




T S I S

Thai Sikh International School

 **CAMBRIDGE**
International Examinations
Learn • Discover • Achieve



 PART OF THE
CAMBRIDGE ASSESSMENT
GROUP

The Way Ahead

A Level Options (2023 - 2025)



1. The Way Ahead.

This booklet has been compiled to enable Year 11 students and their parents to make the most appropriate choices for Cambridge and other GCE courses offered at Thai Sikh International School.

2. What is the GCE A Level?

The General Certificate of Education Advanced Level, more commonly known as the GCE A Level, is a school leaving qualification offered by secondary schools.

Before commencing A level study, students take Year 11 examinations (age 15-16) known as the General Certificate of Secondary Education (IGCSE) in a range of subjects (minimum 5 credits).

3. A-level Options

Subject option blocks are redesigned each year to best meet the needs of the Year 11 cohort, in order to ensure that students have the correct variety of subjects to enter university.

Students will study 4 examined subjects as well as P.E. and PSHE. They can choose any 4 from the option blocks below:

A	B	C	D	E
Business	Economics	Art	Mathematics	Psychology
Biology	Chemistry	Physics	English Language	Computer Science

4. Period Allocation

Subject	Number of Lessons in a Week
PE (Core)	2
PSHE (Core)	1
Electives (4)	
Business / Biology	7
Economics / Chemistry	7
Art / Physics	7
Mathematics / English Language	7
Psychology / Computer Science	7

5. Support with Subject Choices

Year 11 students and parents will be invited to visit the school for an Options Meeting. During (and after) the meeting, subject teachers will be available to discuss their subjects in detail and in relation to a student's particular needs.

Parents will also have the opportunity to speak to a member of the Senior Leadership Team (SLT) to discuss their child's intended choices, or to make any further enquiries regarding the options process. Parents who wish to talk in more detail about their child's subject choices can make an appointment for an additional meeting.

6. Course Information

Cambridge's internationally recognised grades are reported with clear guidelines to explain the standards of achievement. The Cambridge International A Level is reported on a grade scale from A* (highest) to E (minimum required performance). There is no A* grade for Cambridge International AS Levels, which are reported from grade A to E.

Possible attainment grades for students who sit AS Exams	Possible attainment grades for students who sit A Level Exams
A	A*
B	A
C	B
D	C
E	D
	E

Included in the following pages is an introduction to each subject, along with the relevant syllabus codes and a link to the appropriate section of the CIE website for each subject/course. We have also included an outline of the areas of study to be examined in May/June 2025.

Syllabus Overviews

ART AND DESIGN GCE A Level (CIE 9479)

Prerequisites: Students will need to have IGCSE in Art A* to C. For 2023-25, TSIS students will be required to submit a portfolio to demonstrate their readiness to study Art at GCE A Level.

Reasons for studying Art:

Cambridge International AS & A Level Art & Design provides opportunities for learners to develop their personal practice, enrich their understanding of key concepts and improve their practical skills in a wide range of traditional and contemporary techniques. It allows learners to explore and build on their interests. The syllabus encourages independent expression and the development of a critical, reflective practice. It is designed to accommodate a wide range of abilities, materials and resources, and allows the different skills of teachers to be fully exploited.

What you will be studying:

- Fine Art: Candidates may focus on one or combine several of the following – painting, drawing, sculpture, photography, print making, mixed media experimental – assemblage/construction.
- Graphic Communication: Candidates may focus on one or combine several of the following – illustration, print making, packaging design, branding, advertising, signage, typography.
- Three-Dimensional Design: Candidates may focus on one or combine several of the following - sculpture, ceramics, product design, interior and exterior architecture, interior design, environmental design, set design, jewellery and fashion accessories.
- Textiles and fashion: Candidates may focus on one or combine several of the following - fashion design and/or illustration, costume design, constructed textiles, screen printing, batik, digital-printed textiles.

How you will be assessed:

- Component 1: Coursework - 100 marks.
Candidates research, develop and realise a project from one area of study in the syllabus content. There are two parts to the coursework – a portfolio and a final outcome. Externally assessed 50% of the AS Level 25% of the A Level.
- Component 2: Externally Set Assignment - 100 marks (15 hours)
Candidates choose one starting point to develop into a personal response. There are two parts to the assignment – supporting studies, created during the preparation period and a final outcome, produced during a supervised test of 15 hours' total duration. Externally assessed 50% of the AS Level, 25% of the A Level.
- Component 3: Personal Investigation - 100 marks (weighted to 200 marks)
Candidates investigate a theme, idea, concept or process that is personal to them. There are two parts to the investigation: practical work and written analysis (1000–1500 words). The practical work and written analysis must form an integrated submission. Externally assessed 50% of the A Level

BIOLOGY GCE A Level (CIE 9700)

Prerequisites: Students will need to have IGCSE in Biology A* to C or its equivalent.

Reasons for studying Biology:

Cambridge International AS and A Level Biology builds on the skills acquired at Cambridge IGCSE (or equivalent) level. The syllabus includes the main theoretical concepts which are fundamental to the subject, a section on some current applications of biology, and a strong emphasis on advanced practical skills. Practical skills are assessed in a timetabled practical examination.

The emphasis throughout is on the understanding of concepts and the application of biology ideas in novel contexts as well as on the acquisition of knowledge. The course encourages creative thinking and problem-solving skills which are transferable to any future career path. Cambridge International AS and A Level Biology is ideal for learners who want to study biology or want to build a strong analytical view of complex systems or to follow a career in science/medicine.

What you will be studying:

<i>During AS Level Biology, students will study the topics below:</i>	<i>During A Level Biology, students will study the AS topics and the topics below:</i>
<ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Cell structure2. Biological molecules3. Enzymes4. Cell membranes and transport5. The mitotic cell cycle6. Nucleic acids and protein synthesis7. Transport in plants8. Transport in mammals9. Gas exchange and smoking10. Infectious disease11. Immunity	<ol style="list-style-type: none">12. Energy and respiration13. Photosynthesis14. Homeostasis15. Control and co-ordination16. Inherited change17. Selection and evolution18. Biodiversity, classification & conservation19. Genetic technology

** All candidates study practical skills*

How you will be assessed:

AS:

- Paper 1: Multiple Choice - 40 marks / 40 multiple-choice Questions (1 hour 15 minutes)
Questions are based on the AS Level syllabus content. Externally assessed 31% of the AS Level 15.5% of the A Level.
- Paper 2: AS Level Structured Questions - 60 marks / Structured questions (1 hour 15 minutes)
Questions are based on the AS Level syllabus content. Externally assessed 46% of the AS Level 23% of the A Level.
- Paper 3: Advanced Practical Skills - 40 marks / Practical work and structured questions (2 hours)
Questions are based on the practical skills in the Practical assessment section of the syllabus. The context of the questions may be outside the syllabus content. Externally assessed 23% of the AS Level 11.5% of the A Level.

A2:

- Paper 4: A Level Structured Questions - 100 marks / Structured questions (2 hours)
Questions are based on the A Level syllabus content; knowledge of material from the AS Level syllabus content will be required. Externally assessed 38.5% of the A Level.
- Paper 5: Planning, Analysis and Evaluation - 30 marks (1 hour 15 minutes)
Questions are based on the practical skills of planning, analysis and evaluation. The context of the questions may be outside the syllabus content. Externally assessed 11.5% of the A Level.

BUSINESS STUDIES GCE A LEVEL (CIE 9609)

Prerequisites: Students will have gained a Grade C in IGCSE Business Studies to qualify for this course as well as five IGCSE grades, including IGCSE English and Maths.

Reasons for studying Business Studies:

The aims of the Advanced GCE in Business Studies are to provide understanding of:

- the capacity to analyse characteristics and activities of business organisations and how they respond to the changing demands of their environments
- an understanding of how effective managers and leaders develop successful organisations in terms of customer focus and the products/services they offer
- the opportunity to reflect on how successful business organisations engage in financial and accounting practices to maximise value for stakeholder's value
- development of knowledge that relates to strategic planning and decision-making to ensure business survival, change, and sustainable success

What you will be studying:

Students will study the latest Business Studies course from CIE:

Themes	AS Level Topic Areas	A Level Topic Areas
1. Business and its Environment	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Enterprise• Business structure• Size of business• Business objectives• Stakeholders in a business	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Business structure• Size of business• External influences on business activity
2. People in Organisations	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Management and leadership• Motivation• Human resource management	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Human resource management• Organisational structure• Business communication
3. Marketing	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• What is marketing?• Market research• The marketing mix	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Marketing planning• Globalisation and international marketing
4. Operations and Project Management	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• The nature of operations• Operations planning• Inventory management	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Operations planning• Capacity utilisation• Lean production and quality management• Project management
5. Finance and Accounting	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• The need for business finance• Sources of finance• Costs• Accounting fundamentals• Forecasting cash flows and managing working capital	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Costs• Budgets• Contents of published accounts• Analysis of published accounts
6. Strategic Management	<i>* No topics at AS Level.</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• What is strategic management?• Strategic analysis• Strategic choice• Strategic implementation

How you will learn:

The Business Studies programme requires students to:

- Apply knowledge and understanding to problems and issues in a variety of familiar and unfamiliar business situations and contexts
- analyse business problems, issues and situations by using appropriate methods and techniques to make sense of qualitative and quantitative business information, and by distinguishing between factual evidence and opinion or value judgement as well as drawing valid inferences and making valid generalisations.
- Evaluate business evidence, explanation, argument, discussion and analysis in order to make reasoned judgements, present measured conclusions and, where appropriate, make recommendations for action and implementation.

How you will be assessed:

- Paper 1: Short Answer and Essay / AS - 20% of A Level marks (1 hour 15 minutes)
- Paper 2: Data Response / AS – 30% of A Level marks (1 hour 30 minutes)
- Paper 3: Case Study / A2 - 50% of A Level marks (3 hours)

CHEMISTRY GCE A Level (CIE 9701)

Prerequisites: Students will need to have IGCSE in Chemistry A* to C or its equivalent.

Reasons for studying Chemistry:

Cambridge International AS and A Level Chemistry builds on the skills acquired at Cambridge IGCSE (or equivalent) level. The course includes the combination of theoretical concepts which are fundamental to this subject, current applications of chemistry in the world and a strong emphasis on advanced practical skills. Practical skills are assessed in a timetabled practical examination.

The emphasis throughout this course is on progressing from understanding the concepts in Chemistry, apply chemistry ideas in novel contexts and then acquiring a strong knowledge of Chemistry. Throughout this course in Chemistry students are exposed to learning Chemistry that stimulates creative thinking and problem-solving skills, which are transferable to any future career path. Cambridge International AS and A Level Chemistry course is ideal for learners who would love to further their studies in chemistry or pursue a career in science/medicine.

What you will be studying:

Physical Chemistry	Inorganic Chemistry	Organic Chemistry and Analysis
1. Atoms, molecules and stoichiometry 2. Atomic structure 3. Chemical bonding 4. States of matter 5. Chemical energetics 6. Electrochemistry 7. Equilibria 8. Reaction kinetics	9. The Periodic Table: chemical periodicity 10. Group 2 11. Group 17 12. An introduction to the chemistry of transition elements 13. Nitrogen and Sulfur	14. An introduction to organic chemistry 15. Hydrocarbons 16. Halogen derivatives 17. Hydroxy compounds 18. Carbonyl compounds 19. Carboxylic acids and derivatives 20. Nitrogen compounds 21. Polymerisation 22. Analytical techniques 23. Organic synthesis

** All candidates study practical skills.*

How you will be assessed:

AS:

- Paper 1: Multiple Choice - 40 marks / 40 multiple-Choice Questions (1 hour 15 minutes)
Questions are based on the AS Level syllabus content. Externally assessed 31% of the AS Level 15.5% of the A Level.
- Paper 2: AS Level Structured Questions - 60 marks / Structured questions (1 hour 15 minutes)
Questions are based on the AS Level syllabus content. Externally assessed 46% of the AS Level 23% of the A Level.
- Paper 3: Advanced Practical Skills - 40 marks / Practical work and structured questions (2 hours)
Questions are based on the practical skills in the Practical assessment section of the syllabus. The context of the questions may be outside the syllabus content. Externally assessed 23% of the AS Level 11.5% of the A Level.

A2:

- Paper 4: A Level Structured Questions - 100 marks / Structured questions (2 hours)
Questions are based on the A Level syllabus content; knowledge of material from the AS Level syllabus content will be required. Externally assessed 38.5% of the A Level.
- Paper 5: Planning, Analysis and Evaluation - 30 marks (1 hour 15 minutes)
Questions are based on the practical skills of planning, analysis and evaluation. The context of the questions may be outside the syllabus content. Externally assessed 11.5% of the A Level.

COMPUTER SCIENCE GCE A Level (CIE 9618)

Prerequisites: Students will need to have IGCSE in Computer Science A* to C or its equivalent.

Reasons for studying Computer Science:

Cambridge International AS Level and A Level Computer Science are accepted by universities and employers as proof of essential knowledge and ability. This syllabus is designed to give greater flexibility both to teachers and to learners.

What you will be studying:

Section	Topics
Theory Fundamentals	1.1 Information representation 1.2 Communication and Internet technologies 1.3 Hardware 1.4 Processor fundamentals 1.5 System software 1.6 Security, privacy and data integrity 1.7 Ethics and ownership 1.8 Database and data modelling
Fundamental Problem-Solving and Programming	2.1 Algorithm design and problem-solving 2.2 Data representation 2.3 Programming 2.4 Software development
Advanced Theory	3.1 Data representation 3.2 Communication and Internet technologies 3.3 Hardware 3.4 System software 3.5 Security 3.6 Monitoring and control systems
Further Problem-solving and Programming Skills	4.1 Computational thinking and problem-solving 4.2 Algorithm design methods 4.3 Further programming 4.4 Software development

How you will be assessed:

Components	Weighting (%)	
	AS	A
Paper 1 Theory Fundamentals This written paper contains short-answer and structured questions. There is no choice of questions. 75 marks Externally assessed 1 hour 30 minutes	50	25
Paper 2 Fundamental Problem-solving and Programming Skills This written paper contains short-answer and structured questions. There is no choice of questions. Topics will include those given in the pre-release material. ¹ 75 marks Externally assessed 2 hours	50	25
Paper 3 Advanced Theory This written paper contains short-answer and structured questions. There is no choice of questions. 75 marks Externally assessed 1 hour 30 minutes	–	25
Paper 4 Further Problem-solving and Programming Skills This written paper contains short-answer and structured questions. There is no choice of questions. Topics will include those given in the pre-release material. ¹ 75 marks Externally assessed 2 hours	–	25

ECONOMICS GCE A Level (CIE 9708)

Prerequisites: Students will need to have IGCSE in Economics A* to C or its equivalent.

Reasons for studying Economics:

Studying Economics is considered by many to be essential as a part of understanding business and global changes in the economy and helping to create global leaders with substance. Cambridge International AS and A Level Economics encourages learners to explore the subject in depth. The syllabus has been designed, in consultation with teachers and universities, to help learners develop not only subject knowledge, but also a strong understanding of some of the key concepts that are critical to mastering the subject. Cambridge learners develop the ability to explain, evaluate and analyse economic issues and arguments. They gain lifelong skills and a solid foundation for further study and it is equally suitable as part of a course of general education.

What you will be studying:

- Unit 1: Basic economic ideas and resource allocation
- Unit 2: The price system and the micro economy
- Unit 3: Government microeconomic intervention
- Unit 4: The macro economy
- Unit 5: Government macro intervention

How you will be assessed:

Component	Weighting	
	AS Level	A Level
Paper 1 Multiple Choice 1 hour 30 multiple choice questions based on the AS Level syllabus content 30 marks	40%	20%
Paper 2 Data Response and Essay 1 hour 30 minutes Section A: one data response question (20 marks) Section B: one structured essay from a choice of three (20 marks) Based on the AS Level syllabus content 40 marks	30% 30%	15% 15%
Paper 3 Multiple Choice 1 hour 15 minutes 30 multiple choice questions based on the A Level syllabus content 30 marks		15%
Paper 4 Data Response and Essays 2 hours 15 minutes Section A: one data response question (20 marks) Section B: two essays from a choice of six (50 marks) Based on the A Level syllabus content 70 marks		10% 25%

ENGLISH LANGUAGE GCE A Level (CIE 9093)

Prerequisites: Students will need to have IGCSE in English A*-C or its equivalent.

Reasons for studying English Language:

Cambridge International AS & A Level English Language develops a set of transferable skills. These include critical analysis; constructing arguments; presenting knowledge and understanding; and writing English in a balanced, articulate and fluent manner. Learners can apply these skills across a wide range of subjects and real-world situations. These skills will also equip them well for progression to higher education or directly into employment.

What you will be studying:

- **Reading:** Learners are encouraged to read widely throughout their programme of study, continually deepening their appreciation of an increasingly rich array of reading material. They should develop an intimate knowledge and understanding of the conventions and discourses associated with a diverse range of genres, styles and contexts. Furthermore, learners should continue to cultivate their personal relationship with reading, enabling them to respond reflectively, analytically, discursively and creatively, as is appropriate to the task or context.
- **Writing:** Using their reading as inspiration, learners should explore and experiment with a similarly extensive variety of genres, styles and contexts in their writing. In addition to refining their ability to express themselves with precision and clarity of purpose, learners should become increasingly reflective writers, capable of adapting the style of their writing to fit a diverse range of forms, audiences, purposes and contexts. The knowledge and understanding that candidates are required to demonstrate in Paper 2 is the same as is covered in Paper 1.
- **Language Analysis:** Learners should familiarise themselves with a comprehensive set of tools, strategies and conventions for studying language. This should include the following: developing frameworks for analysing and comparing unseen texts; assimilating a range of appropriate technical terminology; assessing, evaluating and synthesising sources of evidence; carrying out independent research into language concepts; contextualising their views in relation to theories; and understanding language data presented in the form of transcripts, tables and graphs.
- **Language Topics:** Throughout the syllabus, learners are encouraged to move beyond the practical application of English language, and to engage in a deeper consideration of a number of theoretical issues related to its use. Learners should develop their ability to engage in discussion on how the diverse forms of English that exist across the world interact both with one another and with other languages, and, how language use contributes to the construction and development of the self.

How you will be assessed:

- Paper 1: Reading / two compulsory questions / Externally assessed 50% of the AS Level 25% of the A Level - 50 marks (2 hours 15 minutes)
- Paper 2: Writing / one compulsory question and one question from a choice of three / Externally assessed 50% of the AS Level 25% of the A Level - 50 marks (2 hours)
- Paper 3: Language Analysis / two compulsory questions / Externally assessed 25% of the A Level - 50 marks (2 hours 15 minutes)
- Paper 4: Language Topics / two compulsory questions each on a separate topic area / Externally assessed 25% of the A Level - 50 marks (2 hours 15 minutes)

MATHEMATICS GCE A Level (CIE 9709)

Prerequisites: Students will need to have IGCSE in Mathematics A* to C or its equivalent.

Reasons for studying Mathematics:

Cambridge International AS & A Level Mathematics develops a set of transferable skills. These include the skill of working with mathematical information, as well as the ability to think logically and independently, consider accuracy, model situations mathematically, analyse results and reflect on findings. Learners can apply these skills across a wide range of subjects and the skills equip them well for progression to higher education or directly into employment

What you will be studying:

AS Level Topics	A Level Topics
Pure Mathematics 1 (Paper 1) Probability & Statistics 1 (Paper 5)	Pure Mathematics 3 (Paper 3) Mechanics (Paper 4) Probability & Statistics 1 (Paper 6)

How you will be assessed:

Pure Mathematics 1	Pure Mathematics 3
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 1 hour 50 minutes • 75 marks • Written examination • Externally assessed • 60% of the AS Level • 30% of the A Level • Compulsory for AS Level and A Level 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 1 hour 50 minutes • 75 marks • Written examination • Externally assessed • 30% of the A Level only • Compulsory for A Level
Probability & Statistics 1	Mechanics
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 1 hour 15 minutes • 50 marks • Written examination • Externally assessed • 40% of the AS Level • 20% of the A Level • Compulsory for A Level 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 1 hour 15 minutes • 50 marks • Written examination • Externally assessed • 40% of the AS Level • 20% of the A Level • Offered as part of AS Level or A Level
	Probability & Statistics 2
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 1 hour 15 minutes • 50 marks • Written examination • Externally assessed 20% of the A Level only Offered only as part of A Level

PHYSICS GCE A Level (CIE 9702)

Prerequisites: Students will need to have IGCSE in Physics A* to C or its equivalent.

Reasons for studying Physics

Cambridge International AS and A Level Physics builds on the skills acquired at Cambridge IGCSE (or equivalent) level. The syllabus includes the main theoretical concepts which are fundamental to the subject, a section on some current applications of physics, and a strong emphasis on advanced practical skills. Practical skills are assessed in a timetabled practical examination.

The emphasis throughout is on the understanding of concepts and the application of physics ideas in novel contexts as well as on the acquisition of knowledge. The course encourages creative thinking and problem-solving skills which are transferable to any future career path. Cambridge International AS and A Level Physics is ideal for learners who want to study physics or to follow a career in science/engineering. The syllabus from 2022 also has an increased emphasis on the study and application of physics in medical settings, making it an excellent choice for those wishing to pursue a career in the field of medicine.

What you will be studying:

AS Level Topics	A Level Topics
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Physical quantities and units• Measurement techniques• Kinematics• Dynamics• Forces, density and pressure• Work, energy and power• Deformation of solids• Waves• Superposition• Electric fields• Current of electricity• D.C. circuits• Particle and nuclear physics	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Motion in a circle• Gravitational fields• Ideal gases• Temperature• Thermal properties of materials• Oscillations• Astronomy and Cosmology• Capacitance• Medical physics• Magnetic fields• Electromagnetic induction• Alternating currents• Quantum physics

** All candidates study practical skills.*

How you will be assessed:

AS:

- Paper 1: Multiple Choice - 40 marks / 40 multiple-Choice Questions (1 hour 15 minutes)
Questions are based on the AS Level syllabus content. Externally assessed 31% of the AS Level 15.5% of the A Level.
- Paper 2: AS Level Structured Questions - 60 marks / Structured questions (1 hour 15 minutes)
Questions are based on the AS Level syllabus content. Externally assessed 46% of the AS Level 23% of the A Level.
- Paper 3: Advanced Practical Skills - 40 marks / Practical work and structured questions (2 hours)
Questions are based on the practical skills in the Practical assessment section of the syllabus. The context of the questions may be outside the syllabus content. Externally assessed 23% of the AS Level 11.5% of the A Level.

A2:

- Paper 4: A Level Structured Questions - 100 marks / Structured questions (2 hours)
Questions are based on the A Level syllabus content; knowledge of material from the AS Level syllabus content will be required. Externally assessed 38.5% of the A Level
- Paper 5: Planning, Analysis and Evaluation - 30 marks (1 hour 15 minutes)
Questions are based on the practical skills of planning, analysis and evaluation. The context of the questions may be outside the syllabus content. Externally assessed 11.5% of the A Level

PSYCHOLOGY GCE A Level (CIE 9990)

Prerequisites: Students will need to have IGCSE in Psychology A* to C or its equivalent.

Reasons for studying Psychology:

Cambridge International A Level Psychology provides a suitable foundation for the study of Psychology or related courses in higher education. Equally it is suitable for learners intending to pursue careers or further study in social sciences, or as part of a course of general education. Cambridge International AS Level Psychology constitutes the first half of the Cambridge International A Level course in Psychology and therefore provides a suitable foundation for the study of Psychology at Cambridge International A Level. Depending on local university entrance requirements, it may permit or assist progression directly to university courses in Psychology or some other subjects. It is also suitable for learners intending to pursue any career in which an understanding of human nature is needed. The qualification is also suitable for any further study in social sciences, or as part of a course of general education.

What you will be studying:

Cambridge International AS and A Level Psychology provides candidates opportunities to consider approaches, issues and debates and research methods that underpin all aspects of psychology.

At AS Level candidates focus on 12 core studies. The core studies illustrate a wide range of research methods used in psychology, such as experiments, observations, self-reports and case studies. By exploring the relationship between the content of the study and the research methods, the candidate will gain a broad understanding of how psychologists study experiences and behaviours and why the research took place.

Candidates for Cambridge International A Level Psychology study the AS Level content and two of the following options:

1. **Abnormality** This specialist option considers the definitions, symptoms, causes and treatments of a variety of mental disorders.
2. **Consumer behaviour** This specialist option reflects the society in which we live and looks at both seller and purchaser as well as the design of consumer environments.
3. **Health** This specialist option focuses on health issues, including pain and stress.
4. **Organisations** This specialist option considers the world of work, and how individuals and groups within an organisation function and influence each other and have an impact on the organisation itself.

These A Level options are diverse in nature but each specialist option is balanced and equivalent in terms of content and demand. The original studies are referenced for teachers but it is not necessary for candidates to study the original publication.

How you will be assessed:

Component	Weighting	
	AS Level	A Level
Paper 1 Approaches, issues and debates 1 hour 30 minutes Candidates answer all questions. Short answer questions and an essay question, based on core studies. Candidates answer each question in the spaces provided on the question paper. 60 marks	50%	25%
Paper 2 Research methods 1 hour 30 minutes Candidates answer all questions. Section A: Short answer questions, some based on the core studies (22 marks). Section B: Scenario-based questions (24 marks). Section C: A design-based question divided into two parts (14 marks). Candidates answer each question in the spaces provided on the question paper. 60 marks	50%	25%
Paper 3 Specialist options: theory 1 hour 30 minutes Candidates answer two questions from two specialist options. Each specialist option is out of 30 marks. Question 1: The question is divided into three parts (12 marks). Question 2: Structured essay-based question divided into two parts (18 marks). 60 marks	–	25%

Links to CIE A Level subject pages:

ART AND DESIGN GCE A Level (CIE 9479):

<https://www.cambridgeinternational.org/programmes-and-qualifications/cambridge-international-as-and-a-level-art-and-design-9479/>

BIOLOGY GCE A Level (CIE 9700):

<https://www.cambridgeinternational.org/programmes-and-qualifications/cambridge-international-as-and-a-level-biology-9700/>

BUSINESS STUDIES GCE A LEVEL (CIE 9609):

<https://www.cambridgeinternational.org/programmes-and-qualifications/cambridge-international-as-and-a-level-business-9609/>

CHEMISTRY GCE A Level (CIE 9701):

<https://www.cambridgeinternational.org/programmes-and-qualifications/cambridge-international-as-and-a-level-chemistry-9701/>

COMPUTER SCIENCE GCE A Level (CIE 9618):

<https://www.cambridgeinternational.org/programmes-and-qualifications/cambridge-international-as-and-a-level-computer-science-9618/>

ECONOMICS GCE A Level (CIE 9708):

<https://www.cambridgeinternational.org/programmes-and-qualifications/cambridge-international-as-and-a-level-economics-9708/>

ENGLISH LANGUAGE GCE A Level (CIE 9093):

<https://www.cambridgeinternational.org/programmes-and-qualifications/cambridge-international-as-and-a-level-english-language-9093/>

MATHEMATICS GCE A Level (CIE 9709):

<https://www.cambridgeinternational.org/programmes-and-qualifications/cambridge-international-as-and-a-level-mathematics-9709/>

PHYSICS GCE A Level (CIE 9702):

<https://www.cambridgeinternational.org/programmes-and-qualifications/cambridge-international-as-and-a-level-physics-9702/>

PSYCHOLOGY GCE A Level (CIE 9990):

<https://www.cambridgeinternational.org/programmes-and-qualifications/cambridge-international-as-and-a-level-psychology-9990/>

Other Links for Students and Parents:

A level Curriculum:

<https://www.cambridgeinternational.org/programmes-and-qualifications/cambridge-advanced/cambridge-international-as-and-a-levels/curriculum/>

Subject Contents:

<https://www.cambridgeinternational.org/programmes-and-qualifications/cambridge-advanced/cambridge-international-as-and-a-levels/subjects/>

Recognition:

<https://www.cambridgeinternational.org/programmes-and-qualifications/recognition-and-acceptance/>

Qualifications:

<https://www.cambridgeinternational.org/programmes-and-qualifications/cambridge-advanced/cambridge-international-as-and-a-levels/qualification/>