

Modern English School Cairo



Hana El Morshedy

**Year 9 and 10 IGCSE Options Booklet
2019-2020**



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Introduction

Dear Parents/Guardians and Students,

This booklet is designed to complement our 'Introduction to IGCSE/GCSE Options Presentation' and provide you with information about each of the IGCSE/GCSE courses we intend to offer students who will enter Year 9 next academic year.

We advise you to consult your son/daughter, consider their university aspirations (and research the subject requirements for these) and to make an informed decision. Whilst the British curriculum allows your son/daughter to begin to specialise in subjects he or she is particularly interested in, there is also the option of maintaining a broad balance of subjects and keeping options for Y11 upwards open (AS/A Levels or IB Diploma Programme).

In November, your son/daughter will receive an options form, asking you to indicate the option subjects you would ideally like your son/daughter to take next year. Please complete the form and ask your son/daughter to return it via their Homeroom teacher **by Sunday 3 December, 2018 at the latest**.

If you have further questions, please do not hesitate to contact Mr Euan Macaulay (Assistant Head – Years 9-10), Mr Sarah Clingan (Deputy Head, British Section) or myself, Mrs Linda Talbot (Headteacher, British Section).

Yours sincerely,

Mrs Linda Talbot
Headteacher
British Section, Secondary

The Subject Choices at MES Cairo

We offer a wide range of subjects, from which students can choose. If they know what career they ultimately wish to follow, they can begin to specialise in related subjects. If they are unsure about their future or are thinking about joining the International Baccalaureate Diploma Programme in Y11, they are encouraged to maintain a broad balance of subjects. The combination of on-going teacher support throughout the two years of sustained study and the experience of final examinations provides an excellent base for success in both the IB Diploma and A Levels and for university study thereafter.

Students take **8 IGCSE/GCSE** subjects (or more if they take IGCSE Arabic, IGCSE Global Perspectives and/or GCSE PE in addition).

All students must also study the following subjects to meet the Ministry of Education requirements:

- Arabic

Arab students must study the following in addition:

- Religious Studies
- History and Geography (Egyptian Ministry Syllabus – only in Year 9)
- Civil Studies (Egyptian Ministry Syllabus – only in Years 10 & 11)

Physical Education (PE) and Homeroom Community Forum (HRCF) are also compulsory at MES Cairo.

Important Notes:

- By MOE decree, all students must complete Aadidaya in Y9, as well as recognised equivalency exam. At MES Cairo, we choose for students to take Checkpoint exams in English, Maths and Science administered by Cambridge Assessment International Education.
- All students must take English Language and Mathematics as two of their IGCSE subjects
- For **Engineering** (at AUC) students must have passed IGCSE Maths, Physics, Chemistry and a fourth science course or Information Technology. Additionally, passes are required in Maths and either Physics or Chemistry at AS level, or Maths A Level, or an IB Diploma featuring Maths, Physics and Chemistry (Maths must be taken at Higher Level, while Physics and Chemistry could be taken at Standard Level)
- I/GCSE Art, Design Technology, Music, Drama, Travel and Tourism and Global Perspectives, whilst welcomed in universities overseas, may not be recognised for entrance into some universities in Egypt
- Under Egyptian Ministry of Higher Education regulations, for applications to universities in Egypt only, the examinations taken in the last 3 years before university entrance are considered
- Arab students must complete 12 years of schooling

It is our intention to offer the following option subjects at MES Cairo for students entering Y9 in 2018:

- | | | |
|--------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|
| • Arabic | • Design Technology | • Geography |
| • Art & Design | Graphic Products | • Global Perspectives |
| Fine Art | • Design Technology | • History |
| • Art & Design | Resistant Materials | • Information |
| Photography | • Economics | Technology |
| • Biology | • English as a First | • Mathematics |
| • Business Studies | Language | • Music (GCSE) |
| • Chemistry | • English as a Second | • Spanish |
| • Computer Science | Language | • Physics |
| • Drama | • English Literature | • Travel and Tourism |
| | • French | |

Global Perspectives and PE are offered as an additional IGCSEs and are taught outside the regular timetable.

IGCSE/GCSE

IGCSE stands for International General Certificate of Secondary Education. It is designed for students in schools and colleges throughout the world and the syllabi are international in content and approach. The GCSE is of similar standard, but involves some coursework.

IGCSE assessment is by final examination at the end of Year 10 in most cases. Students are prepared throughout the 2 year course for the examinations, allowing teachers time to give students guidance on how to improve their performance. Students mature over this period, develop and hone their examination technique and are assessed when they are at their peak. Students who find examinations a motivation for learning, who work conscientiously and who follow teachers' advice are successful in this programme. It is important to state that adequate performance in Year 9 will determine progression on to Year 10. Particular interest will be paid to each students' performance in the end of Year 9 examinations; if a student is not performing at the pass grade of a C or above in most /all of their subjects, including Maths or English, it is likely they will not be able to sit the IGCSE examination the following year.

IGCSE grades are awarded on a scale, A* to G or 1 to 9. Grade A*/9 is considered the top grade. At MES Cairo we follow the highly successful and internationally recognised Cambridge Assessment International Education (CAIE) programme that uses the A* to G scale. In Egypt, Arab students are allowed to take the Higher Level papers only.

For most AS/A-level subjects students must firstly attain a grade C or higher in the subject at IGCSE/GCSE level. There are a few exceptions to this requirement and students should consult the current AS/A level Options Booklet for guidance. It is strongly advised that students follow a broad and balanced subject choice at IGCSE/GCSE in order to prepare for the learning requirements in all AS/A-level subjects.

Students interested in being considered for the IB Diploma Programme in Years 11 and 12 are recommended to keep their subject choice at IGCSE/GCSE level broad. One or more science is advised given that the study of a practical science discipline is compulsory in the IBDP. For students who are contemplating the study of Medicine, Science or Engineering at university it is recommended to take all three sciences at IGCSE/GCSE level, giving the full option of IB choices; note that this is a rigorous course selection and students should only pursue this if they have demonstrated capability in Year 7 and Year 8 Science. In terms of languages, students interested in studying French as a part of their IB Diploma studies are required to select it as an IGCSE/GCSE option; Visual Art and Theatre Arts require previous study at IGCSE/GCSE level also. In order to meet the pre-requisites for entry into the IB Diploma you will need to pass all 8 IGCSE/GCSE subjects and secure a combination of A*, A and B grades to match the requirement of B grade minimum for Standard Level IBDP courses and A grade minimum to Higher Level IBDP courses.

Universities often specify grades A*-C in particular subjects in their entrance requirements. The examinations are set by the University of Cambridge International Examinations Authority or Edexcel Examinations Authority and students answer scripts which are sent to the examination board in England for marking. The rigour of the Examination Boards' procedures ensures that IGCSE/GCSE qualifications are recognised by universities and colleges world-wide.

ENGLISH LANGUAGE (compulsory subject)

In Years 9 and 10, the students will follow a common IGCSE First Language English course. The great majority of our students will take English as a First Language at the end of Year 10. However, there may be some students who prefer to take English as a Second Language at the end of Year 10. In that case, we still think it better for the students to be in the same classroom. Those who take English as a First Language will not be disadvantaged; those taking English as a Second Language will benefit from the English skills of those around them in class. Many of the tasks for the two exams are complementary and it is beneficial to all students to explore both possibilities in the lessons.

The students take an English as a First Language style examination at the end of Year 9 which will give us an indication of their likely aptitude in Year 10. However, a final decision about which qualification they take in May of Year 10 can wait until after the January Mid-Year examination in Year 10. That will consist of a full English as a First Language test which will help us guide each student towards the best course for their talents at the end of the year. After those Mid-Year examinations, the English teacher will start to differentiate between students in terms of the tasks they undertake, although as stated above, many of the challenges facing both sets of students are complementary.

It is only if we feel that a student wouldn't obtain at least a C grade in English as a First Language at the end of Year 10 that we would recommend switching to the other course. Parents are strongly advised to follow the recommendations made by the English teachers but final decisions about course choices ultimately belong to parents. Should a student wish to take both First and Second Language, it is possible to take one in Year 11.

IGCSE ENGLISH AS A FIRST LANGUAGE

This course is taught to all students. The skills of Reading, Writing, Speaking and Listening are covered in a range of activities in class in order to prepare and practise for the final examination.

The examination consists of two papers:

Paper 1 (50%)

This is a two-hour Reading Paper. Candidates will be asked to read three unseen passages. They are required to show understanding of both explicit and implicit meanings on the first passage in short comprehension questions. Then they write a summary on the second passage. On the third passage they are asked to explain the meanings of certain words, find synonyms and do some language analysis on two paragraphs. Finally, on the third passage, they write an extended piece using ideas from the passage itself.

Paper 2 (50%)

This is a two-hour Directed Writing and Composition Paper. In the first part, candidates read one or more short texts and are required to use and develop the information in another form e.g. letter, speech, report. In the composition task, a selection of titles is provided, calling for either a descriptive or narrative response.

The course aims to help students develop their reading and writing to the point where they can interpret and re-write complex texts; analyse language in context; summarise difficult texts; and compose discursive, descriptive and narrative pieces displaying both linguistic accuracy and an appreciation of audience, tone, register and structure.

The course also complements the students' other subjects in developing skills of a more general application, such as analysis and drawing inferences. As there is a strong correlation between regular readers and those with skilful language use, Literature units are incorporated into this course in Year 9 in order to expand each student's knowledge and appreciation of English and help them develop their Graduate Profile, especially in terms of awareness of other cultures. As a further means of developing their language skills, students are encouraged to continue a personal reading programme at home and to regularly watch and listen to English language media broadcasts.

IGCSE ENGLISH AS A SECOND LANGUAGE

The skills of Reading, Writing, Speaking and Listening are covered in a range of activities in order to prepare and practise for the final examination. As a further means of developing their language skills, students are encouraged to continue a personal reading programme at home and to regularly watch and listen to English language media broadcasts.

The rationale for English as a Second Language is based on the widespread use of English as the medium of instruction and as the language of business and entertainment. The subject matter of the examination material reflects this international perspective. The topics selected and the settings used relate to the interests and needs of the students: education, the world of work, current affairs, travel, health and welfare, dealing with official bodies and using public services.

The English as a Second Language examination consists of two written papers and one internal assessment of speaking:

Paper 2 (70%): This is a two-hour Reading and Writing Paper which examines a variety of skills, such as information transfer, note-taking, summary writing and formal/informal writing for a particular audience, involving six different tasks.

Paper 4 (30%): This is a 45-minute Listening Test which includes tasks such as taking notes, drawing conclusions and being aware of variations in spoken dialogue.

Mr Martin O'Connor

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IGCSE MATHEMATICS (Compulsory Subject)

Cambridge IGCSE Mathematics is recognised by universities and employers as proof of mathematical knowledge and understanding. The course allows students to develop their problem-solving skills by applying their mathematical knowledge to various situations, working with accuracy, logically and with flexibility.

Students of IGCSE Mathematics gain lifelong skills, including the development of their mathematical knowledge; confidence by developing a feel for numbers, patterns and relationships; an ability to consider and solve problems and present and interpret results; communication and reason using mathematical concepts and a solid foundation for further study.

Below is a list of topics which are covered as part of the IGCSE Mathematics syllabus. A detailed scheme of learning will be published on Google Classroom.

Number

Number and language
Accuracy
Calculations and order
Integers, fractions, decimals and percentages
Further percentages
Ratio and proportion
Indices and standard form
Money and finance
Time
Set notation and Venn diagrams

Geometry

Geometrical vocabulary and construction
Similarity and congruence
Symmetry
Angle properties

Trigonometry

Bearings
Trigonometry
Further trigonometry

Vectors and transformations

Probability

Algebra and graphs

Algebraic representation and manipulation
Algebraic indices
Equations and inequalities
Linear programming
Sequences
Proportion
Graphs in practical situations
Graphs of functions
Differentiation and the gradient function
Functions

Mensuration

Measures
Perimeter, area and volume

Coordinate geometry

Straight line graphs

Statistics

Mean, median, mode and range
Collecting and displaying data
Cumulative frequency and box-plots

The examination consists of two papers. Paper 2 (35%) consists of 1 ½ hours of short answer questions. Paper 4 (65%) lasts 2 ½ hours and is made up of longer, structured answer questions. All students need a scientific calculator (a Casio fx-95ES PLUS or similar is recommended) and drawing instruments (ruler, compasses and a protractor) for this course.

Mr Sean Rayner

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IGCSE SCIENCES

The Science Department offers IGCSE courses in **Biology**, **Chemistry** and **Physics**. All of the Science subjects have similar aims, which are to:

- Provide studies of experimental and practical Science so that pupils become confident citizens in a technological world
- Enable students to recognise the usefulness, limitations and applications of scientific thinking
- Develop skills, which encourage efficient, safe practice and effective communication
- Develop attitudes of accuracy, precision, objectivity, integrity, inquiry, initiative and inventiveness
- Stimulate an interest in, and care for, the environment and to appreciate that science may be both beneficial and detrimental to the environment
- Promote an awareness that scientific theory and methods have developed as a result of the co-operative activities of groups and individuals
- Provide the necessary educational grounding for the commencement of a course of higher study in the Sciences (A-level, IBDP etc)

All three Science subjects have a practical basis and experimental work is important, although the volume of content in each course requires that the majority of lessons will be theory based. The School has ten laboratories, all of which are very well equipped.

There are three examination papers in each of the Science subjects:

Paper 2 (30%)	40 multiple choice questions on the Extended Syllabus
Paper 4 (50%)	Extended theory paper based on the Extended Syllabus
Paper 6 (20%)	Alternative to practical - a written paper designed to test familiarity with Experimental skills

IGCSE BIOLOGY

Biology is the study of living things. The following topics are studied:

- | | |
|--------------------|---------------------------------|
| • Classification | • Plant Transport |
| • Animal Nutrition | • Co-ordination and Control |
| • Animal Transport | • Homeostasis |
| • Respiration | • Reproduction: plants & humans |
| • Plant Nutrition | • Genetics and Inheritance |
| • Ecology | • Environmental Issues |

The Biology examination requires a good standard of English to achieve the best possible results. All students will need to continue to improve their English in order to experience success in the IGCSE Biology examinations.

IGCSE CHEMISTRY

Chemistry is fundamentally the study of changes in substances. This also includes study of the structure of atoms and kinetic theory. The topics studied are:

- | | |
|---------------------------|-------------------------------|
| • Atomic Structure | • Acids, Bases & Salts |
| • Chemical Bonding | • Air and Water |
| • Rates Of Reaction | • Electrolysis |
| • Experimental Techniques | • Energy Changes in Chemistry |
| • Chemical Analysis | • Redox Reaction |
| • Periodic Table | • Organic Chemistry |
| • Metals | |

The topics studied in Chemistry are often not linked to everyday life and some students find the abstract nature of Chemistry difficult. There are some calculations in Chemistry, but fewer than in Physics. An ability to write coherently in English is essential in Chemistry since explanations of applied situations are necessary.

IGCSE PHYSICS

Physics is the study of the behaviour of energy and how it changes in the following topics:

- General Physics (including: mass and weight, forces, speed, velocity and acceleration)
- Thermal Physics (including: Kinetic Theory, thermal expansion, measuring temperature, latent heat)
- Waves, Light and Sound
- Electricity (including: current, potential difference, resistance, electrical circuits, electrical charge, electronics)
- Magnetism and Electromagnetism
- Atomic Physics (including: radioactivity, structure of the atom)

The study of Physics relies very much on the application of Mathematics and it is likely that students who enjoy success in Mathematics will also do well in Physics. Topics such as atomic structure and the kinetic theory are common to both Chemistry and Physics, so that these two subjects support each other well. There is an enormous range of applications of Physics in the modern technological world, which means that the scope of examination questions is wide-ranging and good problem solving and interpretation skills are vital to success.

Mr Brendan Rainford

Head of Science

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IGCSE LANGUAGES

IGCSE ARABIC FIRST LANGUAGE

Aims

The aims of the syllabus are the same for all students. The aims are set out below and describe the educational purposes of a course in a First Language for the IGCSE examination.

The aims are to:

- Enable students to communicate accurately, appropriately and effectively in writing;
- Enable students to understand and respond appropriately to what they read;
- Encourage students to enjoy and appreciate the variety of language;
- Complement the students' other areas of study by developing skills of a more general application (e.g. analysis, synthesis, drawing of inferences);
- Promote the students' personal development and an understanding of themselves and others.

Assessment objectives

Reading

Candidates are assessed on their ability to:

- R1: Understand and collate explicit meanings
- R2: Understand, explain and collate implicit meanings and attitudes
- R3: Select, analyse and evaluate what is relevant to specific purposes
- R4: Understand how writers achieve effects.

Writing

Candidates are assessed on their ability to:

- W1: Articulate experience and express what is thought, felt and imagined
- W2: Order and present facts, ideas and opinions
- W3: Understand and use a range of appropriate vocabulary
- W4: Use language and register appropriate to audience and context
- W5: Make accurate and effective use of paragraphs, grammatical structures, sentences, punctuation and the question papers are set entirely in the target language.

Ms Safaa Bagoury

Head of Arabic

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IGCSE ARABIC SECOND LANGUAGE

The aims of the syllabus are the same for all candidates and describe the educational purposes of a course in a foreign language for the IGCSE examination. They are not listed in order of priority.

The aims are to:

- Develop the ability to use the language effectively for purposes of practical communication within the country of residence, where appropriate, and in all countries where the language is spoken
- Form a sound base of the skills, language and attitudes required for further study, work and leisure
- Offer insights into the culture and civilisation of countries where the language is spoken
- Encourage fuller integration into the local community, where relevant
- Develop a fuller awareness of the nature of language and language learning
- Encourage positive attitudes toward language learning and towards speakers of other languages and a sympathetic approach to other cultures and civilisations
- Provide enjoyment and intellectual stimulation
- Complement other areas of study by encouraging skills of a more general application (e.g. analysis, memorising, drawing of inferences).

Assessment objectives

Candidates will be assessed on their ability to:

- Understand and respond to spoken language
- Understand and respond to written language
- Communicate in speech, showing knowledge of a range and variety of vocabulary and applying the
- Grammar and structures of the target language accurately
- Communicate in writing, showing knowledge of a range and variety of vocabulary and applying the
- Grammar and structures of the target language accurately.

Ms Safaa Bagoury

Head of Arabic

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IGCSE FRENCH

The ability to communicate in a foreign language is regarded as an increasingly important asset in the majority of careers our students may be considering. The course aims to teach students to use French effectively for the purpose of communication in all countries where the language is spoken. Alongside the development of cultural awareness, students develop an understanding of the nature of language and language learning. Authentic materials (e.g. newspapers, magazines, television programmes, movies) are used throughout the course and teaching is carried out in the French language.

The topic areas studied for IGCSE French are:

- Everyday activities
- Personal and social life
- The world around us
- The world of work
- The international world

The main assessment objective of communication incorporates the four skills, which are of equal importance:

- **P1 Listening** (45 minutes) - 25%
Students listen to extracts of spoken French and answer questions on facts, opinions, emotions etc.
- **P2 Reading** (1 hour) - 25%
Students are tested on their comprehension skills.
- **P3 Speaking** (15 minutes) - 25%
These tests are conducted individually with an examiner. Students must participate in a role-play, introduce and discuss a topic of their choice and take part in a general conversation.
- **P4 Writing** (1 hour) - 25%
Students are expected to respond in the target language to three tasks in which they demonstrate their mastery of written French.

IGCSE SPANISH

The ability to communicate in a foreign language is regarded as an increasingly important asset in the majority of careers our students may be considering. The course aims to teach students to use Spanish effectively for the purpose of communication in all countries where the language is spoken. Alongside the development of cultural awareness, students develop an understanding of the nature of language and language learning. Authentic materials (e.g. newspapers, magazines, television programmes, movies) are used throughout the course and teaching is carried out in the Spanish language.

The topic areas studied for IGCSE Spanish are:

- Everyday activities
- Personal and social life
- The world around us
- The world of work
- The international world

The main assessment objective of communication incorporates the four skills, which are of equal importance:

- **P1 Listening** (45 minutes) - 25%
Students listen to extracts of spoken Spanish and answer questions on facts, opinions, emotions etc.
- **P2 Reading** (1 hour) - 25%
Students are tested on their comprehension skills.
- **P3 Speaking** (15 minutes) - 25%
These tests are conducted individually with an examiner. Students must participate in a role-play, introduce and discuss a topic of their choice and take part in a general conversation.
- **P4 Writing** (1 hour) - 25%
Students are expected to respond in the target language to three tasks in which they demonstrate their mastery of written Spanish.

Mr Oumar Thiam
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IGCSE HUMANITIES SUBJECTS

IGCSE GEOGRAPHY

Geography is the study of the world around us and is unique in its focus on the interaction between people and their environment. The IGCSE course aims to encourage students to take an active social scientific interest in current and topical world issues at a variety of geographical scales. The course further aims to develop a keen awareness and understanding of how culture, technology, economics and politics influence societies and their environment. It is a 'future' based subject that considers how people will manage the world around them in decades to come.

The main themes of the course are:

- **Population and Settlement:** the problems associated with population growth and a study of settlements
- **The Natural Environment:** earthquakes, volcanoes, coastlines, rivers, climates, deserts and rainforests
- **Economic Development and the Use of Resources:** tourism and leisure, energy supply and demand, resources conservation and management and industry.

At all times during the IGCSE Geography course the emphasis is on the relationship between people and their environment and how better management of the planet can be developed through rigorous academic analysis and a practical implementation of policies.

The Geography assessment is divided into three components:

Paper 1 (45%): A knowledge-based examination in which students apply their knowledge of population and cities, the natural environment, development and economic activities

Paper 2 (27.5%): A skills-based examination, testing students' graphical, analytical and cartographical (map) skills.

Paper 4 (27.5%): This examination asks students to show understanding of the methods and techniques used to investigate geographical phenomena in the real world. Students are required to show the ability to investigate independently.

Two geographical immersion days are built in to the two year course plan, one taking place in Year 9 and the other in Year 10. These days involve students carrying out a geographical study, inside and outside of school, putting into practice the skills that students will be examined on in Paper 4.

IGCSE HISTORY

History is the study and analysis of past events including political, economic and cultural changes. The IGCSE course involves learning and evaluating key historical content, assessing the evidence and interpretation of events and linking these events to current global affairs.

History students need to be able to do the following:

- Recall, select, organise and apply knowledge of the work studied.
- Show understanding of the following historical concepts:
 - change and continuity
 - cause and consequence
 - similarity and difference
 - the motives, emotions, beliefs and intentions of people in the past
- Understand, interpret, evaluate and use a range of sources as evidence in their historical context.

The course covers:

Core Option B: The 20th Century, International Relations since 1919

1. Were the Peace Treaties of 1919-23 fair?
2. To what extent was the League of Nations a success?
3. Why had international peace collapsed by 1939?
4. Who was to blame for the Cold War?
5. How effectively did the USA contain the spread of communism?
6. How secure was the USSR's control over Eastern Europe, 1948-c.1989?
7. Why did events in the Gulf matter, 1970 – 2000?

Depth Study: Germany 1918-45

1. Was the Weimar Republic doomed from the start?
2. Why was Hitler able to dominate Germany by 1934?
3. The Nazi Regime: How effectively did the Nazis control Germany, 1933-45?
4. The Nazi Regime: What was it like to live in Nazi Germany?

The course is examined in three parts:

Paper 1 (40%): Knowledge and Understanding of the 20th Century Core Option and the Germany Depth Study

Paper 2 (33%): This paper takes a 20th century topic from the Core Option to be examined in detail. The paper includes a selection of source material relating to the topic, with a series of questions relating to the material. The nominated topic changes each year.

Paper 4 (27%): This paper examines the Germany Depth Study further. The paper tests knowledge of the period, use of evidence and understanding of different interpretations of historical situations.

Mrs Jennifer Rainford

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IGCSE COMMERCIAL STUDIES SUBJECTS

The Commercial Studies subjects are **Business Studies, Economics and Travel & Tourism**. All students will be involved in the business sector in one way or another when they leave school. For this reason, it is very important that they have a basic understanding of how a business operates.

The aims of the subjects are to promote:

- knowledge and understanding of facts, definitions, concepts and principles
- analysis through selection, organisation and interpretation
- judgment and decision-making and distinguishing evidence from opinion
- analysis through enquiry and evaluation

IGCSE BUSINESS STUDIES

Business Studies looks at all aspects of businesses: how they are run and organised, the people who work in them and the factors that affect the way they operate. It also looks at the Government's influence on business activity.

Students often ask what the difference is between Business Studies and Economics, because some parts of the courses seem very similar. Basically, Economics takes a wide view of the whole economic system, whilst Business Studies focuses on individual businesses. If we take the topic "Imports" for example, Economics students might learn about the problems of a country that imports too much, whilst Business Studies students might learn why a business might need to increase its imports of materials to provide a good or service.

Topics in Business Studies:

- Understanding Business Activity: including types of business organisations, enterprise and the entrepreneur and why businesses grow or remain a certain size
- People in Organisations: Human resource management including recruitment and retention, and how communication happens in an organisation
- Marketing: how firms do market research in order to sell their products more successfully, and the various methods of marketing the product including the 4 P's: Product, Price, Place and Promotion
- Operations Management: the decisions that firms have to make when they start to produce goods or provide a service, including quality management and production decisions
- Finance: including the creation and analysis of financial statements
- External influence on Business activity including the economy, government, ethics and the forces of globalisation

The examination consists of:

Paper 1 (1 ½ hours) – This paper contains short-answer questions and structured/data response questions. 50 % weighting.

Paper 2 (1 ½ hours) - Candidates will be presented with a business situation or problem, and required to answer questions arising from it. 50% weighting.

Business Studies is a subject for students who can think for themselves and who enjoy problem-solving.

IGCSE ECONOMICS

Students study economic systems and the way they function, at a national and at an international level. They will also learn how the government manages the national economy.

Some of the topics dealt with are:

- The basic economics problem which stems from scarcity of resources
- Demand and Supply: how people and businesses decide what they want in the shops
- Business Organisations, such as firms and banks, and how they operate
- Government Influence: how it can affect the economy
- Employment: doing a job and earning wages
- Economic development how development can change population, living standards and poverty.
- International Economics: the importance of trade between countries

Students are examined in the following way:

Paper 1 (45 minutes) - 30 multiple-choice items (all questions to be answered). 30% weighting.

Paper 2 (2 hours 15 minutes) - Structured questions (all questions to be answered). Paper 2 is a compulsory data response question, then a choice of 3 from 6 structured essay questions. 70% weighting.

Economics overlaps with numerous Geography topics such as factors determining the location of industry, the environmental impact of economic activity and an analysis of the relationship between developed and developing countries.

IGCSE TRAVEL & TOURISM

Travel & Tourism aims to provide students with an understanding of the travel and tourism industry. The aims of the course are to: pick up the skills needed to work in the travel and tourism industry. Students will develop a critical awareness of the physical, social and economic environments in which travel and tourism takes place, including understanding of the global, regional and local perspectives of travel and tourism.

Some of the topics dealt with are:

- Understanding the structure of the travel and tourism industry
- Identifying and describing the features which attract tourists to a particular destination
- Dealing with customers and colleagues
- Exploring the role of tour operators and travel agents
- The role of marketing and promotion within the travel and tourism industry

Students are examined in the following way:

Paper 1 (2 hours) – Short answer question paper. 60 % weighting.

Paper 2 (2 ½ hours) – Short answer question paper based on Unit 5 of the syllabus. 40% weighting.

Travel & Tourism overlaps with numerous Geography and Business Studies topics such as factors determining the location of the travel and tourism industry, the environmental impact of different types of tourism and the use of the marketing mix to promote tour operators' products.

Mr Chris Stock

Head of Commercial Studies

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IGCSE ART AND DESIGN

Please note: In Egypt, IGCSE Art is recognised for university entrance by AUC only.

Students who choose IGCSE Art may choose one of two options;

Art: Painting and Related Media

Photography: Digital and Lens Media

Students cannot choose to study both options. Please be aware the certification will be IGCSE Art for both options.

IGCSE Art and Design is a challenging but rewarding course, which develops visual perception through aesthetic experience. It complements scientific and factual subjects. Art and Design is a unique way to encourage students' personal expression and imagination. Students learn to observe, analyse and understand the visual arts and to develop their own technical skills enabling them to express personal, creative ideas.

There are two components in the IGCSE course, with equal weighting of 50% each.

Paper 1 (50%): Component 1

This is an internally set assignment externally assessed by CIE. This is a critical and visual appraisal undertaken in a written and practical form, including drawings, paintings and photographs. Candidates research, develop and realise a project from one area of study in the subject content from a theme set by the teacher. Candidates can choose to work in any of the areas of study and should explore a theme producing a portfolio that leads to a resolved final outcome.

Paper 2 (50%): Component 2

Candidates respond to a starting point by Cambridge International. There are two parts to the assignment; supporting studies and a final outcome produced during a supervised test of 8 hours total duration. The practical examination requires preparatory work. The eight-hour exam and preparatory work both have equal weighting for assessment.

Students receive the exam paper at least six weeks before the examination date. Four A2 sheets of preparatory studies are produced in the weeks prior to the examination. Students research ideas and images related to the exam theme and develop their own personal response. During the examination students complete a visual composition through painting and drawing based on their preparatory studies for the painting and related media specialism and a pictorial composition through a range of photographic techniques in the photography, digital and lens based media specialism. The exam is externally moderated by the CIE.

Students who enter this course should have competent drawing skills. They should also be able to work independently with high levels of discipline and motivation, as some of the work needs to be completed outside lesson time. Students should have their own basic art and photographic equipment.

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IGCSE DESIGN AND TECHNOLOGY – RESISTANT MATERIALS

This course is an excellent choice for students who are creative and would like to develop their design skills further.

Students' grades are comprised as follows:

- | | |
|------------------------------|-----|
| • Controlled assessment task | 50% |
| • Design paper (1hr 15min) | 25% |
| • Theory paper (1hr) | 25% |

Controlled Assessment Task

In Year 9 Terms One and Two, students will complete a series of design and make tasks that will further add to the skills acquired in years 7 and 8. They will be taught practical skills in a variety of Resistant Materials (this term refers to wood, metal and plastic).

Towards the end of year 9 and during year 10 students will complete their controlled assessment task that consists of a 20-page A3 portfolio and a design and make project that will showcase students' skills learnt over the previous years. Typical projects include; storage for jewellery or electronic gadgets, a decorative lamp or a desk tidy.

Design Paper

Students will be asked to show their design skills in a 1hr 15min design exam. During which they need to design a solution to a problem presented to them such as a storage system for computer games or sewing equipment. The design will need to have detail as to how it could be made and from what materials.

Theory Paper

The theory paper will test the knowledge students have acquired in the following areas:

- Names and properties of different woods, metals and plastics
- How to cut, shape and join Resistant Materials
- How to work in a workshop safely
- The details of the tools and equipment used with Resistant Materials
- How Computer Aided Design and Computer Aided Manufacture (CAD/CAM) help a designer in their work

Suitability for Students

Though not essential, students will find Resistant Materials a good option if they intend to pursue a career in engineering (mechanical, civil, aerospace, marine) or any creative, design-based career (e.g. product design, theatre set design, interior design, etc.).

You will need to take IGCSE Design and Technology – Resistant Materials if you wish to take A-Level Product Design.

Please note: if you wish to study Engineering at AUC you will need four science subjects. They currently do not recognise D&T as a science subject. You should have no such problems with British Universities.

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IGCSE DESIGN AND TECHNOLOGY – GRAPHIC PRODUCTS

This course is an excellent chance for students who are creative and would like to develop their design skills further.

Students' grades are comprised as follows:

- | | |
|------------------------------|-----|
| • Controlled assessment task | 50% |
| • Design paper (1hr 15min) | 25% |
| • Theory paper (1hr) | 25% |

Controlled Assessment Task

In Year 9 Terms One and Two, students will complete a series of design and make tasks that will further add to the skills acquired in Years 7 and 8. They will learn a variety of graphics skills both by hand and using graphics software and also 3D modelling skills.

Towards the end of Year 9 and during Year 10 students will complete their controlled assessment task that consists of a 20-page A3 portfolio and a design and make project that will showcase students' skills learnt over the previous years. Typical projects include; product packaging, board games, point of sale displays and pop-up books.

The controlled assessment task is marked internally and is moderated by an external moderator.

Design Paper

Students will be asked to show their design skills in a 1hr 15min design exam. During which they need to design a solution to a problem presented to them such as a box to promote and protect chocolates or a flat-pack cardboard pet carrier. The design will need to have detail as to how it could be made and from what materials.

Theory Paper

The theory paper will test the knowledge students have acquired in the following areas:

- Names and properties of different paper, card and foam board
- How to cut, shape and join materials effectively
- How to work in a workshop safely
- The details of the tools and equipment used with Graphic Products
- How Computer Aided Design and Computer Aided Manufacture (CAD/CAM) help a designer in their work

Suitability for Students

Though not essential, students will find Graphic Products a good option if they intend to pursue a career in architecture, graphic design, digital media or any creative, design-based career (e.g. product design, theatre set design, interior design, etc.).

You will need to take IGCSE Design and Technology – Graphic products if you wish to take A Level Product Design.

Please note: if you wish to study Engineering at AUC you will need four science subjects. They currently do not recognise D&T as a science subject. You should have no such problems with British Universities.

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IGCSE DRAMA

IGCSE Drama aims to encourage students to develop a personal interest in why Drama matters and be inspired, moved and changed by studying a broad, coherent, satisfying and relevant course of study.

Students will be given the opportunity to:

- work imaginatively and creatively in collaborative contexts, generating, developing and communicating ideas
- consider and explore the impact of social, historical and cultural influences on Drama texts and activities
- reflect on and evaluate their own work and the work of others
- develop and demonstrate confidence in a range of practical, creative and performance skills
- develop a basis for their future role as active citizens in employment and society in general, as well as for the further possible study of Drama
- actively engage in the process of dramatic study in order to develop as effective and independent learners and as critical and reflective thinkers with enquiring minds

There are two components in the IGCSE course with weighting of 40% and 60% each.

Paper 1: Written examination (40% of the final grade). This is a 2 ½ hour examination.

Students answer questions based on the pre-release material which is issued to the school preceding the examination.

The pre-release material consists of:

- Three stimuli which are either short titles, phrases, scenarios or quotations. Students must create drama based on one of the stimuli. In the examination students will be required to reflect on, and evaluate, the practical work.
- An extended extract from a play. This will be taken from repertoire from a variety of cultures and times. Students should study the extract with a view to understanding both the text and the practical aspects of production.

The exam is externally moderated.

Paper 2: Coursework (60% of the final grade)

Each student submits a total of three pieces of practical work: one individual piece (3-5 minutes) and two group pieces (maximum 15 minutes each). All work must be intended for performance to a live audience.

One individual piece:

- a performance of an extract from a play

Two group pieces:

- one original devised piece
- one performance of an extract from a play

Coursework is internally assessed and externally moderated.

Students take part in the planning, rehearsal, performance and evaluation of drama and are assessed on their individual practical contributions.

Students are assessed on their skills in working towards performance, their ability to devise performance material and their practical ability in performing to an audience.

Ms Jean Bennett

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IGCSE ENGLISH LITERATURE

The Literature course develops students' ability to communicate accurately, to understand texts far beyond the basic level and to explore authors' craft. Students are encouraged to continue a personal reading programme of challenging texts at home and to formulate their own opinions on a variety of texts. Language and Literature reinforce each other and there is a strong correlation between improved language skills and the study of Literature.

Students enjoy studying three set literary works in depth. They study a group of poems, a work of drama and either a selection of short stories or a novel. The works studied are chosen from the Cambridge examination board set works list. Students will also develop the skills of analysing previously unseen texts.

This course is particularly suited to students taking English as a First Language, and those who have shown some skill in dealing with literary texts during their English studies at Key Stage 3 level. Students study their set texts in great depth and detail. They also learn how to comment critically and coherently on texts they have not seen before.

The examination consists of three sections:

Paper 1 (50%)

Poetry and Prose

This is a 1 hour and 30 minute examination that tests the students' knowledge of the set prose and poetry texts they have studied. They answer two questions selected from a choice of question on each text. Answers are written in essay form. This is a 'closed book' examination, meaning that students are not permitted to take the texts with them into the examination.

Paper 3 (25%)

Drama

This is a 45 minute examination. Students answer one question on the Drama text they have studied in class. There will be a choice of questions on the play. This is an 'open book' examination, meaning that students are permitted to refer to a clean copy of the play during the examination.

Paper 4 (25%)

Unseen Text

This is a 1 hour and 15 minute examination during which students answer one question on previously unseen texts. They can choose to write either about a prose passage or about a poem they have not studied before.

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IGCSE INFORMATION AND COMMUNICATION TECHNOLOGY (ICT)

ICT is the study of how modern information and communication systems are created and used in the real world. The course covers not only the skills used in standard business software but also the reasons that this software is used and the social, legal and ethical implications of using the technology.

The Cambridge IGCSE ICT encourages learners to develop lifelong skills, including:

- understanding and using applications
- using Information and Communication Technology (ICT) to solve problems
- analysing, designing, implementing, testing and evaluating ICT systems, ensuring that they are fit for purpose
- understanding the implications of technology in society, including social, economic and ethical uses
- awareness of the ways ICT can help in home, learning and work environments.
- skills to analyse, design, implement, test and evaluate ICT systems
- skills to consider the impact of current and new technologies on methods of working in the outside world and on social, economic, ethical and moral issues
- ICT-based solutions to solve problems
- the ability to recognise potential risks when using ICT, and use safe, secure and responsible practice.

Knowledge and understanding (Theory Units) covered

1. Type and components of computer systems
2. Input and output devices
3. Storage devices and media
4. Networks and the effects of using them
5. The effects of using IT
6. ICT applications
7. The system life cycle
8. Safety and security
9. Audience
10. Communication

Practical skills covered

1. File management
2. Images
3. Layout
4. Styles
5. Proofing
6. Graphs and charts
7. Document production (Microsoft Word)
8. Data manipulation (Databases)
9. Presentations (Power Point)
10. Data analysis (Spreadsheets)
11. Website authoring

All candidates are entered for three papers

Paper 1 (2 hours) knowledge and understanding (Theory)	40% of final grade
Paper 2 (2 hours 3 minutes) Practical skills test	30% of final grade
Paper 3 (2 hours 3 minutes) Practical skills test	30% of final grade

Introduction

Computer Science is best suited to those students planning to work specifically within the computing industry or those planning further study in the subject in Higher Education. Students wishing to study the use of computers in business and industry rather than how computers are developed and programmed should consider taking ICT and not Computer Science.

Computer Science is the study of the foundational principles and practices of computation and computational thinking and their application in the design and development of computer systems.

This course aims to encourage candidates to develop computational thinking, that is thinking about what can be computed and how. This includes consideration of the data required. Learning computational thinking involves learning to program, (write computer code), because this is the means by which computational thinking is expressed.

The Cambridge IGCSE Computer Science course aims are to:

- develop computational thinking
- develop an understanding of the main principles of solving problems by using computers
- develop understanding that every computer system is made up of sub-systems, which in turn consist of further sub-systems
- develop an understanding of the component parts of computer systems and how they interrelate, including software, data, hardware, communications and people
- acquire the skills necessary to apply this understanding to develop computer-based solutions to problems using a high-level programming language.

Syllabus Overview

Section 1 Theory

Unit 1.1 - Data Representation

Unit 1.2 - Communication and Internet Technologies

Unit 1.3 - Hardware and Software

Unit 1.4 - Security

Unit 1.5 - Ethics

Section 2 - Practical

Unit 2.1 - Algorithm design and problem-solving

Unit 2.2 - Programming

Unit 2.3 - Databases

Assessment

The assessment for this course consists of two examination papers:

Paper 1 (60%) – Theory of Computer Science

A written paper of short response and structured questions from Section 1 of the course.

Paper 2 (40%) – Practical Problem Solving and Programming

A written paper of short response and structured questions from Section 2 of the course. This paper contains questions based on a Case Study which will be researched in advance of the examination.

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IGCSE MUSIC

Note: In Egypt, GCSE Music is recognised for university entrance by AUC only.

The Edexcel GCSE in Music allows students to capitalise on their different musical interests. Areas of study include a wide range of music including classical, world music and popular music. The GCSE is designed to allow the study of music through the integration of performing, composing, listening and appraising, with the opportunity to use music technology in performance and as a compositional tool.

Music GCSE is suited to students who love music and have an open mind towards all musical styles. It is a highly practical course and being able to play an instrument and/or sing is strongly advised.

Paper 1 – Performing (30%) – internally assessed/externally moderated

- Solo performing – candidates perform one solo piece (15%)
- Ensemble performing – candidates perform/direct one ensemble piece (15%)

Paper 2 – Composing (30%) – internally assessed/externally moderated

- Composition 1 – One composition, written to a brief, based on one of the Areas of Study (15%)
- Composition 2 – One composition, written to a brief based on a different Area of Study (15%)

Paper 3 – Appraising (40%) – This is a written examination of 1 hour 45 minutes.

- Appraising – externally assessed

Further details can be found online at <http://www.edexcel.com/quals/gcse/gcse09/music>

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GCSE PHYSICAL EDUCATION

GCSE PE is offered as an additional GCSE and is taught through core PE and outside the regular timetable by invitation only.

GCSE PE is an excellent qualification for those undertaking the sciences with the intention to move into medicine or physiotherapy routes. GCSE PE can also complement further study in biology, human biology, physics, psychology, nutrition and sociology. Additionally, the course allows students to excel in a range of sports, as gifted and talented students, they will develop advanced technical knowledge and skills within these sports.

The course comprises of 40% practical and 60% theory. The theory element of this course offers valuable cross curricular links with Biology, Anatomy and Physiology and Sociology.

Practical:

- Complete three physical activities from a set list.
- One must be a team activity.
- One must be an individual activity.
- The final activity can be a free choice.

Unit	Description	Assessment	Weighing
Practical performance	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Skills during individual and team activities• General performance skills	Non examined assessment 105 marks (35 per activity)	30%
Personal Exercise program	<ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Aim and planning analysis2. Monitoring the PEP3. Evaluation	Non examined assessment 20 marks	10%

Theory:

Unit	Description	Assessment	Weighing
Fitness and body systems	<ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Applied anatomy and physiology2. Movement analysis3. Physical training4. Use of data	Written exam: 1hr 45 minutes 90 marks	36%
Health and performance	<ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Health, fitness and well being2. Sport psychology3. Socio-cultural influences4. Use of data	Written exam: 1hr 15 minutes 70 marks	24%

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IGCSE GLOBAL PERSPECTIVES

GCSE Global Perspectives is offered as an additional GCSE and is taught outside the regular timetable by invitation only.

Global Perspectives will serve as excellent preparation for further study and is particularly relevant for students contemplating the IB Diploma Programme for Years 11 and 12. Over and above this, Global Perspectives will serve to develop students' critical thinking abilities, research techniques, language competencies and other skills which are integral to students' success in other subjects. Our aim is to make sessions interactive and provocative. Rather than viewing this opportunity as 'more work', we want able students to participate in a course that will challenge them in different ways and require them to think about topical issues from different, global perspectives.

Cambridge IGCSE Global Perspectives is built around topics; knowledge of content is not assessed. However, each particular topic encompasses issues of global importance. The topics are as follows:

Component 1 Written Examination 35%

- Demographic change
- Education for all
- Employment
- Fuel and energy
- Globalisation
- Law and criminality
- Migration
- Transport systems

Component 2 Individual Report 30%

- Belief systems
- Biodiversity and ecosystem loss
- Changing communities
- Digital world
- Family
- Humans and other species
- Sustainable living
- Trade and aid

Component 3 Team Project 35%

- Conflict and peace
- Disease and health
- Human rights
- Language and communication
- Poverty and inequality
- Sport and recreation
- Tradition, culture and identity
- Water, food and agriculture

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