Satit Prasarnmit
International Programme

A- LEVEL GUIDE BOOK 2025-26

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Contents

Our Values

Knowledge, Integrity, Citizenship

Our Vision

It is our goal to firmly establish Satit Prasarnmit International Programme as a leading provider of top-quality education in the region, and further enhance our reputation as a school that promotes a progressive, holistic, internationally relevant education; we will continue to foster a passion for life-long learning and inspire our students to be industrious, innovative and influential within both local and wider global communities.

Our Mission Statement

The UK National Curriculum-based International Programme at Srinakharinwirot University Prasarnmit Demonstration School (Secondary), aims to provide a first-rate education that develops each individual educationally, emotionally and morally, whilst also paying homage to our culture that is proudly and uniquely Thai.

A Guide to the UK National Curriculum and Key Stages

The majority of schools in England and Wales follow the UK Government's National Curriculum that is divided into Year Groups and Key Stages. The Satit Prasarnmit International Programme (SPIP) follows this curriculum but adapts and develops it slightly to meet the needs of our own unique, varied and talented cohort of students.

The table below outlines the way in which our school and its curriculum are divided:

Curriculum Stages	Age	Year	School Division
Early Years Foundation Stage	3	EY 1	N/A
	4	EY 2	
Key Stage 1	5	Y 1	
	6	Y 2	
Key Stage 2	7	Y 3	
	8	Y 4	
	9	Y 5	
	10	Y 6	
Key Stage 3	11	Y 7	Lower Secondary
	12	Y 8	
	13	Y 9	
Key Stage 4 (IGCSE)	14	Y 10	Upper Secondary
	15	Y 11	
Key Stage 5 (Advanced Level)	16	Y 12	Sixth Form
	17	Y 13	

In the UK, education is compulsory for all children between the ages of 5 to 16, although clear provision is also made for minors between the ages of 3 to 5. Children are placed into year groups based on their age on 31st August each academic year. Year group allocation is usually automatic; students may be outside of their year/age group for exceptional reasons only. Year groups are clustered into Key Stages and a defined curriculum is produced for each Key Stage. Throughout each Key Stage there are clear, continuous assessments to monitor and track each child's academic progress.

Students study GCSE/IGCSE subjects over the two years of Key Stage 4, from 14-16 years old. All our students study a compulsory core of English, TLC, Mathematics, and at least one Science plus a number of optional subjects (SPIP students enrol on a total of 10 IGCSE courses and typically take 7-9 IGCSE final exams). The IGCSE Examinations, taken at the end of Year 11, are a formal assessment of a student's ability in each of the subjects they have studied. Those who aim to go to university will continue into Year 12 and Year 13: Key Stage 5 (also known as Sixth Form) to attain Advance Level qualifications over two years. GCSE/IGCSEs and A-Levels are highly acclaimed, internationally recognized academic standards, used globally as part of the academic selection process, and guarantee entry into the very best universities around the world.

A Guide to Sixth Form Studies

Facilities

Our Sixth Form Common areas have continued to expand. The two newly refurbished Sixth Form Common Rooms are outstanding facilities that provide a dynamic environment to meet the varied needs of our Year 12 and 13 students. The Common Room's design provides a state of the art learning environment that facilitates both independent and collaborative learning styles.

Motivation and management

As you enter the Sixth Form programme, you will immediately become aware of the expectations for students to acquire and develop the motivation and skills required to learn independently. You will be given regular guidance and support to manage both your study and enrichment programmes in an effective way, and you will work closely with your personal tutor who will monitor your academic progress and pastoral well being.

Your future

A key role of the Sixth Form team is to prepare you successfully for the transition to university and to help equip you for the competitive global environment, thereafter. You will have access to a wide range of careers and higher education resources and will be supported in the application process by a highly experienced team of staff who have specialist knowledge of the UK, USA and Thai university systems. They also have extensive experience of managing applications to many other countries. Representatives from many of the world's leading universities visit the school each year to provide an insight into their campus and courses and how to process high quality applications.

Enrichment

Universities and global employers are increasingly focusing on the extensive skill base and leadership qualities that applicants illustrate. At SPIP, there are opportunities to become involved in a wide range of enrichment activities both inside and outside of school and this will allow you to demonstrate clear leadership skills. Our Sixth Formers are by definition, school leaders and are active role models for our younger students throughout the school.

Uniform

As you can see, the uniform for the sixth form students at SPIP is much closer to the uniform of a university student in Thailand or professional workplace attire than to a typical school uniform. This is another aspect of bringing the gap between the two areas. Students will wear dress shoes, a tie, shirts, and general formal wear which will help them look smarter. You can see the difference in the following pictures:

Sixth Form Uniforms

The A-Level Programme

What are AS and A-Levels?

AS and A-Levels are British qualifications taken when students are normally aged 16-18, before they go to university. AS stands for Advanced Subsidiary. An AS-Level is a qualification normally obtained after a one-year course. It constitutes the first half of an A-Level course, but is a qualification in its own right.

A stands for Advanced An A-Level is a qualification normally obtained after two years of study. Modules studied in the second year of A-Level study are referred to as A2 modules. Normally three good grades at A-Level are required for university, although four A-Levels will increase the likelihood of a student gaining entry to a top UK university or a course for which there is a high demand. A* grades are necessary for the very best universities.

What will I need to start the course?

Students and parents are provided with guidance to support their choices in the period between completion of IGCSE examinations and the start of the new academic year. Entrance into AS programmes is subject to success at IGCSE or the equivalent. Each case is judged on its individual merit, and five or more passes at IGCSE (grade C or above) are required for entrance into the Sixth Form. This includes English and Maths. Students who do not achieve five IGCSE passes cannot enter the A-Level Programme at SPIP and alternatives will need to be investigated. Students should spend a considerable amount of time consulting key people before making A-Level choices. A good starting point is thinking about subjects a student enjoys most, and are good at. Most teachers request that students achieve a B (CIE) or 6 (Edexcel) grade or above in the subject's final IGCSE examination for them to be successful at A-Level. If a student is thinking about a particular career or undergraduate course at university, they should research the requirements for the course and speak to the pastoral team.

How many A-Levels should I take?

Most students choose four subjects at AS-Level and Academic English. Students typically drop one subject at the end of Year 12 and study three subjects at A-Level. Some students, however, continue to study all four subjects. Academic English will help you gain the score required in an IELTS Exam, although the actual exam is not taken on SPIP's campus. IELTS is the English language examination favoured by universities in the UK and Thailand and is widely accepted by colleges in the USA, Canada, Australia and others. A university is likely to ask you to sit an IELTS (or similar) English proficiency examination.

What combination of subjects should I take?

It is vital that you choose your subjects with care. Talk to your parents and teachers about the courses you are interested in. Talk to students already studying for A-Levels about the subjects. Book a consultation with Ms Shirlene, the Head of 6th Form. Read this booklet carefully and think about your future plans. There are common combinations of subjects that often complement each other, and the option blocks from which you choose are based on these.

Sample of Subject Combinations

Undergraduate Degree	Suggested A-Levels
Architecture	Art, Maths and/or Physics
Computer Science	Maths and Physics
Biological Sciences	Biology and Chemistry
Business	Maths and Business Studies
Communication Arts	Media Studies and Business Studies
Engineering	Maths, Physics and Chemistry
Economics	Maths and Business Studies
Medicine	Chemistry, Biology and Maths or Physics
Law	Language, Economics, Business or Maths
Psychology	One or two sciences (this course may also require Maths and/or Psychology).

How much time is devoted to each subject?

Each subject receives 9 periods, each of 55 minutes of curriculum time within a 10-day cycle. You will also be expected to spend considerable time outside of lessons on set homework, coursework and private study.

Optional Studies: Subject Blocks

Block A	Block B	Block C	Block D	Block E
Pure Maths	Chemistry	Chemistry	Physics	Physics
Sports & PE	Biology	Biology	Pure Maths	Psychology
Thinking Skill	Business Studies	Sociology	Media Studies	Economics
Statistics	Further Maths*	Art & Design	Chinese	Computer Sci.

*must be taking Pure Maths if you would like to take Further Maths. Only Students with a Grade "A" or higher will be allowed to take both Pure and Further Mathematics.

An Overview of Year 12 and Year 13

Year 12	
Term 1	
August November	AS courses start University Guidance Research Projects start
Term 2	
January February April	Mock Examination Research Projects due Residential trips/Internship IELTS Examination and complete Personal Statement
Term 3	
May/June	AS Examinations
After Term 3	
August	Results published

Year 13	
Term 1	
August October	A2 courses/IPQ start Project Proposal Submission (IPQ) University Guidance
Term 2	
January February April	Mock Examination Internship
Term 3	
May/June	A-Level Examinations
After Term 3	
August	Exam results published

SUBJECT CHOICES FOR A-LEVELS

AS General English

Department: English

Examination Board: CIE 8021

Is this a suitable option for me?

General English is a compulsory subject for all Year 12 students. Cambridge International AS Level English General Paper develops a set of transferable skills. These include comprehension, constructing an argument, presenting views, and writing English coherently and persuasively. Our students can apply these skills across a wide range of subjects and these skills equip them well for progression to higher education or directly into employment.

How will this course help me?

General English develops a high level of English proficiency in students, and we strongly encourage our students to take this course in order that they further enhance their English skills as they prepare for their further studies. It is highly likely that a student will be required to provide some form of English qualification for at least one of the universities in their portfolio, including most Thai institutions. The skills learnt from this course will also help the students to prepare for the IELTS examination which is required for many overseas universities. This extra course in English will be useful even if they have a high-grade pass in English as a First Language at iGCSE.

What will I need to start the course?

In order to be successful in this course, students need to be knowledgeable about current affairs and the wider world: watching news programmes and reading news articles, magazines, blogs, etc is essential. Therefore, an interest in daily world events and regularly discussing 'the big stories', ideas and theories will be important. Students' writing skills also need to be cohesive and coherent as they will be required to analyse data and write regular essays to practise their academic writing and vocabulary. A grade C or above in IGCSE English as a Second Language or equivalent, is essential.

What will I learn?

Learners will have the opportunity to gain knowledge and understanding of issues in these three broad topic areas:

1. Economic, historical, moral, political and social

2. Science, including its history, philosophy, ethics, general principles and applications; environmental issues; technology and mathematics

3. Literature, language, the arts, crafts, and the media.

Through the study of these broad topic areas, learners develop effective reading and writing skills in English. They work with information, ideas and opinions. They analyse and evaluate opinions and ideas. They also learn how to build an argument. These skills are all highly transferable and will help learners in other subjects they are studying, and equip them for higher education or employment.

Who do I contact for further information?

You can contact the Head of English, Mr. Dominic (dominic.ja@spip.in.th) for further information.

Art and Design

Department: Visual and Performing Arts

Examination Board: CIE 9479

Is this a suitable option for me?

Students with strong technical proficiencies in creative media are the kinds of students who usually take this subject. With a high level of focus on contextualising and analysing works of art, students with good written English abilities will excel.

How will this course help me?

This course will help you think critically about visual media, develop your creative skills and allow you to fully explore a theme of your choice through building a portfolio. Having a portfolio will be especially useful for students looking to gain entry into university courses such as architecture, graphic design and visual arts.

What will I need to start the course?

A passion for making and discussing artwork is essential; skills can be refined over time, but an interest in the artworld must come for the heart. Approaching the course with a theme in mind is beneficial; What interests you, what keeps you awake at night, what gives you a reason for staying late after school? That should be the theme you choose to build your portfolio around.

What will I learn?

The course will enable you to undertake the creative process with an open mind, in order to produce a technically well rounded and critically informed final outcome. You will learn how to create artwork using a range of media to fully explore a theme of your choice, as well as develop skills in contextualising work through the lens of the artist.

AS Level

Component 1: Coursework

Candidates research, develop and realise a project from one area of study in the syllabus content. There are two parts to the coursework: – a portfolio (5 x A2 Boards) and – a final outcome. (1 x A2 piece)

Component 2: Externally set assignment

Candidates choose one starting point to develop into a personal response. There are two parts to the assignment: – supporting studies (3 x A2 boards), created during the preparation period and – a final outcome (1 x A2 piece), produced during a supervised test of 15 hours' total duration

A Level

Component 3: Personal Investigation

Candidates investigate a theme, idea, concept or process that is personal to them. There are two parts to the investigation: – practical work (8 x A2 boards) and – written analysis (1000–1500 words). The practical work and written analysis must form an integrated submission.

Who do I contact for further information?

You can contact Head of Visual and Performing Arts, Mr. Theo (theo.po@spip.in.th) for further information.

For a detailed syllabus of the course see: https://www.cambridgeinternational.org/programmes-and-qualifications/cambridge-advanced/cambridge-international-as-and-a-levels/subjects/

Biology

Prerequisite: 5 or above in IGCSE Biology (9-1)

Department: Science

Examination board: Edexcel XBI11/YBI11

Is this a suitable option for me?

Pearson Edexcel International AS/A Levels (IAL) Biology is recommended for students who like biology, feel comfortable with this subject and have offered good performances in the past. This is one of the most demanding subjects in terms of material retentions. IAL Biology is a requirement for anyone wishing to pursue a career in fields such as: medicine, genetic engineering, microbiology, pharmaceutical, biotechnology, microbiology, clinical trials, nutrition, environment, zoology and the food industry.

How will this course help me?

This course is a great way to get one's foot on the university ladder, as the content of the IAL Biology curriculum possesses a lot of similarities with most undergraduate biology courses. Additionally, completing this course will allow you to become eligible to apply for most biology-related faculties in Thailand and around the world.

What will I need to start the course?

To study IAL Biology, a grade of B or higher (5 or higher on the 9-1 grading scale) in IGCSE Biology is required. The student must also be ready and willing to provide the necessary work and efforts to transition from IGCSE to IAL.

What will I learn?

Students are expected to demonstrate and apply the knowledge, understanding and skills described in the content. They are also expected to analyse, interpret and evaluate a range of scientific information, ideas and evidence using their knowledge, understanding and skills.

As practical work is essential to any study of biology, the curriculum also includes the completion of 18 core practical activities over the course of two years, granting the opportunity to link and apply theoretical knowledge and understanding to practical scenarios.

AS Level

- Unit 1

  The topics studied include biochemistry, cardiovascular health, cell membrane transport and genetics.

- Unit 2

  This unit covers the cell and the cell cycle. The role of stem cells, gene expression and the influence of the environment and epigenetics on phenotypes are included. Students then study plants, how they are used for fibres and sources of drugs and methods for conservation of endangered species.

- Unit 3

  This is the practical part of IAS Biology. The knowledge and skills assessed in this unit will be acquired through practical experiments completed while studying Units 1 and 2.

A Level

- Unit 4

  The IAL contents begin with photosynthesis and the flow of energy in ecosystems. This is followed by a consideration of the carbon cycle, climate change and changes that occur in populations. The unit continues into microbiology and forensics.

- Unit 5

  This unit starts by considering energy within organisms and how it is made available for processes such as muscle contraction. Students will consider aspects of maintenance of the internal environment and how modern techniques of gene technology are used for the production of drugs.

- Unit 6

  Skills assessed in this unit, such as planning an investigation and statistical analysis of results, are acquired through completion of practical experiments while studying Units 4 and 5.

Assessment

The Pearson Edexcel IAL qualification in Biology consists of three externally assessed IAS units (Units 1, 2 and 3) and three externally assessed IAL units (Units 4, 5 and 6). Students wishing to obtain the IAL qualification must therefore complete all six units.

In addition, students will be subjected to the standard continuous internal assessment.

Who do I contact for further information?

You can contact Ms. Sahiba (sahiba.ja@spip.in.th) for further information.

For a detailed syllabus of the course see: https://qualifications.pearson.com/en/home.html.

Business

Department: Business and Technology

Examination Board: CIE 9609

Is this a suitable option for me?

Consider the following questions.

- How do businesses survive during times of difficulty?
- Is a '7-11 on every corner' too much?
- Are foreign multinational companies detrimental to the host country?
- Why would employees be motivated to increase productivity?
- How does Apple recruit the best employees?
- How can financial information be used to analyse the performance of a business?

If these and similar questions interest you, you should consider undertaking Business Studies.

How will this course help me?

This course is of value to students from both Humanities and Science backgrounds, and combines well with most other AS and A-Level courses, especially, Economics, Enterprise, Mathematics and IT. The Business Studies course supports careers in marketing, management, media relations, finance, banking and international affairs.

What will I need to start the course?

While it is beneficial, it is not essential to have studied Business Studies at IGCSE, but you must have achieved a minimum of a grade B at IGCSE in Mathematics and English. If you have studied Business Studies at IGCSE level, you will also need to have achieved a minimum of a grade B.

What will I learn?

Business Studies aims to develop key skills in data handling, analysis and the ability to evaluate information. Students will develop these skills through the use case study materials and activities in which real world examples and applications predominate. Students will be presented with complex business scenarios which they are encouraged to solve through quantitative and qualitative decision-making techniques.

The syllabus incorporates:

- Business and its environment: This unit considers business in the local, national and international environment and recognizes that these operate in a constant state of change.
- People in organisations: This section considers organisational structures, leadership styles and qualities, motivation, business communication and human resource management.

- Marketing: Marketing is essentially about 'finding and satisfying' customers. This unit considers marketing strategies through consideration of the marketing mix. Operations and project management: This section considers business location, production techniques and organisation, the use of cost and revenue information (break-even analysis), stock management, efficiency and quality control and economies and diseconomies of scale.
- Finance and accounting: This unit introduces the importance of the management of finance and considers the sources of business finance and their relative merits, the accounts of a business, the analysis of accounts to measure business performance, the purpose of budgeting, cash flow statements problems and investment appraisal.
- Strategic management: This section considers key decisions that are taken to ensure businesses survive and succeed in the long term. It incorporates strategic analysis, strategic choice and strategic implementation when addressing customer focus, external changes and innovation.

Assessment

The CIE Business Studies A Level consists of four examinations. Students will take Papers 1 and 2 in the first series to achieve the Cambridge International AS. In the following series, students will sit Papers 3 and 4 for the full Cambridge International A Level.

Who do I contact for further information?

You can contact Head of Business and Technology, Mr. Brandon (brandon.al@spip.in.th) for further information.

For a detailed syllabus of the course see https://www.cambridgeinternational.org/programmes-and-qualifications/cambridge-advanced/cambridge-international-as-and-a-levels/subjects/

Chemistry

Prerequisite: 5 or above in IGCSE Chemistry (9-1)

Department: Science

Examination Board: Edexcel: XCH11/YCH11

Is this a suitable option for me?

If you like science, Pearson Edexcel International AS/A Levels (IAL) Chemistry offers you a platform for understanding most of the sciences. It gives you a completely new and in depth understanding of all matter, including the intricacies of the life sciences. Chemistry includes a good portion of practicals giving the student a good opportunity to do chemistry, and not just learn about it.

How will this course help me?

Besides being fun, chemistry is essential for everyone who intends to have a career in fields such as medicine, pharmacy, engineering, and agriculture. To understand materials, you need chemistry. Even biology needs chemistry, because life sciences have reached the level today where the processes of life are studied down at the molecular level. Chemical practical skills prepare a student for many other disciplines where using instruments and apparatus is important to that discipline.

What will I need to start the course?

To study IAL Chemistry, a grade of B or higher (5 or higher on the 9-1 grading scale) in IGCSE Chemistry is required. The student must also be ready and willing to provide the necessary work and efforts to transition from IGCSE to IAL.

This course will also challenge (and also develop) problem-solving skills as assessments always include tasks for applying knowledge of the syllabus contents to unfamiliar situations. Students will need to be willing to complete regular practice to familarise themselves with the style of exam questions.

What will I learn?

IAL Chemistry covers all topics of chemistry at a more advanced level from IGCSE and is a good preparation for studying chemistry at university level. All the aspects of the traditional sub-sections of chemistry are covered: inorganic chemistry, analytical chemistry, physical chemistry and organic chemistry. Practicals in the laboratory are also a major part of this course. The course is divided into six units, each assessed externally by Edexcel with a paper.

AS Level

- Unit 1

  The theme of Unit 1 is structure, bonding and an introduction to organic chemistry.

- Unit 2

  This unit looks at energetics, group chemistry and a further look at organic chemistry: halogenoalkanes and alcohols.

- Unit 3

  This is the practical part of IAS Chemistry. The knowledge and skills assessed in this unit will be acquired through practical experiments completed while studying Units 1 and 2.

A Level

- Unit 4

  Further knowledge in kinetics and energetics are covered. Students will also study chemical equilibrium and focus on acid-base equilibrium and buffers. The organic chemistry topics covered include carbonyls and carboxylic acids. The unit ends with analytical chemistry.

- Unit 5

  The application of chemical equilibrium is continued with redox reactions, particularly focusing on transition metals. Arenes and organic nitrogen compounds are studied. The A-level Chemistry content concludes with the study of organic synthesis.

- Unit 6

  This is again a practical-oriented unit, focusing on redox and organic chemistry studied in Units 4 and 5.

Assessment

The Pearson Edexcel IAL qualification in Chemistry consists of three externally assessed IAS units (Units 1, 2 and 3) and three externally assessed IAL units (Units 4, 5 and 6). Students wishing to obtain the IAL qualification must therefore complete all six units.

In addition, students will be subjected to the standard continuous internal assessment.

Who do I contact for further information?

You can contact Ms. Lene (shalene.sa@spip.in.th) for further information.

For a detailed syllabus of the course see: https://qualifications.pearson.com/en/home.html.

Chinese (Mandarin)

Department: Eastern Languages

Examination Board: Cambridge 8238

Is this a suitable option for me?

Students who have studied IGCSE Chinese (CIE 0547) or equivalent will be able to further their Chinese language studies in Year 12 where they will explore Chinese literature, media, culture, history and society.

How will this course help me?

Chinese Mandarin is one of the most spoken languages in the world and as sixth form students, AS Chinese will prepare them for their further studies at university. AS Chinese Mandarin students' language skills at the end of the course will allow them to use their knowledge to converse socially, discuss news and media as well as debate about culture, history, and society.

The course helps students develop abilities which universities value highly, including:

• a deep understanding of their subjects

• higher order thinking skills – analysis, critical thinking, problem solving

• presenting ordered and coherent arguments

• independent learning and research.

What will I need to start the course?

This course requires a lot of independent reading and students should be prepared to read widely, such as blogs, articles, and book reviews. Therefore an interest in reading literature and discussing ideas, theories, and themes will be important. Students' writing skill also needs to be fluent and confident as they will be required to write weekly essays to practise their use of literary devices and vocabulary. A grade B or above in IGCSE Chinese as a Foreign Language or equivalent is essential.

What will I learn?

To further develop reading and writing skills, students will learn about the changes and developments in Chinese culture, history, and society. This includes topics such as Chinese festivals, China's One-Child Policy, and China's Leftover Women.

AS Level

- Paper 1: Listening (60 minutes ,40 marks)

  Written paper, this paper consists of 40 multiple-choice and matching questions. Candidates answer all questions by selecting the correct option. The questions test comprehension of recorded texts (e.g. dialogues, conversations). Candidates hear each recorded text twice. At the end of the test candidates will be asked to transfer their answers onto the separate answer sheet.

- Paper 2: Reading (1 hour 30 minutes, 40 marks)

  Written paper,this paper consists of 40 multiple-choice and matching questions.The questions test comprehension of a range of text types (e.g. instructions, articles, blogs, reports).

- Paper 3: Writing (1 hour 30 minutes, 40 marks)

  This paper consists of two writing tasks. Candidates answer Question 1 and answer either Question 2 or Question 3.

  Candidates will be awarded marks in three categories for each response:

  • Task completion

  • Linguistic range and organisation

  • Language accuracy.

    - Question 1

  Functional writing task in the form of a letter or email (100 to 150 characters).

    - Question 2 or Question 3

  Extended writing with an argumentative or discursive focus (200 to 250 characters).

  Candidates write one essay from a choice of two scenarios.

  For each text there is a choice of two questions focusing on issues central to the text. Candidates are expected to display detailed knowledge of the text and to show some awareness of how the author conveys the message of the work.

- Paper 4: Speaking (approximately 16 minutes, 65 marks)

  The test will be conducted and assessed in Mandarin Chinese.

  The speaking test includes:

  • Presentation (2 minutes) and follow-up discussion (4–5 minutes)

  • Conversation task card (9 minutes, including the 5 minutes of preparation time).

  For the presentation section, candidates should prepare a topic in which they have a personal interest. It could reflect an aspect, or aspects, of life in a Chinese-speaking community or Chinese-speaking culture. They should carry out their own research to ensure they have enough information about their chosen topic, and are able to present relevant facts, express opinions and points of view and put forward ideas for discussion. When choosing their topic, candidates should consider how a conversation might develop based on their presentation, and what kind of questions the teacher/examiner might ask.

Who do I contact for further information?

You can contact Ms. Joyce (jingji.zh@spip.in.th) and Ms. Dingmei (tu.di@spip.in.th) or Ms. Mim (phusinan.sa@spip.in.th) Head of Eastern Languages for further information.

For a detailed syllabus of the course see:

https://www.cambridgeinternational.org/Images/635239-2024-2026-syllabus.pdf

Computer Science

Department: Business & Technology

Examination Board: CIE 9618

Is this a suitable option for me?

Cambridge International AS & A Level Computer Science encourages learners to meet the needs of Higher Education courses in computer science as well as twenty-first century digital employers. It encourages learners to think creatively, through applying practical programming solutions, demonstrating that they are effective users of technology.

Software and the people that develop it remain an important piece of the economic puzzle for today and beyond. Software and apps are sparking massive changes in entire industries—so ask yourself, do you want to be the person reacting to those changes or the person making the changes happen?

How will this course help me?

Computer Science is a discipline which requires thinking both in abstract and in concrete terms. On a higher level, computer science is concerned with problem solving: modelling and analysing problems, designing solutions, and implementing them. Problem solving requires precision, creativity, and careful reasoning.

Many problems in the sciences, engineering, health care, business and other areas can be solved effectively with computers, but finding a solution requires both computer science expertise and knowledge of the particular application domain. Thus, computer scientists often become proficient in other subjects.

Computer Science also has strong connections to many other disciplines. Mathematics, Further Mathematics, Physics, and Economics combine well with Computer Science.

What will I need to start the course?

If you have already taken IGCSE Computer Science, the move from Cambridge IGCSE to Cambridge International AS & A Level has been designed to be as smooth a transition as possible. Many of the topic headings are the same so you will already be familiar with the topic and will progress from there. The style of questions may be similar and the skills you have developed will be useful.

If you are new to the subject, you may not have covered some topics that are a useful base for Cambridge International AS & A Level. This is not a problem – you will probably find that your teacher goes over some Cambridge IGCSE work as a start to a new Cambridge International AS & A Level topic, or if not, you can easily develop your research skills and read up on what you need to know.

What will I learn?

Learners will study topics including information representation, communication and Internet technologies, hardware, software development, and relational database modelling. As they progress, learners will develop their computational thinking and use problem solving to develop computer-based solutions using algorithms and programming languages. Studying Cambridge International AS and A Level Computer Science will help learners develop a range of skills such as thinking creatively, analytically, logically and critically.

AS Level

- Paper 1: Theory Fundamentals (50% of the AS Level, 25% of the A Level)
  Written paper. Externally assessed. Candidates answer all questions. The exam is 1 hour and 30 minutes long. 75 marks total.
- Paper 2: Fundamental Problem-solving and Programming Skills (50% of the AS Level, 25% of the A level)
  Candidates will need to write answers in pseudocode. Written paper. Externally assessed. Candidates answer all questions. The exam is 2 hours long. 75 marks total.

A Level

- Paper 3: Advanced Theory (25% of the A Level)
  Written paper. Externally assessed. Candidates answer all questions. The exam is 1 hour and 30 minutes long. 75 marks total.
- Paper 4: Practical (25% of the A Level)
  Candidates will submit complete program code and evidence of testing. Candidates will be required to use either Java (console mode), Visual Basic* (console mode) or Python (console mode) programming languages. The exam is 2 hours 30 minutes long. 75 marks total.

Who do I contact for further information?

Ms. Shilpa, Computer Science teacher at shilpa.ch@spip.in.th and/or Mr. Brandon, Head of Business and Technology, at brandon.al@spip.in.th

For a detailed syllabus of the course see www.cie.org.uk

Economics

Department: Business and Technology

Examination Board: CIE 9708

Is this a suitable option for me?

A-Level Economics is suitable for students who aim to follow further studies and/or enter careers related to history, politics, law, sociology, finance, banking, sales and marketing, insurance or public policy, just to name a few. As you can see it opens up a variety of reliable careers whereby students learn important information and concepts that can assist in the running of businesses to be better prepared and make well-informed decisions. Economics allows you to develop your logical and critical thinking skills as you will get the chance to apply economic theories to various real-world contexts and you will analyse and evaluate their strengths and limitations. Economics also helps you prepare you for adult life and all the challenges that come with becoming financially independent. Overall, Economics is a useful and interesting subject that engages you in the main economic theories and allows you to become more aware of the economic issues that affect you and the world around you.

How will this course help me?

The study of Cambridge International A-Level Economics allows students to explore concepts and theories which can be applied to the way that modern economies work. It allows for students to develop the ability to explain, evaluate and analyse economic issues and arguments. They gain lifelong skills and develop an understanding of how and why economic decisions are made, and how they impact firms and consumers. Overall students gain the ability to make better informed decisions in their own lives as well as building a solid foundation for further study.

What will I need to start the course?

While it is beneficial, it is not essential to have studied IGCSE Economics, but a firm understanding of Business with a grade B or higher would be advantageous. A-Level Economics is more academic in nature than Business and is much more challenging. Students who have not studied Economics at the IGCSE level are expected to incorporate additional independent study of the IGCSE topics that are consistent with those covered in A-Level Economics. Taking this approach will increase the rate of success in the subject area of Economics.

What will I learn?

The A-Level Economics course develops skills in how to explain and analyse economic issues and arguments, evaluate economic information, and organise, present and communicate ideas and judgements clearly. The course covers a range of basic economic ideas, including an introduction to the price system and government intervention, international trade and exchange rates, the measurement of employment and inflation, and the causes and consequences of

inflation. Students also study the price system, the theory of the firm, market failure, macroeconomic theory and policy, and economic growth and development.

Assessment

For the examinations taken, students will be assessed in line with four main assessment objectives which are Knowledge & Understanding (AO1), Application (AO2), Analysis (AO3) and Evaluation (AO4). The CIE A-Level Economics course in its entirety consists of assessments across four examinations.

The assessment for the Cambridge International AS & A Level Economics qualification are:

AS-Level (Yr 12)

- Paper 1 – Multiple Choice (1 hour)
  30 multiple choice questions based on the AS Level course content.
- Paper 2 - Data Response and Essays (2 hours)
  Section A: one data response question
  Section B: one essay from a choice of two focusing mainly on microeconomics
  Section C: one essay from a choice of two focusing mainly on macroeconomics

AL-Level (Yr 13)

- Paper 3 – Multiple Choice (1 hour 15 minutes)
  30 multiple choice questions based on the A-Level course content.
- Paper 4 – Data Response and Essays (2 hours)
  Section A: one data response question
  Section B: one essay from a choice of two focusing mainly on microeconomics
  Section C: one essay from a choice of two focusing mainly on macroeconomics
  Questions are based on the A-Level subject content.

The A-Level Economics qualification requires students to sit all four examination papers (Paper 1, 2, 3, 4)

Who do I contact for further information?

Please contact Mr. David, Economics teacher, at david.pe@spip.in.th or Mr. Brandon, Head of Business and Technology, at brandon.al@spip.in.th

For a detailed syllabus of the course see www.cie.org.u

Pure Mathematics

Prerequisite: B or above in IGCSE Mathematics

Department: Mathematics

Examination Board: CIE 9709

Is this a suitable option for me?

If you enjoy and are capable at IGCSE Mathematics then A Level Mathematics is a natural continuation. Students who wish to pursue careers in engineering, finance or other highly mathematical fields must take this course. It is also useful for those who are looking for careers in medicine or other fields with a considerable statistical component.

How will this course help me?

A Level mathematics provides a solid grounding in all areas of mathematics and is internationally considered a respected and challenging qualification. Those of you studying mathematical subjects at university will see a lot of overlap between A Level mathematics and your first year. In fact, many universities in the USA will allow you to skip the first year of a Mathematics degree if you have an A Level in the subject.

What will I need to start the course?

Students must achieve at least a grade B to be permitted to take the A Level Pure Mathematics course. The difficulty increases considerably from IGCSE and in our experience, students with a C or below almost always perform poorly. In addition, a desire to solve problems and a curiosity about mathematics will go a long way to ensuring success on this course.

What will I learn?

A Level Mathematics provides a solid grounding in all areas of maths. The focus will be on Pure Mathematics, which is studied in both years and covers topics such as algebra, geometry, trigonometry and calculus. Each year, students will also take an applied maths module in either Statistics or Mechanics.

AS Level

- Pure Mathematics 1 (60% of grade)
- Students begin with a recap of some of the most challenging but important subjects in IGCSE then expand on previous knowledge in areas like geometry and algebra. A big focus is on learning sequences and the concept of series is introduced. Towards the end, the students will have a formal and comprehensive introduction to calculus including differentiation and integration.

- Statistics 1 (40% of grade)

  The Statistics module builds upon statistical concepts introduced at IGCSE level, and then extends further into probability distributions, permutations, and combinations. Studying Statistics supports those looking to study finance-related subjects, social sciences or medicine at university.

A Level

- Pure Mathematics 3 (60% of grade)

  The Y13 component of A Level Mathematics builds on the work from the previous year and goes into depth in algebra, trigonometry, and calculus, while also introducing new topics like logarithms and complex numbers.

- Mechanics 1 (40% of grade)

  In Y13 students will study Mechanics, giving them a rounded overview of the applied maths landscape. In Mechanics, students will learn how to apply Newton's laws, conservation of momentum, and energy methods to determine the motion of mechanical systems. There is a large overlap with some content presented in A-level physics. Studying Mechanics supports those looking to study engineering or physics related subjects at university.

Who do I contact for further information?

You can contact Head of Maths Department Mr James (james.de@spip.in.th) for further information.

For a detailed syllabus of the course see https://www.cambridgeinternational.org/programmes-and-qualifications/cambridge-international-as-and-a-level-mathematics-9709/

Further Mathematics

Prerequisite: A Level Pure Mathematics

Department: Mathematics

Examination Board: CIE 9231

Is this a suitable option for me?

If you have a deep curiosity for mathematics and are very capable at IGCSE Mathematics, then A Level Further Mathematics will prove to be enjoyable and stimulating. Students who wish to pursue careers in engineering, finance or other highly mathematical fields are recommended to take this course. It's also useful for those who are looking for careers in medicine or other fields with a considerable statistical component.

How will this course help me?

A Level Further Mathematics provides a deep appreciation of mathematical concepts and builds a strong understanding of the language and tools used by professionals in mathematical disciplines. Further Mathematics is considered a very respected and challenging qualification by many top international universities. Students who are aiming to study any university course with a strong mathematical emphasis, such as economics or engineering, will find that they are very well supported in the transition to university level study by knowledge of either the AS or A level Further Mathematics course.

How is this course structured?

CIE A level Further Mathematics (9231) builds upon CIE A level Mathematics (9709), and knowledge of the full Mathematics course is required before studying Further Mathematics. Therefore, students taking Further Mathematics (either AS or A level) will study the full A level Mathematics course (see above) in the first year of study, Year 12. Students will then continue to study either AS or A level Further Mathematics modules in Year 13.

Students who sign up for the Further Mathematics course are expected to study either AS or A level Further Mathematics in Year 13 - you cannot simply drop this subject after completing the A level Mathematics course in Year 12. However, for students who are severely struggling with the course at the end of Year 12 there will be an option to switch to A2 Mathematics as a remedial course in Year 13, if this is deemed appropriate.

What will I need to start the course?

A passion for mathematics and a keen problem solving ability are essential to success in Further Mathematics. This is a demanding course - as such, only students who are able to achieve an A or above at IGCSE Mathematics are recommended to take this course.

What will I learn?

AS Level

- Further Pure Mathematics 1 (60% of grade)

  Students have the chance to dive deeper into topics such as series and vectors, whilst also learning new ways to work with geometrical figures and graphs, particularly with the introduction of polar coordinates. Matrices are formally introduced and their relationship to planar transformations explored.

- Further Mechanics (40% of grade)

  Further Mechanics develops the Mechanics module into more realistic situations, where students learn how to handle variable accelerations and the turning moments produced by forces applied at a distance from an object's centre of mass.

A2 Level

- Further Pure Mathematics 2 (60% of grade)

  Students look deeper into various topics, including matrices and their connection to linear algebra, an important tool with applications in machine learning (not covered here). Students also learn about hyperbolic functions and their calculus, how to set up and solve more complex differential equations, and about complex numbers and the elegant 'De Moivre's theorem'.

- Statistics and Probability 1 (40% of grade)

  Students delve into statistical methods used by researchers in many quantitative fields, including chi-squared tests and both normal and t-distributions. Calculating probabilities and expectations from more general probability generating functions is also introduced here.

Who do I contact for further information?

You can contact Mr. James (james.de@spip.in.th) for further information.

For a detailed syllabus of the course see https://www.cambridgeinternational.org/programmes-and-qualifications/cambridge-international-as-and-a-level-mathematics-further-9231/

Statistics

Department: Mathematics

Examination Board: Edexcel 9ST0

Is this a suitable option for me?

This A-Level Statistics course equips students with essential data analysis and problem-solving skills that are increasingly valuable in higher education and the workplace. It is particularly useful for students interested in subjects such as Biology, Psychology, Geography, Business Studies, and Economics.

How will this course help me?

The course emphasizes real-world applications of statistics, helping students develop logical reasoning and numerical proficiency to support their future studies or careers.

What will I need to start the course?

There are no strict prerequisites for enrolling in this course, but students will benefit from having a solid foundation in mathematics, particularly in statistics and probability at the IGCSE level. A grade C in IGCSE Mathematics is recommended as a minimum.

What is the structure of the course?

The course is assessed through three equally weighted exam papers:

- **Paper 1: Data and Probability** – Covers topics such as numerical measures, probability, probability distributions, and experimental design.
- **Paper 2: Statistical Inference** – Includes hypothesis testing, sampling methods, contingency tables, and analysis of variance.
- **Paper 3: Statistics in Practice** – Assesses students' ability to apply statistical methods to real-world problems and interpret data effectively

These exams must all be taken in the same year.

What will I learn?

Students will gain knowledge and skills in:

- Understanding and applying the **Statistical Enquiry Cycle (SEC)**, which includes planning investigations, collecting data, analyzing results, and drawing conclusions.
- Conducting hypothesis tests, using probability distributions, and interpreting statistical significance.
- Working with real-world datasets to extract meaningful insights and evaluate statistical methodologies.
- Developing critical thinking and decision-making skills that can be applied across a variety of academic and professional fields.

Who do I contact for further information?

You can contact Head of Maths Department Mr James (james.de@spip.in.th) for further information.

For a detailed syllabus of the course see https://www.cambridgeinternational.org/programmes-and-qualifications/cambridge-international-as-and-a-level-mathematics-9709/

Media Studies

Department: Humanities

Examination board: CIE 9607

Is this a suitable option for me?

This subject choice is suitable for students that are interested in all things media related. Students interested in Media Studies should have an interest in all forms of media from film, social media, print media, music, and games. Students will approach such media with a critical and analytical perspective, rather than for just pure entertainment. Students interested in contemporary issues in the media would also find this option suitable as we discuss and explore major issues in the media such as media corporations, representation in the media, and audiences' role.

Additionally, the practical component allows students to produce their own media with various options available depending on media interests. Students will be able to act, dance, sing, draw, write, film, edit, or direct depending on their interests during this process. Students will follow all stages of production.

How will this course help me?

This course is immensely helpful for any individual that consumes a large amount of media content, which is nearly everyone nowadays. It will help you to understand what you are watching, filter the content you are viewing, be up-to-date on current issues, and generally be better informed about everything in the media or involving the media.

The skills-based side of the course will help students to develop their skills in media production. Since everyone produces their own content nowadays, students will be able to produce that new Tik-Tok video, take that perfect IG selfie, or use their ability for a full media production.

What will I need to start the course?

Though it is highly recommended that you have taken first language English, there are no prerequisites to start the course but there are multiple things that can be of help before you start. Subjects such as Global Perspectives and Sociology will provide foundation for the type of content and issues in the world. The most useful factor will be your interest in media content for more than just entertainment reasons. If you like to analyse whatever you watch, read, and listen to then you'll find yourself doing similar things in media studies. Additionally, interest in news and global issues will also help you.

What will I learn?

In addition to the practical skills of the production process (planning, filming, editing) students will learn the following:

AS Level

- Media language - involves technical understanding of media such as codes, conventions, and techniques such as camera shots and angles and cuts and transitions
- Media representation - involves how the media portrays our world and different groups and types of people
- Media industry - involves learning about the media companies and how products are produced and distributed
- Media audience - how the industry considers the audience and how the audience responds to media, as well as audience's role

A Level

Students study more topic based issues. These critical debate issues are media regulation, power and the media, and media ecology. These are deep-dive issues involving case studies, exploration, and discussion. There are historical, theoretical, and contemporary elements to each topic thus students are really learning how to analyse and critically engage.

The Media Studies syllabus sets the following aims:

- develop critical understanding of international media through engagement with media products and concepts
- develop critical understanding of international media through engagement with the creative application of practical skills
- explore production processes, technologies and contexts
- develop independence in research skills and their application
- enjoy and appreciate the media and its role in their daily lives
- appreciate and engage with a variety of global and local media texts
- explore the impact of the media within a variety of cultures and how this influences social values.

Who do I contact for further information?

You can contact the subject teacher, Mr. Ken (vitas.so@spip.in.th) for further information.

For a detailed syllabus of the course see https://www.cambridgeinternational.org/programmes-and-qualifications/cambridge-international-as-and-a-level-media-studies-9607/

AS Level Sport & Physical Education (AS Only)

Department: Physical Education

Examination Board: CIE 8386

Is this a suitable option for me?

The aims and objectives of this qualification are to enable students to develop theoretical knowledge and understanding of the factors that underpin physical activity and sport and use this knowledge to improve performance. If you are interested in uncovering the many facets of sporting participation, activity and elite performance then choose Physical Education & Sport. The course has stimulating content at the heart of an engaging qualification, students will receive a well-rounded and full introduction to the world of PE, sport and sport science through the combination of physical performance and academic challenges.

How will this course help me?

AS Level Physical Education & Sport is a 1 year course and this allows for the students to focus on gaining an understanding of physiological and psychological states that affects performance. Students will be able to fully comprehend the key socio-cultural factors that influence people's involvement in physical activity and sport.

In recent years, higher education institutions and employers have consistently flagged the need for students to develop a range of transferable skills to enable them to respond with confidence to the demands of undergraduate study and the world of work. This course allows for each student to develop the knowledge of the subject, but Physical Education & Sport will give you the necessary transferable skills to assist you in further education. The skills that each student will learn whilst on the course will be cognitive skills (*system thinking, critical thinking, and computer literacy*), Interpersonal skills (*communication, collaborative problem solving, leadership and relationship-building skills*), and intrapersonal skills (*adaptability, data analysis, self management and self development*).

Completing AS Level Physical Education & Sport will allow for students to continue to similar subjects at University, and will build upon their perception of elite performance, alongside how they can improve their own performances and those around them. Students will develop a multitude of skills, and a comprehension for practical performances in order to support progression to the next level of study. The blend of scientific and social knowledge positions

candidates to access the numerous elements of physical education, sport and physical activity higher education programmes

At university level, Physical Education & Sport usually leads into Sport Science, Physical Education or Sports Psychology, and as Science all institutes offer a Bachelors of Science on completion. Unlike other sciences it directly focuses on the key aspects of the human body, whilst also improving student effectiveness to be independent learners. Physical Education leads to a career within the sports and fitness industry such as; Sport Scientist, Sporting Performance Researcher, Sport Psychologist, Nutritionist, Physiotherapist, Professional Sportsperson, Elite Level Sports Coach and a Physical Education Teacher.

What will I need to start the course?

The Physical Education curriculum is designed to build upon the IGCSE PE course, and to reflect the demands of a truly modern and evolving physical education and sporting environment. These qualifications enable students to apply themselves and give them the skills to succeed in their chosen pathway. If you have a passion for sport, human anatomy, discovering the psychological aspects of performance and the social implications of sport then you must choose A Level PE.

What will I learn?

AS level Physical Education & Sports builds upon the knowledge and skills developed at IGCSE PE. The AS Level embeds the physical development and skills learned in Key Stage 4, deepening their knowledge of content studied previously whilst avoiding unnecessary repetition and also ensuring that learners new to the subject are appropriately supported. At this point the subject delves much further into theoretical implications of performance and participation. Students will widen their knowledge and perspectives in understanding the role of technology in physical activity and sport whilst also developing their ability to analyse and evaluate to improve performance in applied anatomy and physiology, and psychological impacts on a performer. These will all be in the culmination of understanding the contributions that physical activity makes to health and fitness and the key issues relating contemporary global influences on physical education and sport.

AS Level

Component 1: Theoretical Concepts that influence Physical Education & Sport

(50% of the AS Level)

The 1 hour 45 minute assessment comprises of questions about the following; Applied anatomy and physiology; exercise physiology and applied movement analysis, sports psychology and sport and society The assessment consists of short-answer, long-answer and extended-answer questions Students must answer all question relate to two compulsory topics of scientific principles.(70 marks).

Component 2: Practical Performance/Coursework

(50% of the AS Level)

Students are assessed in **two** physical activities from the list below.

Invasion Games	Net or racquet	Strike and Field	Aquatics	Track & Field
Football Basketball Field Hockey Goalball Netball Rugby Union	Badminton Squash Table Tennis Tennis Volleyball	Cricket	Competitive Swimming	Athletics Cross-Country Olympic Weightlifting

Centres should assess candidates' performances in their practical activities throughout the course. Filming candidates and completing the log of competitive participation throughout the duration of the course will enable candidates' best performances to be selected, allow candidates to monitor their achievements and ensure that records will be available if injury/illness occurs.

Who do I contact for further information?

Mr. Luke, Head of Physical Education, at luke.ha@spip.in.th

For a detailed syllabus of the course see Cambridge AS Level Physical Education & Sport

Physics

Prerequisite: 5 or above in IGCSE Physics (9-1)

Department: Science

Examination Board: Edexcel XPH11/YPH11

Is this a suitable option for me?

Pearson Edexcel International AS/A Levels (IAL) Physics is suitable for students who enjoy analytical thinking and calculations. A general interest in science will be helpful, as much of the contents in this course complement A Levels in Biology, Chemistry and Mathematics.

How will this course help me?

Being successful in IAL Physics demonstrates that the student has strong analytical and mathematical skills that can be applied in real life situations. Possible career paths leading from it include engineering, medicine, astronomy, cosmology, and electronics.

What will I need to start the course?

To study IAL Physics, a grade of B or higher (5 or higher on the 9-1 grading scale) in IGCSE Physics is required. The student must also be ready and willing to provide the necessary work and efforts to transition from IGCSE to IAL.

Students need to have a strong interest and foundation of knowledge in IGCSE Physics. As there are a lot of calculations involved, students should be comfortable with Mathematics. Additionally, students will need to develop their writing skills towards composition of clear explanations of their knowledge to earn maximum marks on examination papers.

What will I learn?

AS Level Physics will strengthen students' foundation knowledge in Physics through four themes: mechanics, materials, waves and electricity. A Level Physics dives further into these topics and examines more specialised contents and applications of these themes.

AS Level

- Unit 1: Mechanics and Materials

  This topic covers rectilinear motion, forces, energy and power.
- Unit 2: Waves and Electricity

  Students will study the properties of different types of waves, including standing waves. Refraction, polarisation and diffraction are also included and the wave/particle nature of light is discussed.
- Unit 3: Practical Skills in Physics I

For this unit, students are expected to develop experimental skills, and a knowledge and understanding of experimental techniques, by carrying out at least eight practical experiments and investigations while they study for Units 1 and 2.

A Level

- Unit 4: Further Mechanics, Fields and Particles

  The short 'Further Mechanics' topic covers impulse, conservation of momentum in two dimensions and circular motion. In 'Electric and Magnetic Fields', students will study Coulomb's law, capacitors, magnetic flux density and the laws of electromagnetic induction. Applications of this content are related to communication and display techniques.

  'Nuclear and Particle Physics' covers atomic structure, particle accelerators and the standard quark-lepton model. This topic is the subject of current research, involving acceleration and detection of high energy particles.

- Unit 5: Thermodynamics, Radiation, Oscillations and Cosmology

  The topics covered in this paper are abridged and extend from those studied in earlier units. The 'Thermodynamics' topic covers specific heat capacity, specific latent heat, internal energy and the gas equation.

  The 'Oscillations' topic covers simple harmonic motion and damping. Students may apply the knowledge from this content to the construction of buildings in earthquake zones and safety features such as the tuned mass damper of Taipei 101.

  In the 'Astrophysics and Cosmology' topic, students will learn about gravitational fields and the physical interpretation of astronomical observations, the formation and evolution of stars and the history and future of the universe.

- Unit 6: Practical Skills in Physics II

  For this unit, students are expected to further develop experimental skills that they acquired studying for Units 1 and 2. Students are expected to develop these skills, and a knowledge and understanding of experimental techniques, by carrying out at least eight practical experiments and investigations while they study for Units 4 and 5.

Assessment

The Pearson Edexcel IAL qualification in Physics consists of three externally assessed IAS units (Units 1, 2 and 3) and three externally assessed IAL units (Units 4, 5 and 6). Students wishing to obtain the IAL qualification must therefore complete all six units.

In addition, students will be subjected to the standard continuous internal assessment.

Who do I contact for further information?

You can contact Mr. Ionel (ionel.di@spip.in.th) for more information.

For a detailed syllabus of the course see https://qualifications.pearson.com/en/home.html.

Psychology

Department: Social Sciences

Examination Board: Edexcel XPS01/YPS01

Is this a suitable option for me?

Students who have done GCSE psychology and enjoy looking at things from a variety of perspectives usually take this course. Having a good balance of English, scientific knowledge and critical thinking skills necessary for most humanities subjects will support your learning of A Level Psychology.

How will this course help me?

The course develops skills in both science and humanities and includes research components. Research skills learned in this course can be applied at university level for conducting research projects and using scientific writing skills for your final thesis. An understanding of human behaviour is also increasingly valued in society as people become more aware of mental health and how different styles of interacting impact people (eg. in human resources and management). An A Level in psychology supports careers in every aspect of professional life, especially business, teaching, human resources and allied health.

What will I need to start the course?

Some theories from IGCSE Psychology are recapped in more detail and build on previous topics. Thus, previous experience with the IGCSE course is essential. A willingness to explore both science and the humanistic side of behaviour, as well as some basic statistical methods will go a long way in this course. Strength in English will help with reports and essay writing, as well as reading scientific texts.

What will I learn?

The course will build on students' understanding of 8 psychological approaches; social psychology, biological psychology, cognitive psychology, learning theories, clinical and one option in Year 13. The options for Year 13 are criminological psychology and health psychology. Students will also learn about how to conduct behavioural research and which statistical tests to use to analyse data. The application of theories are extended into real world problems in the key questions of each chapter. For example, looking at how cognitive psychology can be used to explain and manage the symptoms of Alzheimer's disease in the elderly.

AS Level

- Paper 1: Social Psychology and Cognitive Psychology

  Paper 1 covers theories, studies and statistical methods learned in the first two chapters of the syllabus - Social psychology and Cognitive psychology. Questions will pertain to content knowledge, application to real world scenarios, analyzing data and evaluating studies and research methods. Questions are a mix of short-answer and extended response questions. Total mark for this paper is 64.

- Paper 2: Biological Psychology and Learning Theories

  The structure of Paper 2 is similar to that of Paper 1, but assesses knowledge from the third and fourth chapters of the syllabus - Biological psychology and Learning Theories. Total mark for this paper is 96.

A Level

- Paper 3: Applications of psychology

  At A Level, Paper 3 contains one compulsory section and two options. The first compulsory Section A is Developmental psychology. The last two sections are a choice between Criminological psychology and Health Psychology. Students must complete one of the options that was chosen and taught. Total mark for this paper is 64.

- Paper 4: Clinical psychology and psychological skills

  At A Level, Paper 4 contains 5 sections on long and short mark answers related to the Clinical psychology unit and Psychological skills. Total mark for this paper is 96.

Who do I contact for further information?

You can contact the subject teacher, Ms. Elyse Ryan (elyse.ry@spip.in.th) for more information.

For a detailed syllabus of the course see:

https://qualifications.pearson.com/en/qualifications/edexcel-international-advanced-levels/psychology-2015.html

Sociology

Department: Social Sciences

Examination Board: CIE 9699

Is this a suitable option for me?

If you are interested in learning and investigating the answers to some of the following questions, then Sociology is a great choice for you. What is it about human beings that makes us what we are? How does group behaviour influence individual behaviour, or cause an individual to conform? How do events affect an individual's daily lives? How do events and group behaviour help a person make decisions about their life? How can group behaviour change over time? These are some of the deep questions that you will explore if you choose to take AS/A Level Sociology.

How will this course help me?

AS/A Level Sociology is a great in depth 2 years of learning one of the Social Sciences and will give you several transferable skills to further education such as critical thinking and problem solving, data collection and analysis, interpersonal and cross-cultural skills, communication skills, leadership skills, computer literacy and finally social research skills.

Completing AS/A Level Sociology will give students the knowledge to continue to study it at University. Because this subject gives massive insight into human and group behaviour it is beneficial for students who are looking to study degrees in any of the Social Sciences such as Psychology, Philosophy, Criminology, Economics, History, International Relations, Law and Media.

As for career prospects, Sociology, if studied further can help you enter a variety of industries such as police and probation services, local and central government, social and market research, charitable, counselling and voluntary organisations, public relations, journalism and communications, media and marketing, law firms and the criminal justice system and teaching.

What will I need to start the course?

If a student is planning on taking AS/A Level Sociology, they should have a deep interest in the world around them and how it works. They should be highly motivated when it comes to reading, researching and academic writing. It is recommended when considering AS/A Level Sociology that the student has a high level of English reading and writing proficiency, specifically writing argumentative essays. If a student has not taken IGCSE Sociology, they must prepare themselves for AS/A Level Sociology by reading and taking notes from the IGCSE Coursebook as well as watching videos/documentaries that the AS/A Level teacher has assigned you. This will ensure the student has the foundational knowledge to begin AS/A level.

What will I learn?

AS and A level Sociology is a development of IGCSE Sociology, digging far deeper into the theories and methods. Students will not only explore the processes that are shaping current societal trends but also develop an understanding of the complexity and diversity of human societies and their continuities with the past. The study of Sociology stimulates awareness of contemporary social, cultural and political issues, and focuses on the importance of examining these issues in a rigorous, reasoned and analytical way. Students will focus on 6 main topics, Socialisation, Identity and Methods of Research, The Family, Education, Globalisation, Media and Religion. By the end of the 2-year course, students will have developed a deep understanding of the complexities of society and how it influences us every day as human beings.

AS Level

- Paper 1: Socialisation, identity and methods of research (50% of the AS Level, 25% of the A Level),

  Students answer four questions. Section A: three compulsory questions Section B: one essay (26 marks) from a choice of two. The exam is 1 hour and 30 minutes long. 60 marks total.
- Paper 2: The Family (50% of the AS Level, 25% of the A level)

  Students answer four questions. Section A: three compulsory questions Section B: one essay (26 marks) from a choice of two. The exam is 1 hour and 30 minutes long. 60 marks total

A Level

- Paper 3: Education (20% of the A Level)

  Students answer four compulsory questions. Question 4 is an essay (26 marks). 50 Marks Total.
- Paper 4: Globalisation, Media and Religion (30% of the A Level)

  Students answer two essay questions (35 marks each). Section A: Globalisation Section B: Media Section C: Religion. Each section has two essay questions. Students select one question from two different sections. 70 Marks Total.

Who do I contact for further information?

You can contact Mr. Thomas (thomas.sl@spip.in.th)

For a detailed syllabus of the course see;

https://www.cambridgeinternational.org/programmes-and-qualifications/cambridge-international-as-and-a-level-sociology-9699/

Thinking Skills

Department: Mathematics

Examination Board: CIE 9694

Is this a suitable option for me?

This course is ideal for students who enjoy analytical challenges and exploring complex problems from multiple perspectives. Strong reasoning, critical thinking, and a basic understanding of mathematics and English will support your success. While no prior knowledge of Thinking Skills is required, familiarity with problem-solving or critical analysis in other subjects may be beneficial.

How will this course help me?

Thinking Skills equips students with transferable abilities in critical thinking, reasoning, and problem-solving, which are highly valued in higher education and professional environments. These skills apply across various disciplines, fostering independent thought, logical argumentation, and effective decision-making. The course prepares students for careers requiring structured analysis, such as law, business, engineering, and policymaking.

What will I need to start the course?

A willingness to engage with diverse scenarios and analyze information critically is essential. Proficiency in basic numeracy, such as understanding percentages and ratios, will aid in problem-solving. Additionally, a strong grasp of English will help students navigate the complex scenarios and arguments presented in assessments.

What will I learn?

The course is divided into two core components: Problem Solving and Critical Thinking.

Problem Solving focuses on organizing, processing, and analyzing data, as well as developing models and strategies to solve real-world problems.

Critical Thinking emphasizes evaluating evidence, analyzing arguments, identifying flaws in reasoning, and constructing coherent, persuasive arguments.

At both AS and A Level, students will work with a variety of real-world scenarios and develop practical skills for tackling complex challenges in academic and professional contexts.

AS Level

- Paper 1: Problem Solving

  Questions will assess your ability to organize and process information, analyze data, and deduce logical solutions. (50 marks, 1 hour and 30 minutes)

- Paper 2: Critical Thinking

  This paper tests skills in evaluating evidence, analyzing reasoning, and constructing arguments. (50 marks, 1 hour and 45 minutes)

A Level

- Paper 3: Problem Analysis and Solution

  Building on Paper 1, this paper presents more complex and detailed problems. (50 marks, 2 hours)

- Paper 4: Applied Reasoning

  Combines Critical Thinking skills in analyzing evidence and constructing extended arguments. (50 marks, 1 hour and 45 minutes)

Who do I contact for further information?

You can contact Mr. James (james.de@spip.in.th) for further information.

For a detailed syllabus of the course see;

https://www.cambridgeinternational.org/programmes-and-qualifications/cambridge-international-as-and-a-level-thinking-skills-9694/

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A- LEVEL GUIDE BOOK 2025-26

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