable to have studied the same or a related course at GCSE.
- ◆ You should not take four completely 'new' A-Level subjects – i.e. ones that you have not studied at GCSE.
- ◆ Access to certain courses (e.g. AQA Baccalaureate, Open University YASS, and GCSE Latin in Y12) will require a higher minimum level of entry, which will be determined by the Headmaster and the Head of Sixth Form.

#### ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:

Please indicate why you have chosen these particular courses and include ideas you might have about your future career.

#### SIGNATURES

Applicant:

Parent /  
Guardian:

Please return this completed form, by Friday 27<sup>th</sup> January 2012 to:

Mrs J. James  
Sixth Form Admissions Officer  
The Crypt School  
Podsmead  
Gloucester  
GL2 5AE

Telephone: 01452 530291  
Email: [office@thecryptschool.org.uk](mailto:office@thecryptschool.org.uk)  
Fax: 01452 530292  
Web: [www.cryptschool.org](http://www.cryptschool.org)