



Dare to be great



QUEENS' SCHOOL SIXTH FORM COURSE GUIDE

2017-2018

WELCOME TO THE SIXTH FORM AT QUEENS' SCHOOL

Head of Sixth's Welcome

Visitors to Queens' Sixth Form encounter a vibrant, busy but caring environment where ideas, opinions and academic debate are part of the culture. We believe that there are no limits to the academic progress of committed, hardworking and dedicated students and our position as one of the best Sixth Forms nationally (top 10%) suggests we are right!

There are vast opportunities for students to develop at Queens', whether that is in nurturing their burgeoning leadership or sports skills or finding time to explore the mysteries of the universe in our well stocked library, which boasts a truly superb collection of books, magazines and journals and is the "hub" of Sixth Form intellectual life. Sixth Formers also continue to enjoy the acres of space, the superb sport and coaching facilities offered at Queens' as well as a designated Sixth Form block with separate café facilities, computer rooms and a large study centre.

As the Head of Sixth Form, I unashamedly want the very best for each and every Sixth Former at Queens', whether that takes the form of examination success, sporting achievement, intellectual endeavour, personal integrity, community service or general scholarship. The interests, aims and goals of our Sixth Formers are diverse, ambitious and exciting and it is our desire to support them to pursue whichever pathway helps them be their very best and discover their own "greatness".

An enjoyment of the pursuit of academic excellence, a willingness to make the most of opportunities and of mistakes and a strong feeling of community pervade Queens' Sixth Form and our students' leave well-prepared for the next exciting phase of their lives.

We have a strong pastoral support system at Queens' and our Sixth Form builds upon the fine traditions of our House system. There are a team of eight experienced tutors assigned to each year of the Sixth Form, working closely with a Head of Year and ably supported by the Sixth Form Student Manager and Head of Sixth. Communication is crucial to enjoying and succeeding in the Sixth Form and I would encourage you to speak to teachers, tutors, Head of Year or Head of Sixth Form should you have any concerns. I look forward to welcoming you to our Sixth Form.

Mr Barrie Murphy

Excellence, then is not an act but a habit- Aristotle

Queens' Sixth Form Further Information

Sixth Form Enquiries

6thadmin@queens.herts.sch.uk

For general enquiries please email, or alternatively, telephone on **01923 478 206**

Qualifications Explained:

From September 2017 all A-Level subjects will be operating on the reformed, linear, system which consists of a two year course examined at the end of Year 13. Grades are awarded between A*-G.

BTEC Level 3 Qualifications in Business and Sport are also offered at Queens' and are equivalent to A-Levels in terms of time, UCAS points, or employer recognition.

These qualifications tend to have more of an industry focus and are largely assessed by coursework (although there is still a significant externally graded component).

Typical Sixth Form Programme of Study

We offer a wide range of A-Level courses and BTEC courses in Sport and Business. At Queens' the majority of students study three subjects in Year 12.

The exception to this are students whose GCSE results suggest they are capable of the challenge of 4 and those students who want to study Further Maths. A student's timetable also includes a PSE programme, Games and private study periods as well as a bespoke enrichment programme to prepare students for Extended Projects and entry into the top Russell Group Universities including Oxbridge or for the most competitive course e.g. Medicine.

Entry Requirements:

4 A Levels APS of 7.5 or above

3 A Levels APS of 5.5 or above -and to meet subject entry requirements.

(This is a grade 6 (B) at GCSE for most subjects)

(N.B. Students must also have a grade 5 or above in GCSE Maths and English)

Course Selection

Given that A Levels are now **a two year commitment**, it is important that you make the right choices. Here are a few pointers to help you:

Choose Subjects You Will/ Do Enjoy

The most likely way you will achieve success in A Level studies is by choosing subjects that you enjoy and are genuinely interested in. If you do not enjoy studying a subject, you will lack the motivation and therefore the discipline needed to succeed. You will be studying these subjects for five hours of lessons per week with an additional six hours of private study. Enjoying the subjects means enjoying these hours.

Research Your Options

Take time to find out all you need to know. This Options Book will give you an overview of what is involved in all of the subjects and links to websites where you can find the syllabus which will also give you more detail. Speak to your teachers and find out more about what is involved especially in subjects which you will not have done for GCSE such as Politics or Psychology. Make sure you attend our taster days in June to get a real flavour of what A Level lessons are like in various subjects.

Consider Post-18 Progression

Choose subjects which will fit in with your aspirations for higher education or career plans. Some career or degree choices require particular A-Level subjects, so check carefully, especially for medical courses and engineering. Some popular courses at competitive universities have very specific criteria for entry and this includes A-Level subject choice. You must build an academic profile which is suited to the future academic or professional paths that you wish to follow.

Visit www.ucas.ac.uk or individual university websites to view specific details about what is required for individual courses. Alternatively the Russell Group has prepared the **“Informed Choices”** Booklet which is available to download from the Sixth Form area of our website.

The key to making a success out of Sixth Form, even if you are unsure of what you want to study or do post-18, is to give yourself the best possible academic and personal portfolio and achieve the best examination results you can; this will ensure that the maximum number of routes are open to you in the future.

Should students require any further guidance and advice on A-Level choices please do contact a member of the Sixth Form team; either Mr Murphy (Head of Sixth Form), Mr Smith (Head of Year) or Mr Walsh (Head of Year).

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ART

“Logic will get you from point A to point B. Creativity will take you everywhere.”
ALBERT EINSTEIN.

THE COURSE SPECIFICATION CAN BE FOUND AT: Edexcel

<http://qualifications.pearson.com/en/qualifications/edexcel-a-levels/art-and-design-2015.html>

THE COURSE CONTENT OF THE SUBJECT IS AS FOLLOWS:

Component 1 - Coursework (60%)

A visual project with an internally set theme. A 3000 word personal study.

Component 2 - Externally set examination (40%)

A visual project with an externally set theme. 15 hour timed test

Further Guidance on Component 2 (40%): This is a 10 week personal project based on a theme that is externally set by Edexcel. The 10 week preparatory period ends with a 15 hour timed test in which the final outcome is produced. All work from the 10 week period and the timed test is assessed.

THE NEXT STEP WITHIN THE SUBJECT;

A Level Fine Art is an excellent precursor to a career in the creative sector. The UK's creative industries are now worth a record £84.1 billion to the UK economy. Higher education destinations for past students include prestigious institutions such as St Martin's College and The Slade. Courses studied at universities include Fine Art, Fashion, Architecture, Education, Digital Media, textiles, graphic design, advertising and many more.

WHAT PREVIOUS STUDENTS THOUGHT ABOUT THE COURSE:

“Art is a very independent subject. I have thoroughly enjoyed working on my personal study and having the opportunity to make decisions about the development of my own project. The Art teachers are skilled at guiding us in the right direction, giving us the confidence to achieve high grades I look forward to my lessons.”

APPLIED SCIENCE

'Science....never solves a problem without creating ten more.'

GEORGE BERNARD SHAW

THE COURSE SPECIFICATION CAN BE FOUND AT: AQA

<http://www.aqa.org.uk/subjects/science/applied-general/science>

THE COURSE CONTENT OF THE SUBJECT IS AS FOLLOWS:

Unit 1: Key concepts in science

Unit 2: Applied experimental techniques

Unit 3: Science in the modern world

Unit 4: The human body

Unit 5: Investigating science

Unit 6: Medical physics

The course consists of six units; three of which will be assessed through the submission of a portfolio (2, 5 & 6), two units are assessed through exams (1 & 4) and one through an exam with pre-release material (3).

THE NEXT STEP WITHIN THE SUBJECT

This qualification has been developed in collaboration with higher education and other stakeholders in the science education sector. Therefore, the knowledge and skills gained will provide the best possible opportunity for progress to higher education or employment.

When taken alongside other qualifications it can fulfil the entry requirements for a number of science-related higher education courses, including biomedical, forensic and sports science, as well as nursing.

WHAT PREVIOUS STUDENTS THOUGHT ABOUT THE COURSE:

BIOLOGY

“The one process now going on that will take millions of years to correct is the loss of genetic and species diversity by the destruction of natural habitats. This is the folly our descendants are least likely to forgive us.”

EDWARD WILSON.

THE COURSE SPECIFICATION CAN BE FOUND AT: OCR

www.ocr.org.uk/qualifications/as-a-level-gce-biology-h021-h4-21/

THE COURSE CONTENT OF THE SUBJECT IS AS FOLLOWS:

Module 1 – Development of practical skills in biology

Module 2 – Foundations in biology

Module 3 – Exchange and transport

Module 4 – Biodiversity, evolution and disease

Module 5 – Communication, homeostasis and energy

Module 6 – Genetics, evolution and ecosystems

EXAMINATION INFORMATION IS AS FOLLOWS:-

There are three written theory examinations at the end of the course: Biological processes; Biological Diversity; Unified biology. The Practical endorsement is by internal assessment of coursework practical activities.

THE NEXT STEP WITHIN THE SUBJECT:

Students go onto further study in a range of fields including:

Biochemistry; Biological Sciences;
Biomedicine; Dentistry; Ecology;
Genetics; Medicine; Physiotherapy

WHAT PREVIOUS STUDENTS THOUGHT ABOUT THE COURSE:

The variety of topics covered helped me to identify the specific areas I wish to study at university.

H Weston

BUSINESS BTEC

“Vision without action is merely a dream. Action without vision passes the time. Vision with the right action can change the world.”

Joel A Barker

THE COURSE SPECIFICATION CAN BE FOUND AT: Edexcel

http://qualifications.pearson.com/content/dam/pdf/BTEC-Nationals/Business/2016/specification-and-sample-assessments/9781446938232_BTECNationals_Bus_Dip_Spec_Iss3C.pdf

THE COURSE CONTENT OF THE SUBJECT IS AS FOLLOWS:

Unit 1 - Exploring Business
Unit 2 - Developing a Marketing Campaign
Unit 3 - Personal and Business Finance
Unit 4 - Managing an Event

Unit 5 - International Business
Unit 6 - Principles of Management
Unit 8 - Recruitment and Selection
Unit 18 - Creative Promotion

Further Guidance on Examinations:

Units 2,3 and 6 are all externally assessed. The remainder of the units are assessed internally.

THE NEXT STEP WITHIN THE SUBJECT;

Read around the subject; keep up to date with the business and political world.

Careers that follow on from this qualification include finance, human resources, marketing and many others.

WHAT PREVIOUS STUDENTS THOUGHT ABOUT THE COURSE:

Students have benefitted a great deal from this course and have gone on to study Business at university studying a wide array of subjects.

SPORT BTEC

“The miracle isn't that I finished. The miracle is that I had the courage to start.”
John Bingham

“If it were easy it would not be any fun.” - **T J Taylor**

THE COURSE SPECIFICATION CAN BE FOUND AT: Edexcel
<https://qualifications.pearson.com/en/qualifications/btec-nationals/sport-and-exercise-science-2016.html#tab-0>

THE COURSE CONTENT OF THE SUBJECT IS AS FOLLOWS:

Unit 1: Sport and Exercise Physiology

Unit 2: Functional Anatomy

Unit 3: Applied Sport and Exercise Psychology

Unit 4: Field and Laboratory based Fitness Testing

Unit 5: Applied Research Methods in Sport and Exercise Science

Unit 6: Coaching for Performance and Fitness

Unit 8: Specialised Fitness Training

Unit 9: Research Project in Sport and Exercise Science

Further Guidance on Examinations:

Students follow the BTEC Diploma in Sport and Exercise Science. The course consists of eight units; five of which will be assessed through the submission of coursework, two units are assessed through exams and one through a case study.

THE NEXT STEP WITHIN THE SUBJECT;

This subject, combined with another A-Level subject, allows you to apply for university across a myriad of courses.

Popular courses involve sport science, teaching, sports injuries, sports therapy and physiotherapy

WHAT PREVIOUS STUDENTS THOUGHT ABOUT THE COURSE:

“The course was extremely interesting with a variety of units taught, which allowed me to experience sport across such areas as psychology, nutrition, fitness training and testing. It involves a lot of work and organisation. To succeed in this course you most definitely need to be self-motivated!”

- **Alex Trimbee**

BUSINESS STUDIES

“At first they will ask why you are doing it, next they’ll ask how you did it.”

Anonymous

THE COURSE SPECIFICATION CAN BE FOUND AT: AQA

<http://www.aqa.org.uk/subjects/business-subjects/as-and-a-level/business-71317132/introduction>

THE COURSE CONTENT OF THE SUBJECT IS AS FOLLOWS:

1. What is business?
2. Managers, leaders and decision making
3. Decision making to improve marketing operations
4. Decision making to improve operational performance
5. Decision making to improve financial performance
6. Decision making to improve HR performance
7. Analysing the strategic position of a business
8. Choosing strategic direction
9. How to pursue strategies
10. Managing strategic change

Further Guidance on Examinations:

This course is 100% externally assessed. You will sit 3 exams worth 33.3% each. Each paper is worth 100 marks.

THE NEXT STEP WITHIN THE SUBJECT;

Read around the subject, keep up to date with the business and political world to give you a deeper understanding of the theories and principles learnt in lesson.

Students often go on further study or careers which include finance, human resources, marketing and many others.

WHAT PREVIOUS STUDENTS THOUGHT ABOUT THE COURSE:

“This course uses a lot of real life examples to assist in my understanding of the world”

Ellie Capocci

CHEMISTRY

“I feel sorry for people who don’t understand anything about chemistry. They are missing an important source of happiness.” - **Linus Pauling**
“Nothing in life is to be feared, it is only to be understood”- **Marie Sklodowska Curie.**

THE COURSE SPECIFICATION CAN BE FOUND AT: OCR

<http://www.ocr.org.uk/qualifications/as-a-level-gce-chemistry-a-h032-h432-from-2015/>

THE COURSE CONTENT OF THE SUBJECT IS AS FOLLOWS:

Module 1 – Development of practical skills in chemistry

Module 2 – Foundations in chemistry: Atomic structure, calculations, bonding

Module 3 – Periodic table and energy: Periodicity, group 2 and the halogens, enthalpy calculations, equilibrium

Module 4 – Core organic chemistry: Alkanes, alkenes, haloalkanes, alcohols, mechanisms, analysis

Module 5 – Physical chemistry and transition elements: Transition elements, rate, cells, entropy, acid-base chemistry

Module 6 – Organic chemistry and analysis: Benzene, amides, analysis, synthesis

Further Guidance on Examinations:

The periodic table, elements and physical chemistry (100 marks)

Synthesis and analytical techniques (100 marks)

Unified chemistry (70 marks)

Practical endorsement in chemistry (results reported separately)

THE NEXT STEP WITHIN THE SUBJECT:

Students go on to study a range of courses including: Medicine, Dentistry, Veterinary Sciences, Pharmacy, Petrochemicals, Environmental Sciences, Research and Development, Forensics, Chemical Engineering

WHAT PREVIOUS STUDENTS THOUGHT ABOUT THE COURSE:

“Chemistry is the study of how things work beyond the world we see only with our eyes.”

“Chemistry doesn’t have a lot to remember but every topic is interesting and challenging at the same time.”

“Chemistry is challenging but insightful and interesting.”

CLASSICAL CIVILISATION

"Molon labe!" (*'Come and take them!'*) - Spartans responding to the Persians' command to lay down their weapons at Thermopylae. **Dienekes/Leonidas**

THE COURSE SPECIFICATION CAN BE FOUND AT: OCR

<http://www.ocr.org.uk/Images/315133-specification-draft-a-level-classical-civilisation-h408.pdf>

THE COURSE CONTENT OF THE SUBJECT IS AS FOLLOWS:

YEAR 12: Focused on Ancient Greece

-Greek Theatre - Oedipus, Bacchae, Frogs
-Homer's Iliad

YEAR 13: Focused on Ancient Rome:

- Virgil's Aeneid
-The Politics of the Late Republic

Further Guidance on Examinations:

Three terminal exams:

1. The World of the Hero: 2 hours and 20 mins - 40%
2. Greek Theatre: 1 hour and 45 mins - 30%
3. The Politics of the Late Republic: 1 hour and 45 mins - 30%

THE NEXT STEP WITHIN THE SUBJECT;

Students could pursue a range of university degrees given its interdisciplinary nature. It is highly regarded by Oxbridge and Russell Group universities.

It also complements a range of other subjects including History, Art, Drama, R.S., English and Politics

WHAT PREVIOUS STUDENTS THOUGHT ABOUT THE COURSE:

"The subject has opened up entire new vistas in my understanding of History and Literature" **Mitesh**

"One of the most dynamic and wide-ranging A Levels I had the pleasure to study." **Laurel**

COMPUTER SCIENCE

“The computer is incredibly fast, accurate, and stupid. Man is unbelievably slow, inaccurate, and brilliant. The marriage of the two is a force beyond calculation.” -

Leo Cherne

“Sometimes it is the people no one can imagine anything of who do the things no one can imagine.” - **Alan Turing**

THE COURSE SPECIFICATION CAN BE FOUND AT: OCR

<http://www.ocr.org.uk/qualifications/as-a-level-gce-computer-science-h046-h446-from-2015/>

THE COURSE CONTENT OF THE SUBJECT IS AS FOLLOWS:

Component 01 - Computer Systems

You will study components of a computer and their uses, types of software and different development methodologies, data types, structures and algorithms and legal, moral and ethical issues.

Component 02 - Algorithms and Problem Solving

You will study elements of computational thinking, problem solving, programming and algorithms.

Component 03 - Programming project

You will analyse, design, develop, test, evaluate and document a program written in a suitable programming language.

Further Guidance on Examinations:

Component 01 - Written Paper - 2hrs 30mins - 40% of A-Level

Component 02 - Written Paper - 2hrs 30mins - 40% of A-Level

Component 03 - Programming Project - Non-Exam Assessment- 20% of A-Level

THE NEXT STEP WITHIN THE SUBJECT;

The course could lead to degree course in computer science or any other related discipline including IT, Games Design, Interactive Media, Information Systems, Electrical engineering or Software Engineering.

This could also lead to a range of competitive apprenticeships in software development and programming for companies such as Google, BBC or Sky.

WHAT PREVIOUS STUDENTS THOUGHT ABOUT THE COURSE:

“Computer science has not only taught me about Computing but has also given me the skills to tackle and solve other problems I have faced in a range of subjects.”

DANCE

'Dancing, the highest intelligence in the freest body'

Isadora Duncan

THE COURSE SPECIFICATION CAN BE FOUND AT: AQA

<http://filestore.aqa.org.uk/resources/dance/specifications/>

THE COURSE CONTENT OF THE SUBJECT IS AS FOLLOWS:

Component 1: Performance and Choreography

Solo performance linked to a specified practitioner within an area of study.

Performance in a Quartet

Group Choreography

Component 2: Critical Engagement

Knowledge, understanding and critical appreciation of two set dance works.

Further Guidance on Examinations:

Component 1:

Practical Exam

80 marks

50% of A level

Component 2:

Written Exam - 2 hours 30 minutes

100 marks

50% of A level

THE NEXT STEP WITHIN THE SUBJECT;

This qualification could lead to a degree course in dance or performing arts, which could then lead to work as a choreographer, a community dance practitioner, costume/set designer, dance education specialist, dance film maker, dance journalist, dance photographer, lighting designer, dance teacher, pilates /yoga instructor, to name but a few.

WHAT PREVIOUS STUDENTS THOUGHT ABOUT THE COURSE:

I loved every second of A level dance. It definitely helped me develop a more mature and insightful interest in dance which I know will remain with me forever. It was also such a welcome break from the standard classroom structure of other subjects and great being inspired by each other's styles and ideas.- **Sasha Waloff, Durham University**

DRAMA

'Art is not a mirror held up to reality but a hammer with which to shape it.'

Bertolt Brecht

THE COURSE SPECIFICATION CAN BE FOUND AT: EDUQAS

<http://www.eduqas.co.uk/qualifications/drama-and-theatre/as-a-level/>

THE COURSE CONTENT OF THE SUBJECT IS AS FOLLOWS:

Component 1: Theatre workshop

20% - performance and creative log.

Component 2 - Text in Action 40% - 2 performances - 1 devised, 1 extract from a play and a process and evaluation report.

Component 3 - Text in Performance - 40% (written exam) 2 set texts and an extract from Curious Incident of the Dog in the Nighttime.

Further Guidance on Examinations:

Component 3: Written Examination sat at the end of the course and worth 40% of the A-Level.

THE NEXT STEP WITHIN THE SUBJECT;

Students continue their studies at university in Drama. Some of our students go on to study Law. Drama is seen in a very positive light by universities as students can communicate effectively.

Past students have gone to drama school to study musical theatre, technical theatre, acting and dance.

WHAT PREVIOUS STUDENTS THOUGHT ABOUT THE COURSE:

"Regardless of whether or not you took drama at GCSE, I would really recommend that you choose to study it at A Level. The plays you read and the ideas you explore are fascinating and the friendships you build by working with your classmates are invaluable. I've personally found that drama has really helped my ability to communicate and speak confidently before large groups of people - a skill which is, needless to say, incredibly helpful for whatever you might want to do in the future."

ECONOMICS

“Nobody spends somebody else’s money as wisely as he spends his own”

Milton Friedman

THE COURSE SPECIFICATION CAN BE FOUND AT: Edexcel

<http://qualifications.pearson.com/en/qualifications/edexcel-a-levels/economics-a-2015.html>

THE COURSE CONTENT OF THE SUBJECT IS AS FOLLOWS:

Year 1:

- Theme 1 - Introduction to markets and market failure
- Theme 2 - The UK economy - performance and policies

Year 2:

- Theme 3 - Business behaviour and the labour market
- Theme 4 - A global perspective

Further Guidance on Examinations:

This course is 100% externally assessed. You will sit 3 exams worth 33.3% each. Each paper is worth 100 marks.

THE NEXT STEP WITHIN THE SUBJECT;

Students typically go on to study the following subjects at university:

- Economics
- Finance
- Data analysis
- Politics

as well as many others

WHAT PREVIOUS STUDENTS THOUGHT ABOUT THE COURSE:

This course has given students a real understanding of how the economy works and how this affects their day to day lives.

“This course has made me more socially aware”

Hakim Nyariki

ENGLISH LITERATURE (Eduqas)

“The best moments in reading are when you come across something – a thought, a feeling, a way of looking at things – which you had thought special and particular to you. Now here it is, set down by someone else, a person you have never met, someone even who is long dead. And it is as if a hand has come out and taken yours.” — **Alan Bennett, The History Boys**

THE COURSE SPECIFICATION CAN BE FOUND AT: Eduqas

<http://www.eduqas.co.uk/qualifications/english-literature/as-a-level/>

THE COURSE CONTENT OF THE SUBJECT IS AS FOLLOWS:

Drama: A play by Shakespeare studied in isolation and pre-Twentieth Century play studied in comparison with a Twentieth-Century play.

Poetry: A collection of pre-Twentieth Century poetry written by one poet studied in isolation and two collections of modern poetry studied in comparison.

Novels: Two novels, one pre-Twenty-First Century text and one post-Twenty-First Century text.

Unseen Poetry and Unseen Narratives.

Consideration of critical views and relevant context underpins each section.

Further Guidance on Examinations:

Component 1: Poetry. 2 hour written exam; open book: 30%

Component 2: Drama. 2 hour written exam; closed book: 30%

Component 3: Unseen Texts. 2 hour written exam: 20%

Component 4: Coursework. One 3500 word essay: 20%

THE NEXT STEP WITHIN THE SUBJECT;

English Literature is an excellent springboard for all sorts of destinations and is a useful subject for medicine, law, education, creative writing, journalism, TV/Film Studies/Work, Expressive Arts, Psychology, Social Science and Business Studies degrees as well as, most importantly, a worthy destination in its own right. Whatever you want to study, A-level Lit will help.

WHAT PREVIOUS STUDENTS THOUGHT ABOUT THE COURSE:

If you wish to become an expert in death, passion, religion and violence, then read English Literature. You will find out why sons love their mothers, why husbands don't always love their wives and sometimes even murder them.”

ENGLISH LITERATURE (AQA)

There are perhaps no days of our childhood lived so fully as those we spent with a favourite book'
Marcel Proust

THE COURSE SPECIFICATION CAN BE FOUND AT: AQA

http://filestore.aqa.org.uk/resources/english/specifications/AQ_A-7716-7717-SP-2015.PDF

THE COURSE CONTENT OF THE SUBJECT IS AS FOLLOWS:

Module 1: Aspects of Tragedy: Study of three texts: one Shakespeare text; a second drama text and one further text, one of which was written pre-1900

Module 2: Elements of Crime Writing: Study of three texts: one post-2000 prose text; one poetry and one further text, one of which was written pre-1900, and the analysis of one unseen passage.

Module 3: Study of two texts: one poetry and one prose text, informed by study of a critical theory.

Further Guidance on Examinations:

Module 1: Tragedy. 2 hour 30 min written exam; closed book: 40%

Module 2: Crime writing. 3 hour written exam; open book: 40%

Module 3: Coursework. Two essays of 1,250–1,500 words, each responding to a different text and linking to a different critical theory: 20%

THE NEXT STEP WITHIN THE SUBJECT;

English Literature is an excellent springboard for all sorts of destinations and is a useful subject for medicine, law, education, creative writing, journalism, TV/Film Studies/Work, Expressive Arts, Psychology, Social Science and Business Studies degrees as well as, most importantly, a worthy destination in its own right. Whatever you want to study, A-level Lit will help.

WHAT PREVIOUS STUDENTS THOUGHT ABOUT THE COURSE:

‘English Lit is the only subject where I learnt not only about the past, but also about myself.’

‘What I learnt about Literature, is that there is no answer. It is how you interpret not just the text, but the world around you and there is no other subject that allows you to do that.’

FRENCH

“One language sets you in a corridor for life. Two languages opens every door along the way.”
Frank Smith, Psycholinguist

THE COURSE SPECIFICATION CAN BE FOUND AT: AQA

<http://www.aqa.org.uk/subjects/languages/as-and-a-level/french-7652>

THE COURSE CONTENT OF THE SUBJECT IS AS FOLLOWS:

-Social Issues and Trends Aspects of French society

Multiculturalism in French society

-Political and Artistic Culture

Artistic culture in the French-speaking world

Political life in the French-speaking world

- **Grammar**
- **Literary texts and films**

Further Guidance on Examinations:

Paper 1: Listening, reading and writing. 2 ½ hours. 50% of A Level

Paper 2: Writing. 2 hours. 20% of A Level

Paper 3: Speaking. 21-23 minutes. 30% of A Level

THE NEXT STEP WITHIN THE SUBJECT;

Many universities offer courses combined with a language, such as law, linguistics and business management. Jobs where a language is useful include: sales executive, tour manager, marketing executive, broadcast journalist to name but a few

WHAT PREVIOUS STUDENTS THOUGHT ABOUT THE COURSE:

“Learning a foreign language has been great. It has helped me to see the world in a different light. The course was challenging but very rewarding as I can now communicate almost fluently in a language other than my own. It feels amazing!”

FURTHER MATHEMATICS

“Pure Mathematics is, in its way, the poetry of logical thinking”

Albert Einstein

THE COURSE SPECIFICATION CAN BE FOUND AT: EDEXCEL

<http://qualifications.pearson.com/en/qualifications/edexcel-a-levels/mathematics-2017.html#tab-3>

THE COURSE CONTENT OF THE SUBJECT IS AS FOLLOWS:

Further Pure 1: Proof, Complex numbers, Matrices, Further algebra and functions, Further calculus, Further vectors.

Further Pure 2: Complex numbers, Further algebra and functions, Further calculus, Polar coordinates, Hyperbolic functions, Differential equations.

Two options from (to be confirmed):

Further Pure 3: Further calculus, Further differential equations, Coordinate systems, Further vectors, Further numerical methods, Inequalities.

Further Statistics 1: Linear regression, Statistical distributions (discrete), Statistical distributions (continuous), Correlation, Hypothesis testing

Further Mechanics 1: Momentum and impulse, Collisions, Centres of mass, Work and energy, Elastic strings and springs.

Decision Mathematics 1: Algorithms and graph theory, Algorithms on graphs, Algorithms on graphs II, Critical path analysis, Linear programming.

Further Guidance on Examinations:

Each unit is assessed with a 1.5 hour examination which is worth 75 marks and 25% of the A-Level

THE NEXT STEP WITHIN THE SUBJECT;

Employers and universities are always impressed by a student who has shown they can take their study of mathematics to such a high level by studying Further Maths; the ability to handle such complicated concepts and logical processes is challenging but also satisfying. Our students find they are at an advantage if they go on to study Maths-related courses at university, with five of our recent leavers taking places to study Maths and others following courses in Computer Science, Engineering and Physics at some very prestigious institutions.

WHAT PREVIOUS STUDENTS THOUGHT ABOUT THE COURSE:

“Maths is the only subject that offers the chance to study in more depth. Further Maths is the most in-depth you’ll ever study anything whilst still at school.”

GEOGRAPHY

“Geography is a subject which holds the key to our future.”
“Without Geography you are nowhere!”

Michael Palin
Jimmy Buffet

THE COURSE SPECIFICATION CAN BE FOUND AT: EDEXCEL

<http://qualifications.pearson.com/en/qualifications/edexcel-a-levels/geography-2016.html>

THE COURSE CONTENT OF THE SUBJECT IS AS FOLLOWS:

Topic 1: Tectonic Processes and Hazards.

Topic 2: Landscape Systems, Processes and Change – 2b: Coastal Landscapes and Change.

Topic 3: Globalisation.

Topic 4: Shaping Places – 4b: Diverse Places.

Topic 5: The Water Cycle and Water Insecurity.

Topic 6: The Carbon Cycle and Energy Security.

Topic 7: Superpowers.

Topic 8: Global Development and Connections – 8a: Health, Human Rights and Intervention.

Coursework: Independent Investigation.

Further Guidance on Examinations:

Paper 1 - Assessment of Dynamic Landscapes and Physical Systems and Sustainability (30%) **Paper 2** - Assessment of Dynamic Places and Human Systems and Geopolitics (30%) **Paper 3** - Synoptic investigation of a contemporary geographical issue (20%) **Coursework** (20%)

THE NEXT STEP WITHIN THE SUBJECT;

Students have access to a wide range of possible career and higher education opportunities. A level Geography is an accepted entry qualification higher education routes. Some students choose to use their qualification to go straight into employment because it develops the transferable and Key Skills that employers are looking for and can lead to a wide range of employment opportunities. The dynamic and skills based nature of this subject gives Geography one of the highest graduate employment rates of any non-specialist degree.

WHAT PREVIOUS STUDENTS THOUGHT ABOUT THE COURSE:

“Geography at Queens’ is a subject that offers diversity and the chance to study interactively through fieldwork. Having read Geography at Dundee University it became clear my time studying the subject at Queens’ drastically helped me integrate with ease into further education. The geographically based statistics and skills studied and overseas trips played a key role in the development of my employability.” **Stuart Murray Audit Associate for KPMG Malta.**

GERMAN

Learning a foreign language is a liberation from insularity and provides an opening to other cultures.”
Department for Education

THE COURSE SPECIFICATION CAN BE FOUND AT: AQA

<http://www.aqa.org.uk/subjects/languages/as-and-a-level/german-7662>

THE COURSE CONTENT OF THE SUBJECT IS AS FOLLOWS:

-Social Issues and Trends Aspects of Germanic society

Multiculturalism in Germanic society

-Political and Artistic Culture

Artistic culture in the Germanic world

Political life in the Germanic world

-Grammar

-Literary texts and films

Further Guidance on Examinations:

Paper 1: Listening, reading and writing. 2 ½ hours. 50% of A Level

Paper 2: Writing. 2 hours. 20% of A Level

Paper 3: Speaking. 21-23 minutes. 30% of A Level

THE NEXT STEP WITHIN THE SUBJECT;

Many universities offer courses combined with a language, such as law, linguistics and business management. Jobs where a language is useful include: sales executive, tour manager, marketing executive, broadcast journalist to name but a few.

WHAT PREVIOUS STUDENTS THOUGHT ABOUT THE COURSE:

I found German a very helpful subject for lots of reasons. The oral work that you do gives you confidence not just in speaking the language but also in all your other subjects. We all went on work experience for a week in Year 12 and living like a local in a foreign country was one of the best weeks of the year. It was such a fun way to learn. My friends often say to me that they are jealous I can speak another language and all the hard work has definitely been worth it.

GOVERNMENT AND POLITICS

“Sapere Aude!” (Dare to know!) - Immanuel Kant

THE COURSE SPECIFICATION CAN BE FOUND AT: EDEXCEL

<http://qualifications.pearson.com/content/dam/pdf/A%20Level/Politics/2017/Specification%20and%20sample>

THE COURSE CONTENT OF THE SUBJECT IS AS FOLLOWS:

Component 1: UK Politics (*Paper code: 9PL0/01)

Democracy, political parties, electoral systems, voting behaviour and the media, conservatism, liberalism, socialism.

Component 2: UK Government (*Paper code: 9PL0/02)

The constitution, parliament, Prime Minister and executive, relationships between the branches, and Anarchism.

Component 3: Comparative Politics (*Paper code: 9PL0/3B)

Theories of Global Politics, sovereignty and globalisation, global governance: political and economic, global governance: human rights and environmental, power and developments, regionalism and the European Union.

Further Guidance on Examinations:

Exam 1: Written examination: 2 hours 33 $\frac{1}{3}$ % of the qualification 84 marks

Exam 2: Written examination: 2 hours 33 $\frac{1}{3}$ % of the qualification 84 marks

Exam 3: Written examination: 2 hours 33 $\frac{1}{3}$ % of the qualification 84 marks

THE NEXT STEP WITHIN THE SUBJECT;

Politics is about producing educated rounded human beings. Politics students go on to enter the top spheres of media, law, journalism and many other walks of life. But note: studying politics is worth it for the sheer love of the subject itself.

WHAT PREVIOUS STUDENTS THOUGHT ABOUT THE COURSE:

Politics is a **huge** amount of work and I wouldn't advise it to anyone who isn't happy **reading and writing a lot**. However the results are spectacular and it is very exciting, invigorating even. It is so much more than just learning about parliament! We are expected to go hunting for information and the subject is so interesting that it is very easy to get taken over by the topics. It might sound like a cliché but this subject really does get you thinking about how the political world could be and (sometimes depressingly!) how it actually is.

MATHEMATICS

“If I were again beginning my studies, I would follow the advice of Plato and start with Mathematics”
Galileo Galilei

THE COURSE SPECIFICATION CAN BE FOUND AT: EDEXCEL

<http://qualifications.pearson.com/en/qualifications/edexcel-a-levels/mathematics-2017.html#tab-1>

THE COURSE CONTENT OF THE SUBJECT IS AS FOLLOWS:

Pure Mathematics 1: Proof, Algebra and functions, Coordinate geometry in the (x,y) plane, Sequences and series, Trigonometry, Exponentials and logarithms, Differentiation, Integration, Vectors

Pure Mathematics 2: Proof, Algebra and functions, Coordinate geometry in the (x,y) plane, Sequences and series, Trigonometry, Differentiation, Integration, Numerical methods

Statistics: Statistical sampling, Data presentation and interpretation, Probability, Statistical distributions, Statistical hypothesis testing

Mechanics: Quantities and units in mechanics, Kinematics, Forces and Newton's laws, Moments

Further Guidance on Examinations:

Pure Mathematics 1: 2 Hours, 100 marks

Pure Mathematics 2: 2 Hours, 100 marks

Statistics and Mechanics: 2 hours, 50 marks each

THE NEXT STEP WITHIN THE SUBJECT;

Maths is a highly respected A Level that fits with any combination of subjects. It is welcomed by universities and employers in all fields as it shows a student's ability to think logically, analyse data and understand complex processes. Many of our students go on to study Maths or related subjects at university (Physics, Engineering, Psychology, Economics, Medicine, Computing.....) but many others follow courses and careers in the Arts and Humanities.

WHAT PREVIOUS STUDENTS THOUGHT ABOUT THE COURSE:

“Unlike other subjects, Maths applies to all aspects of life - a Maths A-Level or a Maths degree is respected in all other fields and can lead to careers in almost any area.”

“It's so much harder than GCSE, and you have to do loads of practice, but the teachers are available to help loads, and when you get it it's a brilliant feeling.”

MUSIC

I would teach children music, physics, and philosophy; but more importantly music, for the patterns in music and all the arts are the keys to learning,' **Plato**

THE COURSE SPECIFICATION CAN BE FOUND AT: AQA

<http://www.aqa.org.uk/subjects/music/as-and-a-level/music-2270/spec-at-a-glance>

THE COURSE CONTENT OF THE SUBJECT IS AS FOLLOWS:

Unit 1: Appraising Music

Three topics that are studied from a choice of: Western Classical Music, Pop Music, Music for Media, Music for Theatre, Jazz, Contemporary Traditional Music and Art Music since 1910.

Unit 2: Performing Music

A 10 minute performance on your chosen instrument.

Unit 3: Composing Music

A free composition and a composition to a brief, the combination of the two will total over 4 and half minutes.

Further Guidance on Examinations:

Unit 1: A 2 ½ hour written exam worth 120 marks (40% of A-Level)

Unit 2: A minimum 10 minute performance which can be a solo, ensemble or production (35% of A-Level)

Unit 3: Two compositions, one to a brief and one free composition (25% of A-Level)

THE NEXT STEP WITHIN THE SUBJECT;

Music is a highly respected A Level which is accepted by all universities including the Russell Group. It works well in combinations with both academic and arts subjects. Apart from providing the first step for a career in Music and the Performing Arts it is a much valued A Level if you are considering a career in teaching or the media. The study of Music at A Level develops one's appreciation of culture and the world we live in and enables students to develop a wider perspective on life.

WHAT PREVIOUS STUDENTS THOUGHT ABOUT THE COURSE:

I've always been passionate and totally consumed by Music but this course has challenged my understanding of what Music actually is and my appreciation of its nuances. I am now an intelligent musician!

Music A Level enabled me to develop as a singer and performer and supported me in my career path to Drama School. The teachers are really supportive but also very demanding

PHOTOGRAPHY

“The camera is an instrument that teaches people how to see without a camera”.

- **Dorothea Lange**

“The relationship between what we see and what we know is never settled. Each evening we see the sun set. We know the earth is turning away from it. Yet the knowledge, the explanation, never quite fits the sight”. - **John Berger**

THE COURSE SPECIFICATION CAN BE FOUND AT: EDEXCEL

<http://qualifications.pearson.com/en/qualifications/edexcel-a-levels/art-and-design-2015.html>

THE COURSE CONTENT OF THE SUBJECT IS AS FOLLOWS:

Component 1 - Coursework (60%)

A visual project with an internally set theme. A 3000 word personal study.

Component 2 - Externally set examination (40%)

A visual project with an externally set theme.

15 hour timed test

Further Guidance on Examinations:

Component 2 (40%) is a 10 week personal project based on a theme that is externally set by Edexcel. The 10 week preparatory period ends with a 15 hour timed test in which the final outcome is made. All work from the 10 week period and the timed test is assessed.

THE NEXT STEP WITHIN THE SUBJECT;

A level Photography is an excellent precursor to a career in the creative sector. The UK's creative industries are now worth a record £84.1 billion to the UK economy. Higher education destinations for past students include prestigious institutions such as St Martin's College and The Slade. Courses studied at universities include Photography, Journalism, Fashion, Architecture, Education, Digital Media and many more.

WHAT PREVIOUS STUDENTS THOUGHT ABOUT THE COURSE:

‘Photography allows you the freedom to explore areas of the visual arts that you find fascinating. You have to be independent, intellectually curious and prepared for conceptual challenge. The course provides an excellent foundation for life beyond school as you have the responsibility for devising and driving your own projects.’

PHYSICS

“Physicists are made of atoms. A physicist is an attempt by an atom to understand itself.”

Michio Kaku

“If anybody says he can think about quantum physics without getting giddy, that only shows he has not understood the first thing about them.” **Niels Bohr**

THE COURSE SPECIFICATION CAN BE FOUND AT: AQA

http://www.aqa.org.uk/subjects/science/as-and-a-level/physics-7407-74_08

THE COURSE CONTENT OF THE SUBJECT IS AS FOLLOWS:

The topics studied in the **first year** of the course are: Particles and Radiation, Waves, Mechanics and Electricity.

In the **second year** of the course students will study: Thermal physics, Fields and their consequences, Nuclear physics and Astrophysics.

Students will also complete a practical endorsement, although the result of this will be reported, it will not affect the A-level result. This will be assessed by teachers and will be based on direct observation of students' competency in a range of skills that are not assessable in written exams.

Further Guidance on Examinations:

Paper 1 – This is a synoptic paper which includes questions on topics 6.1 Periodic Motion.

Paper 2 – This is a synoptic paper which includes questions on topics 6.2 Thermal Physics, 7 Fields and 8 Nuclear Physics.

Paper 3 – This paper consists of short and long answer questions on practical experiments, data analysis and Astrophysics.

THE NEXT STEP WITHIN THE SUBJECT;

A Physics A-Level opens the door to all sorts of careers and courses. All the technology that surrounds us is based on the principles of physics, so if you are considering working in any area related to technology, studying A level physics is an essential first step. Studying physics can lead to a vast array of degree courses including Physics, Astrophysics, Engineering, Medicine, Optometry and Biomedical Science.

WHAT PREVIOUS STUDENTS THOUGHT ABOUT THE COURSE:

“Physics and the ability to understand the world around us is what separates us from animals.”

“Studying physics interests me because it is so current. The most exciting recent discoveries such as the Higgs boson at CERN and gravity waves at LIGO have happened in the last few years.”

PHYSICAL EDUCATION

“You learn more about somebody in an hour of play that you do in a year of conversation”
- Plato

“The only place where success comes before work is in the dictionary”
- Vince Lombardi

THE COURSE SPECIFICATION CAN BE FOUND AT: OCR

<http://www.ocr.org.uk/qualifications/as-a-level-gce-physical-education-h155-h555-from-2016/>

THE COURSE CONTENT OF THE SUBJECT IS AS FOLLOWS:

Unit 1 - Applied Anatomy, Exercise Physiology and Biomechanics

A study into how the body works and responds to exercise

Unit 2 - Skill Acquisition and Sports Psychology

A study of how we learn and how the mind influences performance

Unit 3 - Sport and Society & Contemporary Issues in Sport

A study in the organisation of sport and modern issues within the sporting World.

Unit 4 - Performance or Coaching/ Evaluation and Analysis of performance

Individual performance within your chosen sport

Further Guidance on Examinations:

Unit 1 - 2 Hour exam - 90 Marks - 30% of overall Grade

Unit 2 - 1 Hour exam - 60 Marks - 20% of overall Grade

Unit 3 - 1 Hour exam - 60 Marks - 20% of overall Grade

Unit 4 - Non examined - 60 Marks - 30% of overall Grade

THE NEXT STEP WITHIN THE SUBJECT;

This subject can lead into degree courses such as Physiotherapy, Sports Coaching, Sports Rehabilitation, Sport Science, Teaching (Primary and/or Secondary).

The department has also had two students recently attain scholarships to America to study (Swimming and Women's Football).

WHAT PREVIOUS STUDENTS THOUGHT ABOUT THE COURSE:

“The course is completely different from GCSE PE. There is a lot more academic work to be completed and also more emphasis on yourself doing some extra reading. The subjects taught are found in most first year degree courses so this A Level is a good step towards university.”

- Dominic Scott Robinson (Basketball)

PRODUCT DESIGN

“Design and technology should be the subject where mathematical brainboxes and science whizzkids turn their bright ideas into useful products”.

JAMES DYSON

THE COURSE SPECIFICATION CAN BE FOUND AT: EDEXCEL

<http://qualifications.pearson.com/content/dam/pdf/A%20Level/Design>

THE COURSE CONTENT OF THE SUBJECT IS AS FOLLOWS:

Component 1: Principles of Design and Technology

Topic 1: Materials Topic 2: Performance characteristics of materials Topic 3: Processes and techniques Topic 4: Digital technologies Topic 5: Factors influencing the development of products Topic 6: Effects of technological developments Topic 7: Potential hazards and risk assessment Topic 8: Features of manufacturing industries Topic 9: Designing for maintenance and the cleaner environment Topic 10: Current legislation Topic 11: Information handling, Modelling and forward planning Topic 12: Further processes and techniques

Component 2: Independent Design and Make Project

Part 1: Identifying Opportunities for Design Identification of a design problem, investigation of needs and research and specification o Part 2: Designing a Prototype Design ideas, development of design idea, final design solution, review of development and final design and communication of design ideas o Part 3: Making a Prototype Design, manufacture and realisation of a final prototype, including tools and equipment and quality and accuracy o Part 4: Evaluating own Design and Prototype Testing and evaluation

Further Guidance on Examinations:

Component 1: Written examination: 2 hours 30 minutes 50% of the qualification

Component 2: Non-examined assessment 50% of the qualification

THE NEXT STEP WITHIN THE SUBJECT;

This subject can lead into a vast range of Design based degree courses such as Architecture, Graphic Design, Jewelry Design, Furniture Design, Automotive & Transport Design, Interior Design, Product Design, Art & Design and Lighting Design to name a few.

WHAT PREVIOUS STUDENTS THOUGHT ABOUT THE COURSE:

“The A Level course in PD gave me the opportunity to explore my interest in design. Its practical nature allowed me to make, test & try new ideas and in the process gain confidence. A perfect stepping stone enabling me to move on to study Interior Architecture and ultimately lead to a career in the Design industry. All was not possible without the support of the wonderful teaching staff....thank you.”

Tom Munson

PSYCHOLOGY

"The disappearance of a sense of responsibility is the most far-reaching consequence of submission to authority."
Stanley Milgram

THE COURSE SPECIFICATION CAN BE FOUND AT: AQA

<http://www.aqa.org.uk/subjects/psychology/as-and-a-level/psychology-7181-7182/specification-at-a-glance>

THE COURSE CONTENT OF THE SUBJECT IS AS FOLLOWS:

Year 1 Topics Include:

Social influence; Memory; Attachment; Approaches in psychology; Biopsychology; Psychopathology; Research methods.

Year 2 Options:

Option 1: Relationships; **Option 2:** Schizophrenia; **Option 3:** Forensic Psychology, Issues and Debates.

Further Guidance on Examinations:

Component 1: Written examination: 2 hours

Component 2: Written examination: 2 hours

Component 3: Written examination: 2 hours

THE NEXT STEP WITHIN THE SUBJECT;

The top seven degree courses taken by students who have an A-level in psychology are: Psychology, English studies, Sociology, Business studies, Teaching, Sport and exercise science, Law.

POSSIBLE CAREER OPTIONS

Forensic psychology; Business Psychology; Occupational therapy; Human Resources; Clinical psychology; Nursing; Teaching.

WHAT PREVIOUS STUDENTS THOUGHT ABOUT THE COURSE:

- “It is interesting to try and understand people’s motives for what they do”.
- “Psychology is interesting and fun and makes you think”.
- “Psychology is good because there are no right or wrong answers and you get to think about all sorts of human issues from ‘abnormality’ to hypnosis”.
- “Psychology is very interesting, you go home from lessons knowing you’ve learnt something and, yes, some of the theories are difficult to understand at first but the atmosphere in lessons lets you explain this and others help you”.

PHILOSOPHY, RELIGION & ETHICS

There will be no end to the troubles of states or humanity itself until philosophers become kings in this world and rulers become philosophers and political power and philosophy thus come into the same hands.' **Plato**

THE COURSE SPECIFICATION CAN BE FOUND AT: EDEXCEL

<http://qualifications.pearson.com/content/dam/pdf/A%20Level/Religious>

THE COURSE CONTENT OF THE SUBJECT IS AS FOLLOWS:

Component 1: Philosophy of Religion

Philosophical issues surrounding belief in god
Nature and Influence of religious experience
Problem of Evil and suffering.

Component 2: Religion and Ethics

Issues and Debates in Ethics
Utilitarianism, Situation Ethics, Natural Moral Law
Applied Ethics War and Peace and Sexual Ethics.

Component 3: Study of Religion

Religious beliefs, values and teachings.
Sources of Wisdom and authority.
Practices that shape and express religious identity.

Further Guidance on Examinations:

Each of the 3 papers is a 2 hour written examination worth 33.3% of the total marks.

THE NEXT STEP WITHIN THE SUBJECT;

People who study RS/PRE often go on to university to study philosophy, theology, classics, anthropology and the social sciences. RS/PRE prepares students for a wide range of careers but above all helps to produce people who are critical and analytical thinkers.

WHAT PREVIOUS STUDENTS THOUGHT ABOUT THE COURSE:

'Philosophy across all its branches teaches you how to be a critical thinker, question your assumptions, and just opens your mind. We consider the most important and contemporary ethical questions. Philosophy does not necessarily deal in right and wrong answers but that is the beauty of it!'

SOCIOLOGY

“Education should be about producing curious rebellious young people not conformist automatons” -

K Rooney

THE COURSE SPECIFICATION CAN BE FOUND AT: EDUQAS

<http://www.eduqas.co.uk/qualifications/sociology>

THE COURSE CONTENT OF THE SUBJECT IS AS FOLLOWS:

Component 1: Socialisation and Culture: Cultural transmission, identity, families and education.

Component 2: Methods of sociological enquiry

Component 3: Power and stratification: Crime and Deviance

Further Guidance on Examinations:

Exam 1: 2 hours 30 mins 40%

Exam 2: 1 hour 45 mins 20%

Exam 3: 2 hours 30 mins 40%

THE NEXT STEP WITHIN THE SUBJECT;

People who study sociology often go on to university to study criminology, anthropology and the social sciences. Sociology students are prepared for a wide range of careers. However, the purpose of sociology is not to prepare you for a job but to get you thinking about the world!

WHAT PREVIOUS STUDENTS THOUGHT ABOUT THE COURSE:

“Sociology requires a lot of reading around the subject and consists of a lot of written essays. However what is great about it is that it really gets you thinking and both introduces you to ideas you previously haven't thought about and also challenges many of your existing preconceptions.”

SPANISH

I would teach children music, physics, and philosophy; but more importantly music, for the patterns in music and all the arts are the keys to learning,' **Plato**

THE COURSE SPECIFICATION CAN BE FOUND AT: AQA

<http://www.aqa.org.uk/subjects/music/as-and-a-level/music-2270/spec-at-a-glance>

THE COURSE CONTENT OF THE SUBJECT IS AS FOLLOWS:

Social Issues and Trends Aspects of Hispanic society

- Multiculturalism in Hispanic society

Political and Artistic Culture

- Artistic culture in the Hispanic world
- Political life in the Hispanic world

Grammar

Literary texts and films

Further Guidance on Examinations:

Paper 1: Listening, reading and writing. 2 ½ hours. 50% of A Level

Paper 2: Writing. 2 hours. 20% of A Level

Paper 3: Speaking. 21-23 minutes. 30% of A Level

THE NEXT STEP WITHIN THE SUBJECT

Many universities offer courses combined with a language, such as law, linguistics and business management. Jobs where a language is useful include: sales executive, tour manager, marketing executive, broadcast journalist to name but a few.

WHAT PREVIOUS STUDENTS THOUGHT ABOUT THE COURSE:

“My favourite part of learning Spanish was the time I spent with the language assistant - she really helped me to be confident with my speaking. I can actually hold a mature conversation about important topics now.”

TEXTILES

“Fashion is not something that exists in dresses only. Fashion is in the sky, in the street, fashion has to do with ideas, the way we live, what is happening.”

Coco Chanel

THE COURSE SPECIFICATION CAN BE FOUND AT: AQA

www.aqa.org.uk/subjects/design-and-technology/as-and-a-level/textile

THE COURSE CONTENT OF THE SUBJECT IS AS FOLLOWS:

Unit 1 – Materials, Components and Application

Based primarily on Materials and Components and consisting of three sections

Unit 2 – Learning Through Designing and Making

Coursework may take a number of forms: a single design-and-make project, two smaller projects and/or a portfolio of work

Unit 3 – Design and Manufacture

Candidates answer three questions: one question from three in each section, plus a final question from either section

Unit 4 – Design and Making Practice

Further Guidance on Examinations:

Component 1: Written examination: 2 hours 30 minutes 50% of the qualification

Component 2: Non-examined assessment 50% of the qualification

THE NEXT STEP WITHIN THE SUBJECT;

The subject can lead to a pre-degree foundation diploma in Art & Design, apprenticeship/ retail management opportunities. A foundation of Honours Degree in Textile Design , surface pattern, fashion design , accessory design, shoes, interior design, costume for screen & stage.

WHAT PREVIOUS STUDENTS THOUGHT ABOUT THE COURSE:

Studying A Level textiles has enabled me to explore a wide range of processes, materials and skills. Designing and making my personal project was the highlight, through the creation of my sketch book I explored form, style, texture and colour which had a totally positive impact on the quality of my finished product.

EXTENDED PROJECT QUALIFICATION (EPQ)

“Je suis donc je pense” (I think therefore I am)

Rene Descartes

THE COURSE SPECIFICATION CAN BE FOUND AT: AQA

<http://www.aqa.org.uk/subjects/projects/aqa-certificate/EPQ-7993>

THE COURSE CONTENT OF THE SUBJECT IS AS FOLLOWS:

Component 1: Research Log (detailing development of your ideas and project)

Component 2: Actual Project (E.g. Essay/investigation/ etc.)

Component 3: Presentation of Project

Further Guidance on Examinations:

All 3 components are internally assessed against the assessment criteria and are then externally verified by the examiner.

THE NEXT STEP WITHIN THE SUBJECT;

Top Russell Group Universities like the EPQs although whether or not they form part of any offer is down to each institution. Whilst EPQs do carry UCAS points of over half an A-Level, the true bonus is the recognition that you gain for doing something truly self- directed and motivated.

WHAT PREVIOUS STUDENTS THOUGHT ABOUT THE COURSE:

“ My EPQ gave me so much more to write about in my personal statement- my discussions with my supervisor pointed me in academic directions I had never previously explored... keeping focused on the topic/ title was the hardest part but overall a great experience.... I would strongly recommend it.”

Oxbridge Candidate

NEXT STEPS

The Year 11-13 Progression Timetable

Year 11

October	Sixth Form Open Evening
November	Year 11 Mocks
December	Sixth Form Registration of Interest
January	Year 11 Parent's Consultation Evening
February	Meetings and Applications
March	Year 11 Revision Evening
May	GCSE exams
June	Sixth Form Taster Days
August	GCSE Results and Enrolment

Year 12

March	Research begins into higher education/ apprenticeship/ employment options
April	Start attending Open Days at interested Universities on weekends/ holidays
Summer Term	1. End of Year 12 UCAS Exams take place 2. Subject teachers and Form teachers write references 3. PSE lessons guides you through Personal Statement/UCAS Registration
July-Sept.	First Draft of Personal Statement completed.

Year 13

September	UCAS Applications and Personal Statements completed for Early Entry Students
October	Oxbridge, Medicine, Dentistry and Veterinary Science Applications submitted.
November	Pre-interview assessments for Oxbridge
December	Oxbridge Interviews all other UCAS applications submitted
February	UCAS Extra opens
Spring	Register and apply for student finance
May	Deadline for replying to offers (picking a firm and insurance)
Summer	A-Level Examinations
August	Results day- UCAS Adjustment and Clearing.

WHAT QUEENS' STUDENTS SAY...



"I am so pleased I decided to come to Queens' School for my Sixth Form even though I was an external student. It not only offers excellent academic resources but wider opportunities for every student. Being a keen sportsman I have experienced this first hand, as I have been pushed to develop athletically as well as benefitting from the dedication from teachers encouraging me to reach my full potential academically. The welcoming nature of the whole school community made this a lot easier as I was able to settle in quickly and make lots of new friends. The school has also been extremely supportive throughout the university application process, especially as I have been guided through not only the UCAS requirements, but helped with my options I have explored for studying abroad. This demonstrates how each individual student's needs are accommodated for at Queens."



"Completing my A Levels at Queens' was a natural next step after my GCSE's. Making the jump was as difficult as I'd been warned, but it was made infinitely easier by my teachers who were always on hand to ease my panic and support me through my studies, giving up hours of their own time to help me. Queens' offered me the opportunity to thrive intellectually and creatively, as I was pushed to constantly read and explore ideas, inside and out of the classroom. Likewise, attending debates also inspired me to question the world and has helped me to become a well-rounded and inquisitive student, setting me up perfectly for my further studies. All in all, I cannot imagine a more nurturing and caring environment than Queens', and the past two years have been the most enjoyable of my school life." - Rachel Niblett



**SCIENCE
COLLEGE**



INVESTOR IN PEOPLE



Watford & Hertsmer
Schools Sport Partnership



Living the Olympic
and Paralympic Values



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