



WILMINGTON GRAMMAR

CO-EDUCATIONAL SIXTH FORM

CURRICULUM BOOKLET 2021/22

Choosing Excellence - **Together**



Course Entry Requirements

WG6 Entry Requirements for A Level courses:

Standard Entry: All Students must achieve a minimum of at least six Grade 9-6s and at least Grade 9-5 in Mathematics and English Language. In addition, students must meet individual subject requirements as listed below for a minimum programme of 3 A Level courses.

A Level Courses	Entry Requirements (additional to Standard Entry Requirements)	More Details on Page:
Art	Grade 9-6 in Art GCSE or Art / Design GCSE	6
Biology	Grade 9-7 in Core AND Additional Science or Grade 9-7 in GCSE Biology and Grade 9-6 in Mathematics	7
Business Studies	Standard entry requirements	8
Chemistry	Grade 9-7 in Core AND Additional Science or Grade 9-7 in GCSE Chemistry and Grade 9-6 in Mathematics	9
Computer Science	Grade 9-6 in GCSE Computing. Students who only have Level 2 ICT qualifications will NOT be accepted onto the course.	10
Economics	Grade 9-6 Mathematics AND English Language or Literature AND Grade 9-6 in Economics, if taken at GCSE.	11
English Literature	Grade 9-6 in English Language or Literature.	12
Extended Project Qualification	Standard entry requirements	13
Financial Studies (Level 3)	Standard entry requirements (Equivalent to A Level).	14
Forensic Science	Standard entry requirements	15
French	French GCSE Grade 9-6	16
Geography	Geography GCSE Grade 9-6	17
Politics	Grade 9-6 in GCSE English Language or Literature	18
History	History GCSE Grade 9-6	19
Law	Standard entry requirements	20
Mathematics	Maths GCSE Grade 9-7, (External students must also pass a Maths entrance exam)	21
Further Mathematics	Grade 9-8 in GCSE Mathematics (higher tier) and be studying A Level Mathematics	22
Media Studies	Standard entry requirements.	23
Photography	Standard entry requirements plus portfolio.	24
Physical Education	Grade 9-6 in English Language/Literature, one Grade 9-6 in Science, a Grade 9-6 in GCSE Physical Education	25
Physics	Grade 9-7 in Core AND Additional Science or Grade 9-7 in GCSE Physics and Grade 9-7 in Mathematics	26
Professional Construction Practice (Level 3)	Grade 9-6 in Mathematics. Desirable to have studied GCSE DT or equivalent course and at Grade 6 or above if taken. Suitable portfolio will be considered.	27
Psychology	Grade 9-6 required in English Language/Literature, Grade 9-6 required in Mathematics and Grade 9-6 required in once Science at GCSE	28
RS: Philosophy & Ethics	Grade 9-6 in English Language or English Literature	29
Sociology	Grade 9-6 in English Language or English Literature	30
Spanish	Spanish GCSE Grade 9-6.	31

WG6 Vision and Values



Welcome to Wilmington Grammar Sixth Form. It is our great pleasure, as the Head Teachers of Wilmington Grammar School for Boys and Girls, to introduce you to all that our joint Sixth Form, WG6 has to offer.

The sixth form journey provides the opportunity for students to flourish, work independently, and with their teachers to raise aspirations and secure outstanding futures. At WG6 we are dedicated to creating an inspirational environment in which students will be challenged to stretch themselves both academically and personally in our pre-university experience.

We pride ourselves on responding to the changing demands of our students' education and the world beyond school. We have developed a sixth form curriculum that enables our students to achieve at the highest levels whilst also equipping them with the skills needed in a rapidly changing employment landscape.

Students are offered a range of academic and transferable skills within a vibrant, innovative and supportive campus. Students will learn to develop resourcefulness, resilience and responsibility as well as being challenged to take risks in order to succeed. We offer an extensive range of leadership and extra-curricular opportunities including an exciting elective programme of choice, which allows students to personalise their own journey.

We are justifiably proud of the fantastic students who are part of WG6, they exhibit all of the qualities that ensure that they stand apart as leaders of tomorrow and are pivotal in co-creating the educational journey of our school community.

This curriculum booklet highlights the opportunities that are available to students as part of their study programmes.

Further details are also available on our website www.wg6.co.uk which also gives a snapshot of events through the termly blog.



Mrs M Lawson
Head Teacher WGSG

Mr C Guthrie
Head Teacher WGSB

“ Students relish opportunities to tackle difficult tasks and are inspired to aim high ”

Ofsted

Choosing your Sixth Form Courses

Choosing a Sixth Form Programme is one of the most important decisions students have to make and it is vital that courses are chosen for the right reasons.

Achievement at GCSE will be a significant factor when considering appropriate combinations of subjects. In students' best interests, WG6 senior leaders will discuss proposed A Level programmes with all students.

Choose subjects that will be enjoyable

Enjoyment of chosen subjects is paramount. It is vital that students understand the need to deepen and widen their knowledge at A Level. Intrinsic motivation is a key quality to deliver success.

Please consider;

- Content of the subject – are the topics of interest?
- Skills required – how could these be developed further?
- Aspects of independent study that will be required – students will need to undertake a minimum of five hours additional independent learning;
- Any coursework elements that will be required
- Seeking advice from teachers at current school



Choose subjects that will fit in with career plans

Not all students have exact career plans, although students with a defined route need to carefully consider career and University course requirements as some routes require specific subjects. Information is available on the UCAS website.

Students should seek careers advice and help to clarify long-term plans before choosing A Level subjects, but should not worry if uncertain and aim instead to keep a variety of pathways open. There are many degree subjects that are open to students with any A Level combination. Be cautious of choosing a subject that is likely to be difficult and that has not been easy to study at GCSE just because it is a facilitating subject. The level of challenge at A Level is greater than before so it is better to rethink the pathway to a chosen career, or look for suitable alternative A Level or vocational options.

Take time to research subject choices

Students should take time to think carefully about their interests and skills then match future plans alongside the subjects on offer. Having the time to think, time to talk to current and past teachers and having the time to make changes and adapt plans is important.

While other people might have good advice and opinions worth careful consideration, this ultimately is an individual choice. Students should beware of selecting a subject just because someone else suggests it (or because that is what friends are taking). The ultimate decision should be well-considered and needs to be owned by the person studying for the chosen A Levels.



A Level Requirements for Popular Degree Courses

This section provides some further guidance for a selection of popular degrees:

Chemistry A Level is essential or very useful for: Medicine, Veterinary Science, Dentistry, Pharmacy, Biology (and Bio related subjects).

To study **Medicine**: Chemistry is essential, plus two other A Levels, one of which should be a Science. Biology is not essential, but it is useful.

For a **Business Studies** degree: No essential A Level subjects, though Mathematics is useful and students will need a good Mathematics result at GCSE. Business Studies or Economics A Levels are helpful. Top Universities do not like students to do both. **European Business Studies** generally requires a European Language.

Law degrees: No essential subjects, though they like students to have subjects which demonstrate logical ability and the ability to write (e.g: a mixture of Arts and Science subjects).

Psychology: No essential subjects (a mix of Arts and Science subjects is good.) Students will need GCSE Mathematics.

Computing: No essential subjects for most courses. Mathematics A Level is essential for a few Universities and useful for all.

Engineering: Mathematics and Physics are generally essential (though students can apply without them and do an extra Foundation year). Chemistry is essential for most Chemical Engineering degrees.

Most other degree courses either have no essential A Level subjects, or just require an A Level in the subject concerned plus any two others. Do check though! Bear in mind that the top academic degree courses will generally expect three 'academic' A Levels.

WG6 Standard Entry Requirements

To join WG6 students must have achieved a minimum of at least six Grade 9- 6s and at least a Grade 9-5 in Mathematics and English Language as well.

In addition, most subjects will require at least a Grade 9-6 in the chosen or related subject.

To study Science A Levels students will be required to achieve Grade 9- 7 in combined or individual subjects related to the A Level.

To study Mathematics students will be required to pass an entrance examination as well as achieve a Grade 9-7 for Mathematics and a Grade 9-8 for Further Mathematics.

Specific subject entry requirements are outlined in this booklet as well as on the website www.wg6.co.uk.

How to Apply?

Applications are to be made through the WG6 website www.wg6.co.uk.

The application deadline is **Friday 8th January 2021** at 5pm. We will not be processing any applications received after this deadline. If you have any further questions regarding Sixth Form please contact the Sixth Form Team on office@wg6.co.uk.

Students applying to study Mathematics A Level will be expected to pass an assessment which will be held on Saturday 23rd January 2021. We offer an additional showcase of subjects with existing sixth form students in March 2021. This is an opportunity for students to discuss any questions regarding your course selection. Students will be notified of this date and time when the application is acknowledged. Students will receive a letter with a decision whether to offer a conditional place, based on the achievement of the required Grades at GCSE.

Sixth Form Virtual Induction Event scheduled for July 2021, further details will be provided nearer the time.

Students whose applications are successful will be invited to attend our summer induction. Attendance at this is very important as it will help to confirm choices by giving students an insight into their chosen courses and plan for September 2021. There will be an expectation to complete bridging assignments for the subjects students wish to study.

Contact details: Please do get in touch if you have any queries about joining WG6 or the application process.

Email: office@wg6.co.uk

Tel: 01322 226351 or Tel: 01322 223090 ext 263 or 122



Choosing Excellence - Together

Art & Design - A Level

Head of Department: Ms J Cregan, Mrs L Wisdom
Contact Details: jcregan@wgsb.co.uk, lwisdom@wgsb.co.uk
Exam Board: Edexcel

Expectations of Independent Study

- Investigation, research and analysis of contemporary and traditional art work connected to your project theme.
- Visits to Art Galleries and Museums.
- Practical work refining and modifying this using a wide range of materials and processes.
- Planning, development and completion of final practical pieces reflecting a high standard of skill in using the formal elements of art.
- Re-drafting of the Year 13 personal Investigation essay and responding to teacher feedback.
- Personal organisation to meet practical and written deadlines.

Entry Requirements

Students will need to have achieved Grade 9-6 at Art GCSE.

Why is it interesting?

During this course you will develop your own practical and analytical skills as an artist using a wide range of media.

You will learn about the concepts, methods and contextual background to a range of contemporary and traditional art forms.

You will learn outside the classroom via a wide range of events, art gallery trips and visits designed to improve your knowledge and practical skills.

“ Overall I believe my art course to be highly successful and describe my own art work as an innovative and sensory experience ”

Elizabeth Lewis

What skills and knowledge will I develop by studying this subject?

Technical Skill

Developing your technical skills in using a range of 2D and 3D media.

You will understand the qualities of these materials and how to refine your own work further.

You will develop a high level of control in your practical work and be able to apply this in the creation of innovative and unique pieces of art work.

Contextual Research

You will learn to create thorough and relevant research about the work of a wide range of artists and designers.

You will explore different genres of art from a wide range of sources and be able to apply these ideas to your own work.

You will use these ideas to move your work forward and progress.

Creative Ideas and Practical outcomes

You will produce innovative and unique personal outcomes that reflect your skill in using a wide genre of media.

You will be able to produce interesting and thought-provoking art pieces that contain a high level of conceptual and contextual meaning.

You will expand your knowledge of art to the wider genres of arts, media and popular culture to create your own art research theme at A2 level.

This course would be suitable for students who have the following skills and interests:

Photography, drawing, painting, printmaking, digital film making, media studies, semiotics and the Arts in general.

Assessment Overview

There are four Assessment Objectives AS and A2:

Students must:	% in GCE
A01 Develop ideas through sustained and focused investigations informed by contextual and other sources, demonstrating analytical and critical understanding	25
A02 Explore and select appropriate resources, media, materials, techniques and processes, reviewing and refining ideas as work develops	25
A03 Record ideas, observations and insights relevant to intentions, reflecting critically on work and progress	25
A04 Present a personal and meaningful response that realises intentions and, where appropriate, makes connections between visual and other elements	25
Total	100%

Component 1 (A2)

Personal Investigation: Worth 60% of final grade (Out of 90 raw marks)

Component 2 (A2)

Timed Examination: (15 Hours) Worth 40% of final grade. (Out of 72 raw marks)

What career pathways are open to me if I study this subject?

- Fine artist
- Graphic designer
- Animator
- Video game designer
- TV visuals designer
- Fashion designer
- Props artist
- Model maker
- Set designer
- Commercial art gallery manager
- Community arts worker
- Exhibition designer
- Higher education lecturer
- Illustrator
- Printmaker
- Secondary school teacher

Graphic designers can work in many different areas, from book design in the publishing industry, to web design and packaging design for the food and drink industry. The worlds of engineering and construction need the technical design skills of architects, product designers, spatial designers, landscape designers and mechanical design engineers.

Biology - A Level

Head of Department: Mr F Barnes, Dr M Musami
Contact Details: fbarnes@wgsb.co.uk, mmusami@wgsb.co.uk
Exam Board: OCR A Level Biology Specification A

Expectations of Independent Study

You are expected to spend at least five and a half hours a week on your Biology work outside of lessons. This will include homework tasks, pre-reading, independent study tasks, making additional notes, reviewing lesson materials and reading around the subject.

Entry Requirements

Grade 9-7 for core and additional Science or 9-7 in Biology GCSE. Grade 9-6 Mathematics.

Why is it interesting?

It explains everything about the marvellous and almost miraculous phenomenon that is life. It allows us to understand everything alive from the tiniest bacteria to fascinating massive organisms like blue whales.

What skills and knowledge will I develop by studying this subject?

- Fundamental processes of life.
- Practical skills
- Problem solving
- Maths based problems

This course would be suitable for students who have the following skills and interests:

Studying Biology at A Level will require you to be highly organised and effective with your own independent work. Not only will you have to balance the workload of this subject and the other subjects you have chosen, you will also be required to commit to the subject and do the very best that you can.

What career pathways are open to me if I study this subject?

Studying Biology provides a huge platform for students to go into numerous fields some of which include:

- Biomedical science
- Veterinary science
- Biological sciences
- Environmental Sciences
- Biotechnology
- Microbiology
- Immunology
- Pharmacology
- Botany
- Zoology
- Nursing
- Medicine
- Sports science
- Biochemistry

“ I’m really enjoying the course so far, as it’s very interesting and pleasant. I would strongly recommend the course to other students choosing their A Levels, as every lesson is an adventure!!! ”

Assessment Overview

Paper 1 is worth 37% of the marks and is based on biological processes. It is made up of multiple choice, short answer and extended response questions.

Paper 2 is worth 37% of the marks and is based on biological diversity. It is made up of multiple choice, short answer and extended response questions.

Paper 3 is worth 26% of the marks and is synoptic, covering all aspects of theory and practical. It is made up of multiple choice, short answer and extended response questions.

The fourth aspect of the assessment will be based on mathematical skills.

“ I’m loving the course so far, it’s thoroughly interesting and informative as well as enjoyable. The teachers are extremely supportive with the course providing the perfect environment for students to commit fully to their education ”



Business - AS Level or A Level

Head of Department: Mr J Colledge (WGSB)
Contact Details: jcolledge@wgsb.co.uk
Exam Board: Edexcel

Expectations of Independent Study

Students are expected to undertake one hour of additional study for every hour studied in the classroom. Students are expected to prepare for lessons in advance by extensive reading of the set topics, as well as making notes outside of the classroom. This will enable all students to fully engage in lessons. Students are also required to keep a close eye on the national and international business and economics news, preferably on a daily basis.

Entry Requirements

Standard entry requirements. GCSE Business Studies is useful, though not compulsory but Grade 9-6 is required if studied at GCSE. An interest in current affairs is extremely important in determining how much a student will succeed and be engaged by this subject.

Why is it interesting?

At some point everyone will work for a business or run a business themselves. Studying business will give you an insight into the core activities that a business undertakes, both on a small scale like a family business to a large Multinational Corporation like Apple. We will give you an opportunity to see how all the differing theoretical concept apply to the business world, giving you an insight as to why businesses operate in the way that they do.

What skills and knowledge will I develop by studying this subject?

The course is split into four distinct themes, all looking at business from a different perspective.

Theme 1: Marketing and People Students will develop an understanding of:

- Meeting customer needs
- Marketing mix and strategy
- Entrepreneurs and leaders
- Managing people

Theme 2: Managing Business Activities Students will develop an understanding of:

- Raising finance
- Managing finance
- External influences
- Resource management

Theme 3: Strategic business decisions This develops the concepts introduced in Theme 2

Students will develop an understanding of:

- Business objectives and strategy
- Decision-making techniques
- Assessing competitiveness
- Managing change

Theme 4: Global Business This develops the concepts introduced in Theme 1

Students will develop an understanding of:

- Global marketing (multinational corporations)
 - Global markets and business
 - Global industries and companies
- Students studying business will develop many subject specific skills as well as transferable skills for a multitude of professions. Within business we will develop students analytical and evaluative skills. This will be breaking down information and examining it closely, such as the decision the government made over not to bail out Thomas Cook. We will then encourage students to question these decisions and provide alternative viewpoints. Within business we will also develop numeracy skills by using the calculations that every business will use to such as cash flow, profit loss and stock control.

Assessment Overview

- Paper 1** (themes 1 and 4)
written examination
- Paper 2** (themes 2 and 3)
written examination
- Paper 3** (all themes)
local, national & global - written examination with pre-release case study

“ We chose business because it gives us a glimpse of what a business is like in the real world. It also opens a vast range of job opportunities, therefore broadening our future opportunities ”

This course would be suitable for students who have the following skills and interests:

Students should have an interest in the business world and what is currently happening in the UK and global markets. Students who are curious in nature about how a business operates and how a business model can stay sustainable in the modern world would be suited to the subject. For example, will physical retail outlets continue to exist in the future, or is online shopping the way forward in business?

Although mathematics is a key element of Business students should not be discouraged from the subject for this reason. Business looks at statistical analysis and calculations based on formulas on a regular basis. Students who are competent and wish to further enhance these skills would be well suited to the subject.

What career pathways are open to me if I study this subject?

The qualification will obviously help in any business-related degree. However, it also has applications in any career; the student will learn about motivational techniques, personal as well as business finance and legal employment issues. The breadth of subjects covered may provide leads for the student then to study one of these specialist topics at university.

Chemistry - A Level

Head of Department: Mr R Anderson (WGSB), Mrs S Munden (WGSG)
Contact Details: randerson@wgsb.co.uk, smunden@wgsg.co.uk
Exam Board: OCR

Expectations of Independent Study

Students are expected to complete approximately five hours of independent study outside of lessons to apply their understanding of the concepts taught.

Entry Requirements

Grade 9-7 for core and additional Science or 9-7 in Chemistry GCSE. Grade 9-6 Mathematics.

Why is it interesting?

A Level Chemistry will give you an exciting insight into the contemporary world of Chemistry. The course combines academic challenge and practical focus to develop students' enthusiasm for the subject, including developing an interest in further study, helping students appreciate how society makes decisions about scientific issues and how the sciences contribute to the success of the economy and society.

What skills and knowledge will I develop by studying this subject?

Students will develop and demonstrate a deeper appreciation of the skills, knowledge and understanding of How Science Works and develop essential knowledge and understanding of different areas of Chemistry and how they relate to each other, including practical skills. The development of transferable skills including investigating, problem solving, research, decision making, mathematical skills and analytical skills.

This course would be suitable

for students who have the following skills and interests:

A Level chemistry is an excellent base for a university degree in healthcare, such as medicine, pharmacy and dentistry, as well as the biological sciences, geography, physics, mathematics, pharmacology, engineering and analytical chemistry.

Chemistry is also taken by many law applicants as it shows you can cope with difficult concepts and have good problem-solving skills. A range of career opportunities including chemical, manufacturing and pharmaceutical industries and in areas such as forensics, environmental protection and healthcare.

What career pathways are open to me if I study this subject?

Chemistry opens the way to studies and careers in Chemistry, Medicine, Dentistry, Chemical Engineering, Biochemistry, Pharmacy, Veterinary Science, Food Science, Physiotherapy, Materials Science etc.

Assessment Overview

The A Level is divided into 3 examinations (two 2hrs 15min papers and one 1hr 30min paper) and the Practical Endorsement for Chemistry, which is reported on separately.

Paper 1 makes up 37% of the overall qualification and is based on the periodic table, elements and physical chemistry.

Paper 2 makes up 37% of the overall qualification and is based on synthesis (organic chemistry) and analytical techniques.

Paper 3 makes up the remaining 26% of the qualification. The paper, titled "unified chemistry" is synoptic and consists of structured questions and extended response questions covering theory and practical skills from all aspects of the taught content.

The non-exam part of the course is the practical endorsement which is pass or fail. Students will complete a range of core practical work that will contribute to this holistic teacher assessment.

“ Chemistry challenges both my analytical and problem solving skills and I am always up for the challenge. The feeling when you understand a topic in Chemistry is so rewarding. ”



Computer Science - A Level

Head of Department: Mr E Barwell
Contact Details: ebarwell@wgsb.co.uk
Exam Board: OCR

Expectations of Independent Study

We will work with you to develop your knowledge and approaches to problem solving. You will be expected to independently develop your programming skills in a language of your choice. You will also be given time in lessons to continue to work on a series of your own programming experiments that will enable you to develop your problem solving, design and development skills. This will lead into ideas for your official project.

Entry Requirements

Standard entry requirements and the ability to cope with the demands of an academically challenging A Level course. Students must have completed GCSE Computing or Computer Science and achieved Grade 9-6. Students who only have Level 2 ICT qualifications (including GCSE ICT) will not be accepted onto the course. Strong grades in English and Maths will also be advantageous.

Why is it interesting?

The focus of the course is programming. Programming is a creative technical art; you have the freedom to create anything that your imagination and skills will allow.

Programming is a craft that you will never fully master, you will always have the opportunity to develop your skills, learn new languages, new environments and new ways of achieving goals. We allow you the freedom to explore programming in a supportive and sharing environment where all members of the course can share their knowledge with each other.

We supply you with a wide range of development environments (Visual Studio 2019, Unity, Visual Studio Code, Processing) and languages (all available to use at home) including C#, C++,

assembly language, Python, JavaScript and Java so that you can experiment with these different tools and languages.

You will learn about standard algorithms that form the bedrock of computer science and about the hardware and software systems that enable the breadth and complexity of software applications we are able to create today.

What skills and knowledge will I develop by studying this subject?

You will develop your problem solving, design and programming skills. You will deal with abstract concepts and design and build implementations to meet changing goals. You will develop your confidence in tackling hard and complex problems. These skills are applicable to all types of jobs.

This course would be suitable for students who have the following skills and interests:

This course is for those that wish to be creators and not consumers. You should be interested in programming as this is the major focus of the course. If you are interested in creative design and have an interest in exploring the technical and development aspects of computer science, then this course is for you.



Assessment Overview

Unit 1 Computer Systems (2hr 30 mins examination paper) 40% of the total A Level

Unit 2 Algorithms and Programming (2hr 20 mins examination paper) 40% of the total A Level

Unit 3 Programming Project course work - 20% of the total A Level. The project you develop is your own choice and you pick a suitable implementation language and environment

“Computer science offers an amazing platform to explore your interests. The coding skills gained gives you the opportunity to delve into a topic you find fascinating while creating fulfilling programs. The application and utility is endless with this subject.”

JR Computer Science YR13 2019

What career pathways are open to me if I study this subject?

You can choose to go through a university or degree apprenticeship programme to study computer science, software engineering, game development, AI and machine learning or other computer science based courses. You may also try for developer jobs and apprenticeships programmes.

During your course you will produce a series of personal projects which could be used to build a portfolio of work which you could discuss during interviews with potential employers, apprenticeship providers or university applications.

Economics - AS Level or A Level

Head of Department: Mr J Colledge (WSGB)
Contact Details: jcolledge@wgsb.co.uk
Exam Board: Edexcel

Expectations of Independent Study

Students are expected to carry out a minimum of 5 hours of additional study per week for economics. The expectation is that you would read the textbook on the current and upcoming topics in class and make additional notes. This reduces the burden of copious note-taking, and allows students to be more actively involved during in-class discussions. Students are also expected to keep up to date with current affairs, by engaging in the news on a daily basis or subscribing to journals such as The Economist.

Entry Requirements

Grade 9-6 in Mathematics and English language. GCSE Economics or Business Studies are useful, though not compulsory but at least Grade 6 is required if studied at GCSE.

Why is it interesting?

Economics is a dynamic subject, as its constantly evolving with societies. It's a unique social science that allows students not only a chance to improve their understanding of current affairs, but also develops their quantitative and analytical skills. Why are diamonds more expensive than fresh water, why is an oil-rich country like Venezuela in economic turmoil, does the minimum wage actually benefit people? These are all areas that we look at within the subject of economics. Studying Economics typically offers new challenges and a different way of thinking as popularised by best seller books such as Freakonomics! In the world we as consumers want as much as we can possibly consume, however there is not enough to go around, Economics provides the answer as to why this happens.

What skills and knowledge will I develop by studying this subject?

Economics provides a unique blend of writing-based and quantitative subjects, and therefore provides students a chance to develop essential skills that will benefit them regardless of their field of interest in post-secondary.

At a microeconomic level, students study how individual markets work in areas such as commodities, transport, healthcare and education. This leads onto analysis of whether governments or markets should provide services (see the current debate about whether the railways would be better run if they were owned by the government). There is discussion about whether governments actually make markets work less efficiently, government failure (there might be even less investment in the railways because the government spends tax revenues on other priorities such as the NHS). In macroeconomics students are introduced to the workings of the economy where the links between different elements such as unemployment, inflation, economic growth and foreign trade are studied. A key issue currently is the very high level of government debt and the debate about whether we should stimulate demand with tax cuts or whether we should cut government spending, some of which may result in the loss of key services.

This course would be suitable for students who have the following skills and interests:

Economics is a subject which will be suitable for students who want to be challenged and pushed their potential every lesson. In particular student will be suitable for economics if:

- Ability to work with numbers and information presented graphically or in diagrams.

Assessment Overview

3 Exams (only 2 exams for AS)

Paper 1 Microeconomics (100 marks -2 hours)

Paper 2 Macroeconomics (100 marks -2 hours)

Paper 3 Micro/Macro (synoptic - 100 marks - 2 hours)

-They are proficient constructing logical chains of reasoning to justify consumer, business and government behaviour.

- Are able to provide an alternative viewpoint, questioning underpinning theory

- Demonstrate a sound ability to calculate and interpret statistical data

-Are keen to immerse themselves in the world of business and economics current affairs on a daily basis.

What career pathways are open to me if I study this subject?

There is a specific shortage of academic economists in the universities at present because of the strong demand for economists elsewhere, mostly in the financial sector. Economics graduates are sought after by city firms and are ten times more likely to land financial jobs than graduates from other disciplines. Industry uses economists to predict growth, inflation etc. in the markets that they operate in. The government uses economists to plan government policy while the Bank of England is a big employer in its role of regulating the financial sector. The skills developed in economics are also useful in many other fields, such as engineering, finance, and political science.

“Economics has helped me to gain me to gain an interest into the world around me, giving an awareness of how resources are scarce and we as consumers have infinite wants. Economics start to provide an answer as to how this problem is solved”

English Literature - A Level

Head of Department: Mr B Harding, Mr J Clayton
Contact Details: bharding@wgsb.co.uk, jclayton@wgsb.co.uk
Exam Board: Edexcel

Expectations of Independent Study

- Read the course texts, including any secondary sources.
- Organise revision notes and essay plans.
- Read and develop personal responses to the Shakespeare: Critical Anthology.
- Research the literary, social and historical contexts of the literature that we cover, developing an understanding of how to apply them.
- Personal research and completing essay deadlines.
- Complete the research for, and contribute towards the completion of, the 'Non-exam Assessment' (coursework).

Entry Requirements

Standard entry requirements and Grade 9 - 6 in either GCSE English Language or English Literature. It is also preferable that students enjoy reading.

Why is it interesting?

This course gives students a thorough grounding in the canon of English literature. It develops analytical skills, understanding, evaluating and communication. It develops an awareness of our rich literary heritage and links with the cultural and historical influence on English literature.

What skills and knowledge will I develop by studying this subject?

AS Level (One-Year Course)

Component 1: Unseen Poetry and Drama

Section A – Unseen Poetry: one essay question on an unseen modern poem. Modern poetry will be studied in preparation for this.

Section B – Drama one essay question.

The drama selection is mainly modern with some pre-1900 drama available.

Component 2: Prose - Two prose texts from a chosen theme will be studied. At least one prose text must be pre-1900.

The choice of themes are: Childhood; Colonisation and its Aftermath; Crime and Detection; Science and Society; The Supernatural; or Women and Society.

A Level (Two-Year Course)

Component 1: Two drama texts are studied. One Shakespeare play plus one other drama text either tragedy or comedy.

Component 2:

Two prose texts from a chosen theme. One text must be pre-1900, one may be modern (See AS list for the themes available).

Component 3: Contemporary Poetry

A range of poetry from a literary period or a range of poetry from a named poet. Two essays, one will be comparative.

This course would be suitable for students who have the following skills and interests:

Students are expected to read widely as an essential part of their learning. It is also vital to read literary criticism to inform their responses to texts.

It goes without saying that students following this course should have a love of literature and enjoy reading for pleasure.

“ In my experience, English Literature is my favourite subject. In the time that I have studied the subject, I believe that I have significantly improved and flourished. ”

Assessment Overview

AS Level (One-Year Course)

Component 1: Unseen Poetry and Drama - 2-hour examination (60% of total AS Level)

Component 2: Prose - 1 hour examination (40% of total AS Level) Two prose texts from a chosen theme will be studied. At least one prose text must be pre-1900.

A Level (Two-Year Course)

Component 1: Drama - 2 hours and 15 mins examination (30% of total A Level)

Component 2: Prose - 1 hour examination (20% of total A Level)

Component 3: Contemporary Poetry 2 hour and 15 mins examination (30% of total A Level)

Component 4: Coursework (20% of total A Level)

A free range of two texts may be studied. 2500 – 3000 words.

What career pathways are open to me if I study this subject?

History and Art are particularly compatible with English Literature, especially with the new AS/A Level syllabus. Students following Maths and Science courses also benefit by demonstrating the diversity of their interests and skills.

Communication skills are vital for any managerial post. The ability to express oneself clearly in both written and spoken English is the hallmark of a professional person. Journalism, the law, the media, education and medicine are all career paths which an advanced qualification in English could help the student embark upon.



Extended Project Qualification - AS Level

Head of Department: Miss L Bedford
Contact Details: lbedford@wgsb.co.uk
Exam Board: Edexcel

Expectations of Independent Study

- Independent investigation, research and analysis on chosen topic
- Personal organisation to meet deadlines.
- Planning, development and completion of final piece

Entry Requirements

Standard entry requirements

Why is it interesting?

The Extended Project requires students to create a single piece of work, requiring a high degree of planning, preparation and autonomous working. The projects that students complete will differ by subject, but all will require persistence over time and research skills to explore a subject independently in real depth.

All projects must include a written report of approximately 5000 words. However, this will depend on the nature of the project undertaken. Students can complete their project as a dissertation, investigation, artefact or performance. The project will conclude with a short presentation to a non-specialist audience.

What skills and knowledge will I develop by studying this subject?

Students may study any topic they wish; there is no requirement for students to study an area within the range of subjects offered at A Level. Students may wish to study a topic related to the subject that they intend to study at university or an area of special interest. All students will attend seminars with a supervisor to support their planning. Success on this course will require strong self-motivation

Assessment Overview

- Completion of a detailed activity log
- Written report
- Short presentation of the process and the final project

and excellent organisational skills. The Extended Project Qualification is worth a maximum of 28 UCAS points for an A* Grade.

This course would be suitable for students who have the following skills and interests:

- Strong motivation
- Ability to research independently
- Excellent research skills
- Project management
- Decision-making
- Problem solving
- Critical thinking

What career pathways are open to me if I study this subject?

An Extended Project is an excellent way to build up and develop research skills whilst learning how to be more critical and analytical in evaluations. It presents a unique opportunity to examine a subject in considerable depth and uncover new interests whilst working towards a



Financial Studies DIPLOMA

AS Level (Certificate in Financial Studies) or A Level (Diploma) - this is a vocational qualification that is equivalent to an A Level

Head of Department: Mr J Colledge (WGSB), Mrs S Smith (WGSG)
Contact Details: jcolledge@wgsb.co.uk, ssmith@wgsb.co.uk
Exam Board: LIBF (London Institute of Banking & Finance)

Expectations of Independent Study

Students are expected to undertake one hour of additional study for every two hours studied in the classroom. Students are expected to prepare for lessons in advance by extensive reading of the set topics, as well as making notes outside of the classroom. They will also be expected to complete end of topic quizzes and all topics/activities available online. This will enable all students to fully engage in lessons. Students are also required to keep a close eye on the national and international business, personal finance and economics news, preferably on a daily basis.

Entry Requirements

Standard entry requirements. An interest in current affairs and the Financial Services industry is extremely important in determining how much a student will succeed and be engaged by this subject.

Why is it interesting?

Financial Services are the variety of products, services and facilities provided by the finance industry, covering a huge spread of organisations that manage money including credit card and insurance companies. These range from providing bank accounts to individuals, to developing complex computer models to help governments trade and raise money. However, there is no mistaking the impact of the industry in the UK, as it contributed £127bn in gross value to the UK economy in 2018. 2.3m people are employed in financial services and related sectors in the UK, of which 751,000 are employed in London. This course will give students an insight into how the industry works,

as well as giving them invaluable information on how to manage their own personal finances.

What skills and knowledge will I develop by studying this subject?

The purpose of the course is to prepare students for further study through the development of core skills including independent thinking, critical analysis and evaluation, synthesis, verbal and written communication. It will encourage students to:

- Visits to Art Galleries and Museums.
- Practical work refining and modifying using a wide range of materials and processes
- Planning, development and completion of final practical pieces reflecting a high standard of skill in using the formal elements of art.

Through this, a greater understanding will be gained of the impact that global events can have upon consumers and the wider financial services industry.

LIBF's aim is to ensure that young people leave school with the skills and understanding to manage their own finances. We seek to inspire the next generation of finance and banking professionals through these courses and the Student Investor Challenge, our annual stocks and shares trading game.

This course would be suitable for students who have the following skills and interests:

Students should have an interest in the Financial Services industry in the UK and global markets. There are opportunities to take part in the Student Investor Challenge for

Assessment Overview

A/S - Certificate in Financial Studies

Unit 1 Financial Capability for the Immediate and Short Term - Paper A MCQ; Paper B written exam (1 hour 45)

Unit 2 Financial Capability for the Medium and Long Term - Paper A MCQ; Paper B written exam (1 hour 45)

A Level - Diploma in Financial Studies

Unit 3 Sustainability of an Individual's Finances - Paper A MCQ; Paper B written exam (2 hours)

Unit 4 Sustainability of the Financial Services System - Paper A MCQ; Paper B written exam (2 hours)

those wishing to gain an insight into trading stocks and shares; as well as a Young Financial Journalist competition for those keen on writing about the latest news on the UK economy.

Students do not need advanced mathematical skills, but should be competent in the basics of real-world application of maths, through understanding charts, graphs and indexes. An understanding of basic economics is helpful but not essential.

What career pathways are open to me if I study this subject?

The financially related content of this qualification serves as an excellent grounding for undergraduate study within finance and business-related disciplines, with many students going on to study accounting, business, finance and banking.

The skills developed and enhanced during the course provide valuable study skills appropriate for these disciplines and others, and students have pursued a wide range of undergraduate courses following this qualification. The transferable skills developed are also valuable for further study in unrelated disciplines.

The LIBF itself also offers undergraduate degree courses of BSc (Hons) Banking & Finance or BSc (Hons) Finance, Investment & Risk, and those students gaining an A or higher at the Diploma can gain scholarships to these courses. They also offer a BSc (Hons) Apprenticeship route in Banking Practice and Management.

Forensics and Criminal Investigation - BTEC Level 3 National Diploma (A Level equivalent)

Head of Department: Mrs S Munden
Contact Details: smunden@wgsb.co.uk
Exam Board: Edexcel

Expectations of Independent Study

Students are expected to complete three to five hours of independent study outside of lessons to apply their understanding of the concepts taught and improve the coursework produced. This will include reading around the subject to gain a better understanding, and producing revision materials in preparation for the externally assessed exams

Entry Requirements

Standard entry requirements

Why is it interesting?

The Pearson BTEC Level 3 National Diploma in Forensic and Criminal Investigation is intended to be an Applied General qualification for post-16 learners wanting to continue their education through applied learning, and who aim to progress to higher education and ultimately to employment, probably in a range of related degree courses. The qualification is equivalent to two A Levels.

What skills and knowledge will I develop by studying this subject?

All students taking this qualification will study and achieve the six mandatory units, including three units that are externally assessed. The six mandatory units are:

- Unit 1: Principles and Applications of Science
- Unit 2: Practical Scientific Procedures and Techniques
- Unit 3: Science Investigation Skills
- Unit 4: Forensic Investigation Procedures in Practice
- Unit 5: Applications of Criminology
- Unit 6: Criminal Investigation Procedures in Practice.

Learners choose two optional units from a group that has been designed to support progression to a range of sector-related courses in higher education and to link with relevant occupational areas. The optional units offer breadth and depth of topic areas that are relevant to the forensic and criminal investigation sector. These include forensic genetics and practical chemical analysis.

This course would be suitable for students who have the following skills and interests:

The qualification develops skills in the following three main categories:

- cognitive and problem-solving skills: using critical thinking, approaching non-routine problems applying expert and creative solutions, using systems and technology
- interpersonal skills: communicating, working collaboratively, negotiating and influencing, self-presentation
- intrapersonal skills: self-management, adaptability and resilience, self-monitoring and development. There are also specific requirements in some units for assessment of these skills by undertaking real or simulated activities.

What career pathways are open to me if I study this subject?

The requirements of the qualification will mean learners develop the transferable and higher-order skills that are highly regarded by both higher education and employers. Skills include carrying out practical laboratory tasks, planning investigations, evaluating case studies/sources of information to draw arguments together and produce forensic reports for use in court hearings. The qualification is intended to carry UCAS points and is recognised by higher education providers as contributing to admission requirements for many relevant courses. Taken on its own, the National Diploma

Assessment Overview

The course has externally and internally assessed units. The internal units are coursework and practical based and the external units are examinations, which account for 46% of the course.



in Forensic and Criminal Investigation will offer learners the opportunity to progress to some applied degree courses. Taken alongside other qualifications, it will prepare learners for progression to a wider range of degree programmes. For example, if taken alongside:

- an A Level in Chemistry, learners can progress to forensic science degree courses
- an A Level in Psychology, learners can progress to psychology courses
- an A Level in Sociology, learners can progress to criminology courses. Learners should always check the entry requirements for degree programmes with specific higher education providers.

All BTEC Nationals provide transferable knowledge and skills that prepare learners for progression to university. The transferable skills that universities value include:

- the ability to learn independently
- the ability to research actively and methodically
- being able to give presentations and being active group members. BTEC learners can also benefit from opportunities for deep learning where they are able to make connections among units and select areas of interest for detailed study. BTEC Nationals provide a vocational context in which learners can develop the knowledge and skills required for particular degree courses, including:
- reading scientific and technical texts
- effective writing
- practical and analytical skills
- preparation for assessment methods used in degrees.

French - A Level

Head of Department: Mrs B Chambers (WGSB), Mr J Dufton (WGSG)
Contact Details: bchambers@wgsb.co.uk, jdufton@wgsg.co.uk
Exam Board: Edexcel

Expectations of Independent Study

- Have organised folders and notes
- Build a bank of vocabulary, organised by topic
- Revise vocabulary regularly
- A commitment to independent study is expected (five hours per week)
- Independent study ideas: Students are strongly encouraged to participate in wider reading (online newspapers, twitter feeds, magazines) and listening (radio, videos, TV, films) each week to support their language skills, books, DVDs and magazines will be available for students to borrow.

Entry Requirements

Standard entry requirements and Grade 9-6 in GCSE French.

Why is it interesting?

An A Level in a modern foreign language is an exciting mix of topics and skills which will develop students in many areas of studies. If you choose French at Post 16 you will cover the necessary language skills, cultural studies, history, politics, film, art, literature, current affairs and modern society. You will develop skills of debating, presenting, essay writing, group discussions, translation, precis writing and critical analysis of literature and film.

What skills and knowledge will I develop by studying this subject?

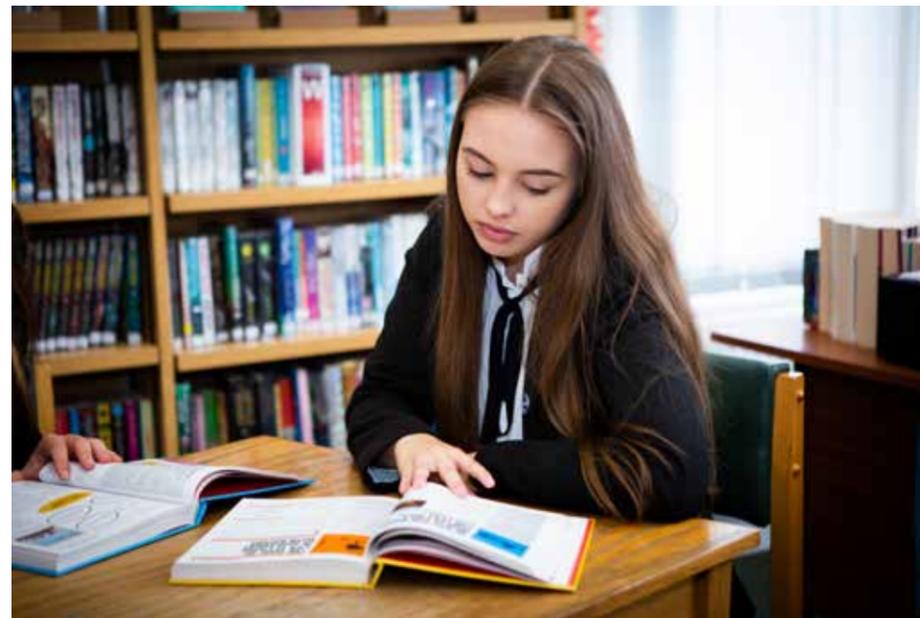
The French course will develop your language skills, cultural and international understanding, and lifelong communication, analytical and research skills which can be applied at work or for leisure purposes.

This course would be suitable for students who have the following skills and interests:

- Enthusiastic about learning a language with the aim of becoming more fluent.
- Interested in developing cultural awareness and excited by the prospect of foreign travel in order to use your language in authentic situations.
- Prepared to work hard, be well-organised and able to function both cooperatively and independently.

What career pathways are open to me if I study this subject?

There are many courses for which an A Level foreign language is a direct qualification for entry, including degree courses in the language itself or in studies relevant to the country. Many degree courses can now be combined with a language either as joint degrees or as part of the course, i.e. History, Geography, Art, Business Studies, European Studies, Politics, Sociology and English.



Assessment Overview

The exams will have the following format:

- Paper 1** Listening, Reading, Writing
2 hours 30minutes
- Paper 2** Writing (2 essays) 2 hours
- Paper 3** Oral Exam 15-20mins

Modern Foreign Language qualifications are highly valued by admissions tutors and employers as evidence of hard work, intellectual aptitude, intercultural competency and international outlook.

“ The fact that studying a language is cross-curricular, is amazing in my opinion, as it gives you a wide knowledge of not only the language, but the cultures of the French, German or Spanish speaking world in terms of History, Geography, Religion, Politics and Media for example. ”

Geography - A Level

Head of Department: Mr G Simmons (WGSG), Mr P Riches (WGSB)
Contact Details: gsimmons@wgsg.co.uk, priches@wgsb.co.uk
Exam Board: OCR

Expectations of Independent Study

Five hours per week

Entry Requirements

Grade 9-6 in GCSE Geography although Grade 7 or higher is preferred.

Why is it interesting?

“Geography is a spatial science; helping us all to better understand the world’s people, places and environments and the interactions between them - whether at the local, national or global scales.”

Rita Gardner, Royal Geographic Society.

“Geographic information is critical to promote economic development, improve our stewardship of natural resources and protect the environment.”

Bill Clinton, Former US president.

“Geography is not only up-to-date and relevant, it is one of the most exciting, adventurous and valuable subjects to study today. So many of the world’s current problems boil down to geography, and need the geographers of the future to help us understand them.”

Michael Palin, President of the RGS

What skills and knowledge will I develop by studying this subject?

A Level Geography will give you a highly transferable employment ‘skill set’ such as giving presentations, IT skills including GIS, independent study, working as part of a team, time management and excellent written communication and problem-solving skills in complex situations.

You will also develop subject specific geographical skills such as producing and using maps, data handling and

analysis, primary and secondary data collection and the valuable ability to ‘think like a geographer’; to evaluate and see an issue within a wider context.

This course would be suitable for students who have the following skills and interests:

You will deepen your understanding of geography with a more intensive study of key elements which will extend your geographical understanding beyond the topics studied at GCSE. This will include the study of different types of landscapes; key processes such as the carbon and water cycles; how places change; global perspectives and a wide range of other topics. You will undertake fieldwork and more extended pieces of work including an individual research project..

What career pathways are open to me if I study this subject?

“There is a growing recognition amongst both governments and the private sector that an understanding of location and place is a vital component of effective decision making.” United Nations.

The wide range of skills and knowledge obtained in the A Level course provides a good foundation to go on to a Geography degree but it is also a good base for other degrees such as International Development and Earth Sciences.

You can go places with Geography! Career pathways include: Accountancy, Audit Associate, Business Management, Disaster Response Management, Geographical Information Systems (GIS) consultant, Engineering, environmental monitoring/planning, Journalism, Law, Media, Meteorology, Oceanography, Philosophy, Politics, Policy Advisor on Climate Change, Real Estate Advisor, Tourism Travel Advisor, Town Planning, Weather Producer/Presenter.

Assessment Overview

Paper 1 - Physical Systems:

Coastal landscapes, Water & Carbon cycles (Weighting: 24% of the total A Level).
1 hour 45 minutes written paper:
72 marks in total

Paper 2 - Human Interactions:

Space & place; migration & human rights (Weighting: 24% of the total A Level)
1 hour 45 minutes written paper:
72 marks in total

Paper 3 - Geographical Debates:

Disease and Tectonic Hazards (Weighting: 32% of the total A Level)
2 hours 30 minutes written paper:
96 marks in total

Paper 4 - Independent Investigation:

Place or Coastal study (Weighting: 20% of the total A Level)
Coursework based: 60 marks in total



“ It challenges my abilities in writing, application and maths. I can learn about other people’s beliefs and perceptions. Learning about the world around me helps me to become a more well-rounded person.” ”

“ I like Geography because it allows me to gain insight into the world. It also pushes me to achieve my best grades while still enjoying learning. ”

Politics - A Level

Head of Department: Dr L Harris, Mr P Dent
Contact Details: lharris@wgsb.co.uk, pdent@wgsb.co.uk
Exam Board: Edexcel

Entry Requirements

Grade 9-6 in English Language is expected (It is preferable if students also have studied History at GCSE and achieved Grade 9-6).

Why is it interesting?

Everything that happens in daily life is connected to politics from Brexit through to University Tuition fees, funding of the NHS, road tax and maintenance to house prices and unemployment. Politics provides a sense of the modern world in which we live and gets to grips with the debates that affect day to day life in the UK. We live in a complex world with significant challenges, including global terrorism, poverty, economic instability, weapons proliferation, failing states and environmental degradation. These challenges require global co-operation if they are to be resolved. Studying Global politics gives students an opportunity to develop an understanding of the local, national, international and global dimensions of political activity. Global politics encourages discussion and debate and requires students to study and present different global perspectives, as well as interpreting competing and contestable claims. You will also develop an understanding where political ideas come from and what has shaped opinions about how our society should function.

What skills and knowledge will I develop by studying this subject?

You will develop research skills and critical thinking to allow you to act discernibly when assimilating information online, via news media, newspapers, magazines and evaluate information that is relevant to a specific line of enquiry. Students will develop their essay-writing skills, learning how

to structure their ideas effectively and construct a cogent and well supported argument.

A significant proportion of lessons will be spent debating and discussing theories, issues and key political events of the day, allowing students to develop their communication skills as well. Successful candidates will be able to work independently or in small groups as required.

This course would be suitable for students who have the following skills and interests:

Enthusiasm about UK and Global Political issues. A keen interest in debating current affairs and enjoy participation in discussing these issues. A background in History and a willingness to read in depth articles about political issues.

High levels of motivation, organisation and a willingness to get involved in supporting school and community issues such as student leadership teams and local political groups such as Dartford Youth Council etc



Assessment Overview

Unit 1 – 1 hour 45 min exam (33% of final Grade)
Unit 2 – 1 hour 45 min exam (33% of final Grade)
Unit 3 – 1 hour 45 min exam (33% of final Grade)

“ Politics is engaging and has taught me much about understanding the issues that affect me, my future and how I can be involved in shaping these things through having an interest in current affairs. ”

What career pathways are open to me if I study this subject?

- Law
- Journalism
- National & Local government
- Civil Service
- Teaching
- Research

This subject complements a huge array of potential career paths due to the diverse issues it covers.

History - A Level

Head of Department: Mr J Wrigley (WGSB), Mr R Atkins (WGSG)
Contact Details: jwrigley@wgsb.co.uk, ratkins@wgsg.co.uk
Exam Board: AQA

Expectations of Independent Study

In WG6 History, it is essential for you to complete independent study to perform at your highest ability. Without independent study, the knowledge recall, metacognition and overall understanding of both topics and skills can suffer. However, this is not just making more or reading notes. Examples of task that could be completed for independent study include:

- Watching documentaries from YouTube to further your knowledge.
- Wider Reading of the main texts and other books recommended by teachers.
- Research projects into key events & individuals.
- Creating revision guides, quizzes, podcasts or videos for use in the run up to examinations.
- Re-drafting previous assessments or essays.
- Reflecting on feedback that you have received from teachers and amending this work.

Entry Requirements

Standard entry requirements including GCSE History and English Language at Grade 9-6.

Why is it interesting?

History is the story of how the world came to be! We feel we have chosen subjects that are engaging and interesting, some of which you may have covered previously, whilst also studying other topics which you are unfamiliar with. The History department make an effort to teach in a thought-provoking and motivating way, whilst still ensuring we create the vigour that will ensure that you get strong results. The topics we study are; England 1485–1603: The Tudors; which allows students to study in breadth issues of change, continuity, cause

and consequence in this period. Such questions as how did the Tudors restore and develop the power of the monarchy, was the country adequately governed in the period, how far did English society and the economy change in the period, and what impacts did religious change are all dealt with in the course. Unit 2 is the Cold War 1945-1991 (WGSB site) and Democracy and Nazism: Germany, 1918–1945 (WGSG site); the Cold war looks at the origins of the Cold War conflict, examining how far Stalin's foreign policy led to the breakdown of the wartime alliance, the impact of the Nuclear Arms race on international relations, key conflicts such as the Korean and Vietnam wars and the roles of Gorbachev, Reagan and Eastern European national movements in ending the Cold War and the collapse of the Berlin Wall. In the German option we study in depth a period of German history during which a newly developed democratic form of government gave way to a dictatorial Nazi regime. It explores political concepts such as 'right' and 'left', nationalism and liberalism as well as ideological concepts such as racialism, anti-Semitism and social Darwinism. The NEA unit involves an assignment, designed, researched and written by the student and focusing on a specific issue, event, debate or character in history. This unit involves the research and production of a 3500-4500 word written assignment focused around the 'Changing role of Women in Britain between the years 1850-1950'.

What skills and knowledge will I develop by studying this subject?

Although you may be learning History, it is the skills that are really essential that can be transferred to all walks of life – explaining, evaluating arguments, researching, communicating in a variety of ways, critical thinking, using evidence, and treating sources of information judgements.

Assessment Overview

Unit 1: Exam - 2 hour 30 minutes - 40%
Unit 2: Exam - 2 hour 30 minutes - 40%
Unit 3: Coursework- 3500 - 4500 word assignment - 20%

“ The teachers are considerate and always willing to help. The subject is very knowledge heavy, but if you keep up with the study, it all starts to link together and make sense. ”

This course would be suitable for students who have the following skills and interests:

- Historical skills, such as the ability to interpret sources, formulate arguments, and come to judgements.
- Maturity to be able to cope with deadlines and independent reading.
- A passion for the subject. If you love a subject, you'll do well at it!
- An inquisitive mind, one that wants to question opinions and accepted theories.

What career pathways are open to me if I study this subject?

You can do further study, at college or University in pretty much every subject you want - history, geography, RS, science, media, maths, politics, law, business, economist, rural studies and more. Nearly every job is open to you, from retail to management, from judge to lawyer, from journalism to presenting, from banking to accountancy, from ICT to economist, from politician to diplomacy, from secretary to librarian, from army to navy, from police to the civil service, from teaching to lecturing, from sales to advertising, from counsellor to social worker, from youth work to care services...

The list is, quite simply, endless!

Law - AS Level or A Level

Head of Department Mrs M Dhaliwal
Contact Details: mdhaliwal@wsgs.co.uk
Exam Board: OCR

Expectations of Independent Study

Students will be expected to be critical thinkers who enjoy engaging in debate on the most challenging of questions. Independent study involves a large amount of reading from Law journals to case studies, together with articles and current legal practice. Students will complete research essays that develop wider skills. Students will also watch and analyse legal cases in both local and international contexts. There is a real focus on the need to engage with the wider questions of life, morality and ethics as seen through the news and the media and this will form a key aspect of their wider engagement.

Entry Requirements

Standard entry requirements and Grade 9-6 in English language

Why is it interesting?

Have you ever wondered?

- Why do we need law?
- How are laws made?
- How do judges make decisions?
- What are the different types of court and how do they operate?
- How do people become solicitors or barristers?

Studying A Level Law helps you explore these questions and understand how we make decisions about right and wrong in our society. It challenges you to explore why people defend criminals and whether it is right to be deemed innocent until proven guilty.

Do you want to be able to show that you can weigh up two different sets of evidence and reach a conclusion? If so then this is the course for you.

What skills and knowledge will I develop by studying this subject?

Section 1: The Legal System and Section 1a: Criminal Law

This section focuses on the civil and criminal courts, the legal professions and access to justice. Learners will develop knowledge and understanding of the processes and people involved in the law and the changing nature of the legal system.

Section 1b: Criminal Law

This section focuses on the rules and general elements of criminal law and introduces criminal liability through the study of offences against the person and offences against property. Learners will develop their knowledge and understanding of criminal law and the skills to apply their legal knowledge to scenario-based situations and gain a critical awareness of the present state of criminal law.

Section 2: Law Making and Section 2a: Law Making

This section focuses on law making in England and Wales as well as the European Union.

Section 2b: The Law of Tort

This section focuses on the rules of tort, liability in negligence, occupiers' liability and remedies. It introduces civil liability.

Section 3: Further Law

Section 3a: The nature of Law

Learners will explore the nature of law in a wider context and develop their understanding of how the law interacts with morality, justice, society and technology. They will consider the changing nature of law. Learners will be expected to bring together the different areas of knowledge and understanding of the English legal system.

Section 3b: Human Rights & Law of contract

Human Rights

This option focuses on human rights, including their nature, protection

Assessment Overview

The A2 course culminates in three 2 hour exams all weighted at 33.3% of the A Level.

The exam papers consist of a mixture of short and medium response answers as well as extended essay questions. They also all contain responses to legal scenarios. Each paper carries 100 marks.

and constitutional position under UK law. Specific rights are explored in detail as are the restrictions upon them and the process of enforcement through the courts

Law of contract

This option focuses on the central elements of contract law from the formation of contracts to their enforcement. Learners will develop knowledge and understanding of the law of contract, the skills to apply their legal knowledge to scenario-based situations

This course would be suitable for students who have the following skills and interests:

- Debate and discussion
- Essay writing
- Exploring challenging questions
- Abstract thinking
- Have the ability to question their own views
- Enjoy argument and disagreement
- Enjoy exploring complex legal cases

What career pathways are open to me if I study this subject?

Law can be studied at university as single or joint honours and graduates enter a range of careers in the public services as well as in the private sector. It combines well with History, English and Philosophy as well as offering opportunities to continue to develop wider understandings in Society. It ensures a broad base to explore a wide range of careers with the unique range of skills acquired through this study. Law A Level is also a popular option for entry to many professional careers including: social work, human resources, the legal profession, nursing and the police or any job that requires you to think well, clearly and rigorously.

Mathematics - A Level

Head of Department: Miss H Lacey (WGSB), Miss M Dooley (WGSG)
Contact Details: hlacey@wgsb.co.uk, mdooley@wsgs.co.uk
Exam Board: Edexcel

Expectations of Independent Study

Students will be expected to be extremely organised, organising work from different elements of the course assessments and revision. Students will be expected to complete independent study on top of set homework.

Entry Requirements

Standard entry requirements including: a Grade 9-7 at Higher Tier in GCSE Mathematics.

You will be required to sit an assessment. The assessment does not require any knowledge beyond GCSE. It assesses your ability to use and apply your knowledge and your ability to think through problems and select appropriate techniques.

Why is it interesting?

Everything that happens in daily life is underpinned by maths. Maths uses its own language, made up of numbers, symbols and formulas, to explore the rules we need to measure or identify problems within careers ranging from nursing through to engineering.

Studying maths helps us find patterns and structure in our lives. Practically, maths helps us put a price on things, create graphics, build websites, build skyscrapers and generally understand how things work or predict how they might change over time and under different conditions. Studying maths at A Level provides the building blocks to do this.

What skills and knowledge will I develop by studying this subject?

Studying maths at A Level will present you with problems that you will need to analyse, construct logical arguments for and solve. You will develop your ability to think critically and communicate with others. You will need to manage your time and be able to work independently. Studying maths at A Level will develop your resilience to think creatively and strategically.

This course would be suitable for students who have the following skills and interests:

A Level maths is suitable for students who have a keen interest in applying mathematical reasoning to solve problems. It would be ideal for students that enjoy problem solving, are strategic and logical. If you have aspirations to pursue a career in medicine, engineering, finance, statistics or the experimental sciences, the maths would provide the foundation to do so.

Assessment Overview

There are two papers sat at AS Level:

Paper 1 Pure Mathematics is marked out of 100.

Paper 2 Statistics and Mechanics is marked out of 50.

There are three papers sat at A2 Level:

Paper 1 Pure Mathematics1 is marked out of 100.

Paper 2 Pure Mathematics2 is marked out of 100.

Paper 3 Statistics and Mechanics is marked out of 100.

“ It's good being intellectually challenged and I enjoy seeing how maths can be used in the real world. ”

What career pathways are open to me if I study this subject?

- Finance
- Medicine
- Teaching
- Research
- Statistics
- Engineering
- Insurance
- Meteorology
- Software design



Further Mathematics - AS Level or A Level

Head of Department: Miss M Dooley (WGSG), Miss H Lacey (WGSB)
Contact Details: mdooley@wsgs.co.uk, hlacey@wgsb.co.uk
Exam Board: Edexcel

Expectations of Independent Study

Students will be expected to be extremely organised, organising work from different elements of the course assessments and revision. Students will be expected to complete independent study on top of set homework.

Entry Requirements

Standard entry requirements including: Grade 9-8 at Higher Tier in GCSE Mathematics. You will also need to be studying A Level Mathematics.

Why is it interesting?

Everything that happens in daily life is underpinned by maths. Maths uses its own language, made up of numbers, symbols and formulas, to explore the rules we need to measure or identify problems in careers ranging from nursing through to engineering.

Studying maths helps us find patterns and structure in our lives. Practically, maths helps us put a price on things, create graphics, build websites, build skyscrapers and generally understand how things work or predict how they might change over time and under different conditions. Studying maths at A Level provides the building blocks to do this.

What skills and knowledge will I develop by studying this subject?

Studying Further Mathematics at A Level will present you with problems that you will need to analyse, construct logical arguments for and solve. You will develop your ability to think critically and communicate with others. You will need to manage your time and be able to work independently. Studying Further Mathematics at A Level will develop your resilience to think creatively and strategically.

This course would be suitable for students who have the following skills and interests:

A Level Further Mathematics is suitable for students who have a keen interest in applying mathematical reasoning to solve problems. It would be ideal for students that enjoy problem solving, are strategic and logical.

What career pathways are open to me if I study this subject?

You will be able to combine Further Mathematics with any other subject; recent research shows that people with A Level Mathematics (any grade) earn, on average, 10% more than those without. Further Mathematics is essential for those wishing to study Mathematics and is ideal for those wishing to study Physics, Computer Science or Engineering at University.



Assessment Overview

There are two papers sat at AS Level:

Paper 1 Core Pure Mathematics is marked out of 80.

Paper 2 Further Statistics and Further Mechanics is marked out of 80.

There are three papers sat at A2 Level:

Paper 1 Core Pure Mathematics 1 is marked out of 75.

Paper 2 Core Pure Mathematics 2 is marked out of 75.

Paper 3 Further Statistics is marked out of 75.

Paper 4 Further Mechanics is marked out of 75.

“ It’s good being intellectually challenged and I enjoy seeing how Maths can be used in the real world. ”

Media Studies - A Level

Head of Department: Mr A Robinson
Contact Details: arobinson@wgsb.co.uk
Exam Board: AQA

Expectations of Independent Study

Students should be prepared to engage with the media on a much deeper level than they are used to. Students will be expected to research media forms and products in their own time as well as keeping up with current media debates and issues by reading widely around the subject. For example, listening to media related radio and podcasts or reading the media sections of the quality newspapers (Guardian, Times, Telegraph etc).

Entry Requirements

Standard entry requirements including Grade 9-6 in English Language and/or Literature. Previous experience in Media Studies is not necessary.

Why is it interesting?

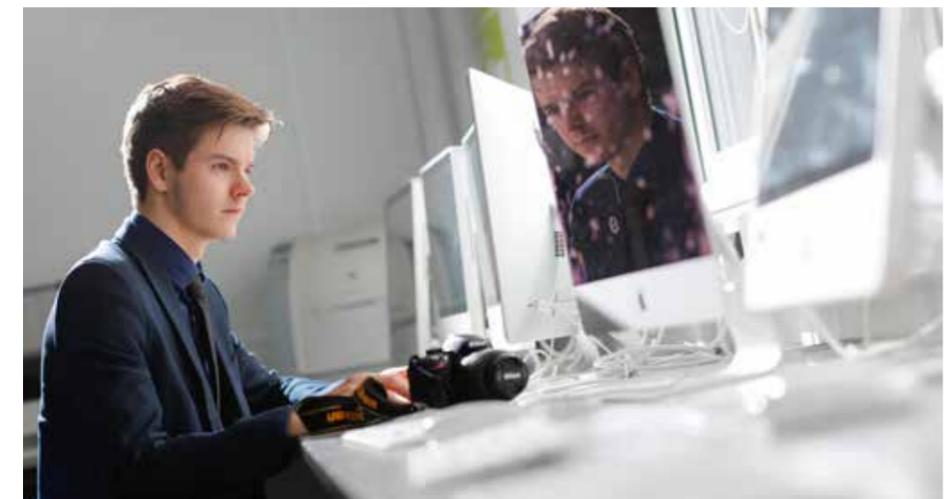
The media dominates all aspects of modern life and the way it both entertains and manipulates audiences is fascinating. Students with a deep knowledge of how the media works are well placed to make the most of the opportunities it brings in the 21st century.

What skills and knowledge will I develop by studying this subject?

Through studying Media Studies you will view, evaluate and analyse a variety of media products (TV, radio, magazines & newspapers, video games, music video, online social and participatory media etc.) and develop practical skills of media production spanning a range of media forms. You will find contemporary, diverse topics and varied and engaging content, helping you to develop research and problem-solving skills as well as your creativity. You will also refine your debating skills through the discussion of contemporary social and political issues from a range of perspectives. This is an academically demanding course with high emphasis on the theoretical framework which underpins the production and consumption of media texts.

This course would be suitable for students who have the following skills and interests:

Media Studies is a great course for students who are analytical and creative. It complements subjects such as English, History, ICT and Art. There are also strong links to Sociology and Psychology.



Assessment Overview

Written Paper 1:

2hrs - 84 marks - 35% of A Level

Questions will focus on issues and debates in the media. A topic will be released in advance of the exam. Students will be expected to use any relevant elements of the theoretical framework in order to explore the ideas in the paper.

Written Paper 2:

2hrs - 84 marks - 35% of A Level

Questions will focus on the analysis of media products, through the lens of the theoretical framework. Students will be expected to refer to the Close Study Products (CSPs) provided by AQA and other products they have studied. They will also be expected to demonstrate understanding of the contexts in which the products were created.

Non-Exam Assessment:

Creating a media product

72 marks - 30% of A Level

- A statement of intent (500 words).
- 2 cross-media products made for an intended audience based on briefs set by AQA.

What career pathways are open to me if I study this subject?

Media Studies is ideal for careers in ICT, Graphic Design, Journalism, Marketing and the Film and Television industry.

“ I love Media Studies because it engages more than just the academic side of my brain. I get to use my creative side too. ”

Photography - A Level

Head of Department: Mrs L Wisdom
Contact Details: lwisdom@wgsb.co.uk
Exam Board: Edexcel

Expectations of Independent Study

- Investigation, research and analysis of contemporary and traditional photographers' work connected to your project theme.
- Visits to Galleries and Museums.
- Regular 'on location' photoshoots.
- Using online tutorials to develop complex technical skills.
- Practical work refining and modifying this using a wide range of materials and processes.
- Planning, development and completion of final practical pieces reflecting a high standard of skill in using the technical and creative aspects of photography.
- Re-drafting of the Year 13 personal Investigation essay and responding to teacher feedback.
- Personal organisation to meet practical and written deadlines.

Entry Requirements

A Level 9-6 at Art GCSE is desirable but not essential.

Why is it interesting?

During this course you will develop your own practical and analytical skills as a photographer using a wide range of media.

You will learn about the concepts, methods and contextual background to a range of contemporary and traditional photographers' work. Photography can be particularly beneficial for students who have an interest in art, psychology, science, and architecture.

You will learn outside the classroom via a wide range of events, art gallery trips and visits designed to improve your knowledge and practical skills.

What skills and knowledge will I develop by studying this subject?

Technical Skill

Developing your technical skills in using a range of photographic techniques.

You will develop post-processing techniques to ensure you are producing the highest quality photographs.

You will understand how to use the camera creatively to develop individual and original work.

Contextual Research

You will learn to create thorough and relevant research about the work of a wide range of photographers.

You will explore different genres of photography from a wide range of sources and be able to apply these ideas to your own work.

You will use these ideas to move your work forward and progress.

Creative Ideas and Practical outcomes

You will produce innovative and unique personal outcomes that reflect your skill in using a wide range of photographic techniques.

You will be able to produce interesting and thought-provoking photographic responses that contain a high level of conceptual and contextual meaning.

You will expand your knowledge of photography to the wider genres of arts, media and popular culture to create your own photography research theme at A2 level.

This course would be suitable for students who have the following skills and interests:

Photography, media studies, film, TV, digital media, semiotics and the Arts in general.

Assessment Overview

There are four Assessment Objectives AS and A2:

Students must:	% in GCE
A01 Develop ideas through sustained and focused investigations informed by contextual and other sources, demonstrating analytical and critical understanding	25
A02 Explore and select appropriate resources, media, materials, techniques and processes, reviewing and refining ideas as work develops	25
A03 Record ideas, observations and insights relevant to intentions, reflecting critically on work and progress	25
A04 Present a personal and meaningful response that realises intentions and, where appropriate, makes connections between visual and other elements	25
Total	100%

Component 1 (A2)

Personal Investigation: Worth 60% of final grade (Out of 90 raw marks)

Component 2 (A2)

Timed Examination: (15 Hours) Worth 40% of final grade. (Out of 72 raw marks)

What career pathways are open to me if I study this subject?

- Fine Art photographer
- Photojournalist
- Documentary maker
- TV camera crew
- Advertising
- Photo editor
- Forensic Photographer
- Military photographer
- Company social media streaming manager
- Live content creator
- Animator
- Video game designer
- TV visuals designer
- Commercial gallery manager
- Community arts worker
- Exhibition designer
- Higher education lecturer
- Secondary school teacher

Jobs where your photography degree would be useful include:

- Fashion industry
- Working in film
- Interior and spatial designer
- Museum/gallery curator
- Museum/gallery exhibitions officer
- Multimedia programmer

Physical Education - A Level

Head of Department: Mrs L Iles, Mr M Lynch
Contact Details: liles@wgsb.co.uk, mlynch@wgsb.co.uk
Exam Board: AQA

Expectations of Independent Study

Expectations are very high in the department due to the amount of theoretical knowledge and independent learning involved. Students will have three double lessons per week in each of the three theory areas of the course. Students are expected to spend a minimum of two hours independent work in each section per week. Homeworks will also be set in each separate section.

Entry Requirements

Entry requirements of a minimum of one Grade 9-6 in GCSE Science and GCSE English Language and a Grade 9-6 in GCSE Physical Education. Standard entry requirements and the division of marks are clearly weighted in favour of the theoretical components of the course (70% theory/30% practical). Therefore, this course is most suitable to those with a strong theoretical background. Being good at a particular sport alone will not bring about success.

Why is it interesting?

The theory part of the course is split into three completely different sections. These vary from Anatomy and Physiology, Sports Psychology and Sport and Society. These sections are taught in vast detail compared to GCSE PE and allow students to evaluate in great detail. The coursework section allows students to pick a sport of their choice to video and then analyse their own performance.

What skills and knowledge will I develop by studying this subject?

This A Level gives students the chance to develop their leadership, their understanding of teamwork and team ethics, understanding of group cohesion and the ability to work independently. This knowledge has benefited many students that have gone into all sorts of professional careers from financial managers to teachers. An understanding of what makes people work effectively, mentally, physically and socially is an undoubted skill and requires valuable knowledge, which can all be gained through this A Level.

This course would be suitable for students who have the following skills and interests:

- Ability to work independently
- Interest in Anatomy and Physiology
- Interest in Sports Psychology
- Interest in the history of Sport & Technology
- Ability to analyse and evaluate performance

What career pathways are open to me if I study this subject?

There are several professional career paths available from this A Level. Many students have gone on to study the more recognised career paths such as Sport Psychology, Physiotherapy and Sports Science. The course will enable students to make an entry into a sports and leisure environment, including sports leadership, leisure centre management. It is also a requirement for many courses at university, subjects like Physiotherapy, Sports Science, Human Biological Sciences, Sport Psychology, Leisure Management and PE Teaching.

Assessment Overview

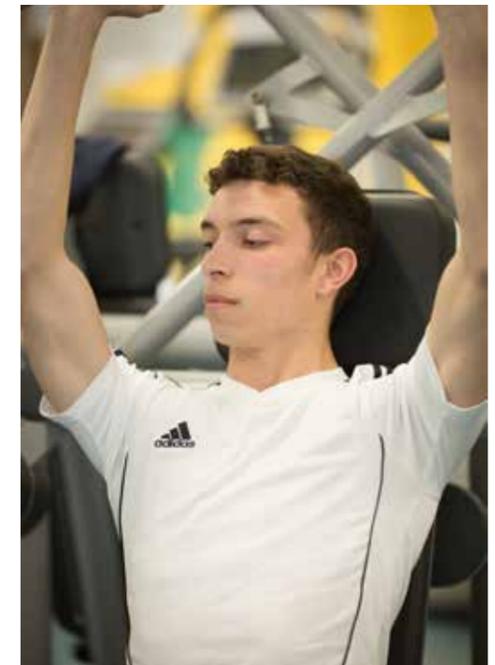
Component 1: Factors affecting participation in physical activity and sport. 35% written paper.

- Applied anatomy and physiology
- Skill acquisition
- Sport and society

Component 2: Factors affecting optimal performance in physical activity and sport. 35% written paper.

- Exercise physiology and biomechanics
- Sports psychology
- Sport and society and technology in sport

Component 3: Non-exam assessment; Practical performance in physical activity and sport. 30% practical moderation.



“ A Level Physical Education is my favourite A Level I study as it offers such a wide range of content, lessons can vary from the history of sport, to psychological theories involved and different physiological areas of performance. ”

Physics - A Level

Head of Department: Miss Tame (WGSB), Dr K Newson (WGSG)
Contact Details: stame@wgsb.co.uk, knewson@wgsg.co.uk
Exam Board: OCR

Expectations of Independent Study

Students will be expected to complete weekly homework tasks and each week to make revision notes of the work covered in class. They will also need to revise for regular topic tests which are completed at the end of each module of study.

Entry Requirements

Grade 9-7 for core and additional Science or 9-7 in Physics GCSE. Grade 9-7 Mathematics and ideally studying Mathematics A Level.

Why is it interesting?

Physics is the most fundamental of Sciences. It aims to explore the topics of matter and energy in the world and how they are related. The OCR Physics A Level specification is designed to develop students' interest in and enthusiasm for the subject, including developing an interest in further study and careers associated with Physics. The A Level is now a stand-alone qualifications which means that students who choose A Level Physics will not sit any exams until the end of Year 13.

What skills and knowledge will I develop by studying this subject?

Studying Physics will help you to develop your problem solving skills and allow you to improve both your mathematical and literacy skills in various new situations. The practical element of the course will enable you to become confident in following instructions and allows you the opportunity to improve your communication skills through group work and presentations.

This course would be suitable for students who have the following skills and interests:

If you are already interested in the Physics topics in your science studies at GCSE then do consider studying Physics. If you would like to know more about fundamental ideas such as quantum mechanics, relativity and cosmology, then Physics may be for you. If you are good at Maths and if you enjoy finding mathematical solutions to problems, then studying A Level Physics is worth serious consideration.

What career pathways are open to me if I study this subject?

A good pass in A Level Physics is essential for entry into a degree in all high-technology courses such as electronics, materials science, astronomy and in all forms of engineering.

It is also a requirement for those wishing to pursue a technical career in the Armed Forces and often preferred for studying Medicine, Dentistry and Veterinary Science.



Assessment Overview

3 exams - Two papers of 2 hour 15 minutes and one paper of 90 minutes.

Separate practical endorsement grade.

The knowledge and skills acquired during the A Level course provide a sound background for many different non-scientific careers, such as Computing, Accountancy and other financially orientated careers.

“ I enjoy the challenge that Physics provides and being able to apply my mathematics and problem-solving skills to a real life situation. ”

Professional Construction Practice

Level 3 Applied Diploma - this is equivalent to an A Level

Head of Department: Mr D Brooker, Mrs S Baillie
Contact Details: dbrooker@wgsb.co.uk, sbaille@wgsg.co.uk
Exam Board: EDUQAS

Expectations of Independent Study

- Pupils should familiarise themselves with Revit CAD software - students will be using this extensively both inside and outside of lessons.
- To develop knowledge of the built environment students can tune in to the BIM site on YouTube. This site is invaluable in explaining the built environment providing information that will support both coursework and exams. It is also important to watch the TV series Grand Designs.
- Develop knowledge of the built environment by readying the online Design Wiki web site.

Entry Requirements

Standard entry requirements plus Grade 6 in maths. It is desirable to have achieved a Grade 9-6 in Design & Technology GCSE or other equivalent DT course. If you have not studied a DT course then a suitable portfolio will be considered.

Why is it interesting?

Professional Construction Practice (PCP) has been developed to create and inspire the next generation of Built Environment professionals. Through a project-based approach PCP applies pure academic subjects to the latest construction industry practices. There is extraordinary support from industry leaders, professional bodies and progressive universities. This is an inspiring programme that is in demand by industry such as our partners Whitecode Design Associates and Laing O' Rourke. Studying this subject will complement art, geography and media studies.

What skills and knowledge will I develop by studying this subject?

During this course students will develop their research, design and problem solving skills, whilst learning the technical knowledge required to undertake their project work

Component 1: Design the Built Environment

The aim of this unit is to understand and appreciate; the various stages of the design and planning processes, the impact of health and safety on design and the provision of primary service utilities.

Component 2: Create the Built Environment

The aim of this unit is for learners to understand and appreciate; the existing and developing processes required to construct a range of buildings including the use of project management and quality assurance. Consideration is also given to job roles within the industry, their interrelationship and career progression.

Component 3: Value and Use the Built Environment.

The aim of this unit is for learners to understand and appreciate; the engagement of stakeholders and communities in the development and use of the built environment. The protection of the environment and the physical structure in the use of the built environment will also be considered. Stakeholder and community engagement is the participating audience that the modern construction professional is expected to educate, consult and maintain a constant dialogue with to ensure the positive outcomes of all projects.

Assessment Overview

Component 1: Design the Built Environment. 20%, Internally Assessed Controlled Assessment.

Component 2: Create the Built Environment. 20%, External Examination.

Component 3: Value and Use the Built Environment. 20%, External Examination

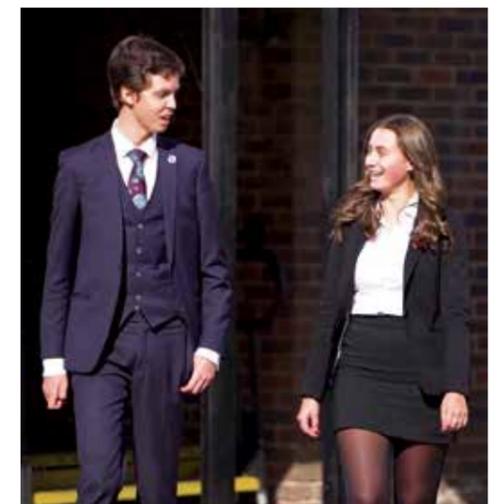
Component 4: BIM and Construction Projects. 40%, Internally Assessed Controlled Assessment.

Component 4: BIM and Construction Projects.

The aim of this unit is for learners to understand and appreciate; the application of Building Information Modelling(BIM) in managing the design, creation and maintenance of built assets. BIM is the process of designing, constructing or operating a building using electronic objected orientated information. Students will learn how to use industry standard software such as REVIT and Solid works to create solutions to design challenges.

What career pathways are open to me if I study this subject?

It will enable students to progress to a degree or apprenticeship in a range of disciplines in the built environment sector. It is well suited to careers in the creative built environment industry such as architecture and landscape designer.



Psychology - AS Level or A Level

Head of Department: Miss J Smith (WGSG), Miss L Bedford (WGSB)
Contact Details: jsmith@wgsg.co.uk, lbedford@wgsb.co.uk
Exam Board: AQA

Expectations of Independent Study

- Creating revision resources
- Independent wider reading
- Preparing and delivering individual and group presentations
- Practice exam papers
- Pre-learning - reading material prior to lesson
- Designing, carrying out and writing up your own psychological research

Entry Requirements

Standard entry requirements and at least Grade 9-6 in Mathematics, English language, and at least one Science at Grade 9-6.

What skills and knowledge will I develop by studying this subject?

The study of Psychology at A Level encourages the development of skills in comprehension, interpretation and analysis for both quantitative and qualitative data, as well as the construction of balanced, logical and coherent argument. This increases confidence and self-awareness and will enhance students' future education and career opportunities. A range of approaches are used, including in-depth studies of previous research, student research, video, discussion and note-taking. Learning objectives are set for each module and these may be assessed in a variety of ways, for example, essays, presentations and research reports. Students are expected to take part in discussions and conduct extended learning outside of the classroom. There is an increasing emphasis on students taking more responsibility for their own learning as the course proceeds.

This course would be suitable for students who have the following skills and interests:

- Science to apply knowledge of the brain, central nervous and endocrine systems and genetics directly to human behaviour.
- Mathematical skills are used to analyse data from their own research, including using inferential statistical tests.
- English/literacy skills are used through the writing of extensive essays and finally, critical thinking skills are naturally embedded in the course as we analyse the validity of studies and theories.

What career pathways are open to me if I study this subject?

Psychology is an excellent preparation for Higher Education as it develops the relevant skills necessary for success at this level. Universities also recognise Psychology as a science in the same right as Chemistry, Physics and Biology. Some careers which follow directly from the study of Psychology are; Doctor of



Assessment Overview

Paper 1: Social Influence, Memory, Attachment and Psychopathology.

- Written examination: 2 hours
- Total A Level: 33.3%

Paper 2: Approaches, Biopsychology and Research Methods

- Written examination: 2 hours
- Total A Level: 33.3%

Paper 3: Issues and Debates on Gender, Schizophrenia, Aggression

- Written examination: 2 hours
- Total A Level: 33.3%

Psychology (clinical, educational, forensic and counselling), marketing, advertising, human resource management, police, teaching, social work, occupational psychology, mental health nursing, and disabilities support worker (SEN).

“ Psychology is a subject where the student gains a greater understanding of their own neural processes and how we become the people we are today. I am fascinated by this subject as it gives me a greater awareness of who I am, and it provides explanations regarding relevant topics such as mental illness. ”

RS: Philosophy & Ethics - AS Level or A Level

Head of Department: Mrs J Byham, Mrs L Lasoye
Contact Details: jbyham@wgsg.co.uk, mlasoye@wgsb.co.uk
Exam Board: OCR

Expectations of Independent Study

Students will be expected to be critical thinkers who enjoy engaging in debate on the most challenging of questions. Independent study involves a large amount of reading from core philosophical texts, to journal articles and current philosophical writing. Students will complete research essays that develop wider skills. Students will also watch and analyse films to explore a wide variety of philosophical and ethical dilemmas.

There is a real focus on the need to engage with the wider questions of life as seen through the news and the media and this will form a key aspect of their wider engagement.

Entry Requirements

Standard entry requirements and Grade 9-6 in English language or Religious Studies.

Why is it interesting?

Ever wondered why we are here? Questioned your own identity or why some things are right and others are wrong? Philosophy deals with the abstract and complex questions that underpin our very existence and when you couple this with ethics you are challenged to explore the very nature of our world and the decisions we all make.

Philosophy of religion will explore the questions around why people believe what they do and Ethics will get you to question the basis of decisions on right and wrong. All of this combines to make a complex and challenging subject that will make your brain ache but equip you with the skills of high level analysis, the ability to argue and defend a position whilst supporting you to realise that you need to understand the alternative view.

What skills and knowledge will I develop by studying this subject?

Unit 1: Philosophy of Religion

Learners will study:

- Ancient philosophical influences
- The nature of the soul, mind and body
- Arguments about the existence or non-existence of God
- The nature and impact of religious experience
- The challenge for religious belief of the problem of evil
- Ideas about the nature of God
- Issues in religious language.

Unit 2: Religion and Ethics

Learners will study:

- Normative ethical theories
- The application of ethical theory to two contemporary issues of importance
- Ethical language and thought
- Debates surrounding the significant idea of conscience
- Sexual ethics and the influence on ethical thought of developments in religious beliefs.

Unit 3: Development in Religious Thoughts - Christianity Learners will study:

- Religious beliefs, values and teachings, their interconnections and how they vary historically and in the contemporary world
- Sources of religious wisdom and authority
- Practices which shape and express religious identity, and how these vary within a tradition
- Significant social and historical developments in theology and religious thought
- Key themes related to the relationship between religion and society.

Assessment Overview

The A2 course culminates in three 2 hour exams all weighted at 33.3% of the A Level.

Each examination consists of 4 questions containing structured essays, covering the topics that are studied, of which you have to answer 3. These essays require the development of logically reasoned and evaluative argument.

“ Philosophy and Ethics is an engaging subject which addresses a wide range of current topics. The course contains a variety of thought-provoking subjects that open the mind and allow for interesting discussions. ”

This course would be suitable for students who have the following skills and interests:

Debate and discussion
Essay writing
Exploring challenging questions
Abstract thinking
Have the ability to question their own views
Enjoy argument and disagreement
Are happy for there not to be one right answer

What career pathways are open to me if I study this subject?

Ethics and Philosophy can be studied at university as single or joint honours and graduates enter a range of careers in the public services as well as in the private sector. Furthermore, it opens up roots to other subjects at university such as Religious Studies and Theology. With the unique range of skills acquired through this study. Philosophy and Ethics A-Level is also a popular option for entry to many professional careers including: teaching, social work, human resources, the legal profession, nursing and the police or any job that requires you to think well, clearly and rigorously.

The knowledge and skills acquired during the A Level course provide a sound background for many different non-scientific careers, such as Computing, Accountancy and other financially orientated careers.

Sociology - A Level

Head of Department: Mrs M Devesleski
Contact Details: mdevesleski@wsg.co.uk
Exam Board: AQA

Expectations of Independent Study

Students are expected to complete three to five hours of independent study in Sociology per week on the 'Sociology Independent Study' proforma. Students will be given the opportunity to 'Go wider,' 'Go Deeper' or Consolidate understanding of content covered in lessons. They will also be expected to relate sociological theory to more contemporary examples and so will be encouraged to keep abreast of current affairs in the news. Students will be given guidance to produce revision materials intermittently throughout the course, in advance of class assessment, PPE's and final exams. This will allow for more time to be spent on one-to-one progress views and exam technique.

Entry Requirements

Grade 9-6 in English Language or English Literature.

Why is it interesting?

Sociology will give you a better understanding of mankind. Sociology students report high levels of student satisfaction, based on the new things they find out about society. You develop both new and alternative perspectives on different aspects of social life such as family, education and religion. All of which impact each and every one of us. You understand how society works better than most, and so will understand and cope with societal change.

What skills and knowledge will I develop by studying this subject?

The Families and Households unit will introduce you to how the family fits into society particularly in relation to state policies and the economy.

Education and Theory & Methods provides you with the opportunity to explore the role & purpose of the education system in contemporary society. Your analytical and evaluative skills will then be used to assess the usefulness of a research method to a particular area of the education i.e. teacher labelling of students.

Beliefs in Society provides you with an opportunity to explore ideology, science and religion, including both Christian and non-Christian religious traditions.

Crime and Deviance with Theory and Methods provides you with the opportunity to explore the role of crime, deviance, social order and social control in the contemporary world from the local to a global context. Patterns and distribution of types of crime, offenders and victims will be explored as well as theories on how to prevent and punish behaviour that threatens the order of society. New areas of green crime and state crime have taken this topic to an international level and there is also a focus on the challenges that sociologists face when trying to study criminal and deviant behaviour.

This course would be suitable for students who have the following skills and interests:

Reading and writing
Debating
Analysing
Research
Critical thinking

Assessment Overview

Paper 1: Education, Theory and Methods (33.3%) 2hrs

Paper 2: Topics in Sociology (Families & Households and Beliefs in Society) (33.3%) 2hrs

Paper 3: Crime and Deviance with Theory and Methods (33.3%) 2hrs

Communication
Open-mindedness and patience
Willingness to speak up

What career pathways are open to me if I study this subject?

- Community development worker
- Further education teacher
- Higher education lecturer
- International aid/development worker
- Policy officer
- Probation officer
- Secondary school teacher
- Social researcher
- Social worker
- Youth worker
- Army
- Civil Services
- Law/Solicitor
- Family support worker
- Housing manager/officer
- Human resources officer
- Life coach/Counsellor
- Newspaper journalist
- Public relations officer
- Marketing strategist

“ Studying Sociology has opened my eyes to 'taken for granted' assumptions we make about the world around us. The understanding gained can be applied to virtually every aspect of life. ”

Spanish - A Level

Head of Department: Mrs B Chambers (WGSB), Mr J Dufton (WGSG)
Contact Details: bchambers@wgsb.co.uk / jdufton@wsg.co.uk
Exam Board: AQA

Expectations of Independent Study

- Have organised folders and notes
- Build a bank of vocabulary, organised by topic
- Revise vocabulary regularly
- A commitment to independent study is expected (Five hours per week)
- Independent study ideas: Students are strongly encouraged to participate in wider reading (online newspapers, twitter feeds, magazines) and listening (radio, videos, TV, films) each week to support their language skills Books, DVDs and magazines will be available for students to borrow.

Entry Requirements

Standard entry requirements and Grade 9-6 in GCSE Spanish.

Why is it interesting?

An A Level in a modern foreign language is an exciting mix of topics and skills which will develop students in many areas of studies. If you choose French at Post 16 you will cover the necessary language skills, cultural studies, history, politics, film, art, literature, current affairs and modern society. You will develop skills of debating, presenting, essay writing, group discussions, translation, precise writing and critical analysis of literature and film.

What skills and knowledge will I develop by studying this subject?

The Spanish course will develop your language skills, cultural and international understanding, and lifelong communication, analytical and research skills which can be applied at work or for leisure purposes.

Assessment Overview

The exams will have the following format:

Paper 1 Listening, Reading, Writing
2 hours 30minutes

Paper 2 Writing (2 essays) 2 hours

Paper 3 Oral Exam 15-20mins

This course would be suitable for students who have the following skills and interests:

- Enthusiastic about learning a language with the aim of becoming more fluent.
- Interested in developing cultural awareness and excited by the prospect of foreign travel in order to use your language in authentic situations.
- Prepared to work hard, be well-organised and able to function both cooperatively and independently.

What career pathways are open to me if I study this subject?

There are many courses for which an A Level foreign language is a direct qualification for entry, including degree courses in the language itself or in studies relevant to the country. Many degree courses can now be combined with a language either as joint degrees or as part of the course, i.e. History, Geography, Art, Business Studies, European Studies, Politics, Sociology and English.

Modern Foreign Language qualifications are highly valued by admissions tutors and employers as evidence of hard work, intellectual aptitude, intercultural competency and international outlook.

“ The fact that studying a language is cross-curricular, is amazing in my opinion, as it gives you a wide knowledge of not only the language, but the cultures of the French, German or Spanish speaking world in terms of History, Geography, Religion, Politics and Media for example. ”





WILMINGTON GRAMMAR

CO-EDUCATIONAL SIXTH FORM



Wilmington Grammar School for Girls Site
Wilmington Grange, Parsons Lane
Wilmington, Kent DA2 7BB



Wilmington Grammar School for Boys Site
Common Lane, Wilmington
Dartford DA2 7DA



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