

St Peter's College

Year 12 – Cambridge AS Level Subject Guide



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CAMBRIDGE AS LEVEL COMPULSORY SUBJECT OUTLINE

ENGLISH FACULTY

Head of Faculty: Mr Stacy Humpage, shumpage@st-peters.school.nz

AS English

ENTRY REQUIREMENTS

at least a C in IGCSE English

COURSE COSTS

\$15

COURSE DESCRIPTION

This is an important one year 'pre-university' course in which students continue to develop subtler awareness of classic Literature from different time periods in Literary History. This course provides students with their University Entrance Literacy and so forms a crucial part of their Year 12 studies. Similar to Year 11, students will write four essays in total covering Shakespeare, poetry, short-stories and unseen texts. Not only do students extend their writing skills, but also their critical thinking and analytical abilities. The Literature texts are all of international critical acclaim and especially rich thematically, allowing students to connect them to both their original contexts and the modern day.

THEOLOGY & PHILOSOPHY FACULTY

Head of Faculty: Mr Tim Mackenzie, tmackenzie@st-peters.school.nz

Year 12 Theology & Philosophy AS Biblical Studies

ENTRY REQUIREMENTS

40%+ in IG World Religions

Leads to

Religious Studies Scholarship
University of Waikato Ethics Course

COURSE COSTS

\$25

COURSE DESCRIPTION

Cambridge International AS Biblical Studies helps learners gain a better understanding of the religious writings, history and teachings of Christianity. As a result, they are able to think and argue intelligently about the subject, as well as gaining knowledge of biblical texts and Christian beliefs.

The syllabus covers two core areas at AS Level: **The Four Gospels**: studying gospel accounts of the life and teachings of Jesus, and **The Development of Christianity**: exploring the life and historical context of the early Church, through Bible passages and specified texts.

Year 12 Theology and Philosophy

ENTRY REQUIREMENTS	Credits	COURSE COSTS
Successful completion of Level 1 NCEA or IGCSE World Religions	24	\$25
COURSE DESCRIPTION		
<p>As an alternative to AS Biblical Studies, Year 12 students may follow a course in four NCEA Achievement Standards each worth 6 credits, each assessed internally.</p> <p>The first Year 12 NCEA standard analyzes the Biblical theme of call and its influence on such contemporary figures as Mother Teresa and Dr Martin Luther King. Students subsequently focus on the changes in the Roman Catholic Eucharistic tradition from its roots in the Passover and inception at the Last Supper to how it is celebrated today in St. Peter's College beautiful chapel.</p> <p>As a powerful way of studying World Religions, Level 2 students then consider suffering in Judaism, Christianity and Buddhism. The final standard analyzes the St. Peter's College service programme in light of the social doctrine of the Church.</p>		

END OF COMPULSORY SUBJECT OUTLINE

CAMBRIDGE AS LEVEL OPTIONAL SUBJECT OUTLINES:

STUDENTS MUST CHOOSE FOUR

ART FACULTY

Head of Faculty: Ms Nichola Barnden, nbarnden@st-peters.school.nz

AS Level – Digital Media and Graphic Design

ENTRY REQUIREMENTS

at least C in IGCSE Art

COURSE COSTS

\$20 materials

COURSE DESCRIPTION

In AS Art and Design – Graphic Design students will complete two bodies of work: coursework and exam work (coursework makes up 50% of the final mark and exam work the remaining 50%). Each component takes a thematic approach and a range of drawing processes are used to record information. Students will develop an understanding of design elements and principles and gain Illustrator and Photoshop skills. Students are required to give an individual response to a theme and develop ideas and use a range of techniques from contemporary and traditional artists. The emphasis for this year is on experimentation and exploration. All work is submitted digitally. A final work is presented at the end of both bodies of work. The final piece for the exam will be completed in a 10 hour formal examination.

AS Level – Art & Design: Painting

ENTRY REQUIREMENTS

at least C in IGCSE Art

COURSE COSTS

\$60 materials and printing fee

COURSE DESCRIPTION

In AS Art and Design – Painting students will complete two bodies of work: coursework and exam work (coursework makes up 50% of the final mark and exam work the remaining 50%). Each component takes a thematic approach and a range of drawing processes are used to record information. Students are required to give an individual response to a theme and develop ideas and use a range of techniques from contemporary and traditional artists. The emphasis for this year is on experimentation and exploration. A final work is presented at the end of both bodies of work. The final piece for the exam will be completed in a 15 hour formal examination.

AS Level – Art & Design: Photography

ENTRY REQUIREMENTS

at least C in IGCSE Art

COURSE COSTS

\$20 materials and printing fee

COURSE DESCRIPTION

In AS Art and Design - Photography students complete two bodies of work: coursework and exam work (coursework makes up 50% of the final mark and exam work the remaining 50%). Each component takes a thematic approach and a range of drawing processes are used to record information. Students will learn how to use a DSLR camera and studio lighting as well as post-production editing. Students are required to give an individual response to a theme and develop ideas and use a range of techniques from contemporary and traditional artists. The emphasis for this year is on experimentation and exploration. A final work is presented at the end of both bodies of work. The final piece for the exam will be completed in a 15 hour formal examination.

COMMERCE FACULTY

Head of Faculty: Mr Stephen Rewcastle, srewcastle@st-peters.school.nz

AS Level Economics

ENTRY REQUIREMENTS	LEADS INTO	COURSE COSTS
at least C in IGCSE Economics, Mathematics or English	A Level Economics	NIL

COURSE DESCRIPTION

Through AS Level Economics syllabus, students learn how to explain and analyse economic issues and arguments, evaluate economic information, and organise, present and communicate ideas and judgments clearly. The syllabus covers a range of basic economic ideas, including an introduction to the price system and government intervention, international trade and exchange rates, the measurement of employment and inflation, and the causes and consequences of inflation. Students also study the price system, the theory of the firm, market failure, macroeconomic theory and policy, and economic growth and development. This is a self-contained course and requires no prior knowledge, although a background in IGCSE Economics is preferable. AS Economics is open to all year 12 and 13 students who have attained satisfactory grades in Economics, Mathematics and/or English.

AS Level Accounting

ENTRY REQUIREMENTS	LEADS INTO	COURSE COSTS
at least C in IGCSE Accounting	A Level Accounting	NIL

COURSE DESCRIPTION

The AS Level Accounting syllabus builds on the IGCSE course; but it also includes Management Accounting and more problem-solving questions. The AS syllabus enables students to apply their Accounting knowledge and understanding in order to analyse and present information, give reasoned explanations, and make judgements and recommendations in a variety of modern economic and business contexts.

The AS syllabus covers the following topics:

Financial Accounting

1. The accounting cycle
2. Accounting for non-current assets
3. Reconciliation and verification
4. Preparation of financial statements
 - a. Adjustments
 - b. Sole traders
 - c. Partnerships
 - d. Limited companies
5. Analysis and communication of accounting information to stakeholders

Cost and Management Accounting

1. Costing for materials and labour
2. Traditional costing methods
 - a. Absorption costing
 - b. Marginal costing
 - c. Cost-volume-profit analysis
 - d. The application of accounting to business planning

HUMANITIES FACULTY

Head of Faculty: Mr Jakub Kalinowski, jkalinowski@st-peters.school.nz

AS Level Geography

ENTRY REQUIREMENTS

at least C in IGCSE Geography and/or English or HOF approval for students who have not taken IGCSE Geography

COURSE COSTS

Students are encouraged to purchase the course Study Guide, which covers both the AS and A Level Geography syllabus. The book can be ordered from various online retailers and costs approximately NZ\$50-60 including shipping. *Cambridge International AS and A Level Geography Revision Guide*. ISBN 9781510418387

COURSE DESCRIPTION

The Geography course aims to develop students awareness of the relevance of geographical analysis to understanding and solving contemporary human and environmental problems. The course introduces candidates to the main elements of Physical and Human Geography and the inter-relationships between these components. It encourages an understanding of the principal processes operating at different scales within Physical and Human Geography; develops candidates' sense of relative location, including an appreciation of the complexity and variety of natural and human environments; and explains the causes and effects of change over space and time on the natural and human environments. The Geography course aims to develop candidates' ability to handle and evaluate different types and sources of information; develop candidates' ability to think logically, and to present an ordered and coherent argument in a variety of ways; and to promote candidates' awareness of the need for understanding, respect and co-operation in conserving the environment and improving the quality of life both at a global scale and within the context of different cultural settings.

Topics studied are:

The Physical Environment:

Hydrology and fluvial geomorphology; Atmosphere and weather; Rocks and weathering.

The Human Environment:

Population; Migration; Settlement dynamics.

AS Level History

ENTRY REQUIREMENTS

at least C in IGCSE History and/or English

COURSE COSTS

\$10

COURSE DESCRIPTION

This course builds upon the skills and knowledge attained in the IGCSE History programme. This course is only open to Year 12 and Year 13 students. The wide-ranging scope of themes and topics allows for greater coverage of events in modern world History. The skills focus shifts towards essay writing and a more comprehensive source-based question. A focus on 19th century European history – particularly themes relating to revolutions, nationalism and liberalism – underpin the A.S. History programme.

The exams are separated into a separate source-based paper (Paper 1) and a theme-based (Paper 2) exam.

Topics taught include:

- The French Revolution, 1789-1814
- The Industrial Revolution in Britain, 1750-1850
- Liberalism and Nationalism in Germany, 1815-71
- The Russian Revolutions, 1894-1921

AS Level Classical Studies

ENTRY REQUIREMENTS

Year 11 Classics, or at least a 'C' grade in IGCSE History and/or English

COURSE COSTS

\$10

COURSE DESCRIPTION

In the AS Classical Studies course, students will have a more in-depth examination of two topics – one from the context of Ancient Greece, the other from Ancient Rome. The assessment style of this syllabus – one essay based on passage interpretation, and a choice of two general essay questions - is intended to marry to the assessment style of the A-level course.

The nature of this course also builds upon the content and skills learned in Year 11 Classical Studies, although students who have not taking it are in no way disadvantaged. The content areas of our chosen topics will focus on history and literature – both which provide easy avenues for combining a rich and diverse database of evidence with significant socio-cultural analyses. The skills focus in AS Classics is heavy on the creation of fluid, precise and clear essays that are rich in evidence and critical analysis. Students will come out of the course being confident in their ability to write well, even if they begin the course with no skill in the area.

The topics taught are:

- Alexander the Great (Greek)
- Virgil's Aeneid (Roman)

LANGUAGES FACULTY

Head of Faculty: Ms Bingmei Zhang, bzhang@st-peters.school.nz

AS Level Chinese - AS and/or VUW

ENTRY REQUIREMENTS

At least E in IGCSE Chinese

COURSE COSTS

\$23 (+GST) Education Perfect Subscription

VUW online Star program (optional)

COURSE DESCRIPTION

This is an 18-month course that begins in the middle of Year 12, following the completion of the IGCSE exams in June. Candidates will sit for the exam at the end of Year 13. The AS Chinese (8238) course helps candidates further develop a range of transferable skills for understanding and communicating in everyday situations in Chinese, while also using the language with increasing sophistication. Students will continue to enhance their cultural awareness and acquire the essential linguistic skills necessary for progression to further studies or employment.

Candidates are assessed on four components: Listening (25%), Reading (25%), Writing (25%), and Speaking (25%).

Students also have the opportunity to enrol in the VUW online course (Terms 1 and 2 Star program), which is worth 20 university credits that are internationally transferable for a future bachelor's degree.

AS Level Spanish

ENTRY REQUIREMENTS

At least C in IGCSE Spanish

COURSE COSTS

\$23 (+ GST) Education Perfect Subscription

Successful students in AS Spanish are able to understand complex and sophisticated texts about a wide variety world issue. They are able to discuss these at length, expressing ideas and justifying their points of view. They are able to write extended essays defending a point of view.

There is a new paper starting next year: **Spanish - Language (AS Level only) (8022).**

There are 4 exam papers: Listening, reading, writing and speaking. Each paper is 25% of the final grade.

Students are also given the opportunity to sit the VUW online course (1st Semester Star program) which is worth 20 university credits for a bachelor's degree.

MATHEMATICS FACULTY

Head of Faculty: Mr Matt Bindon, mbindon@st-peters.school.nz

AS Level Mathematics

ENTRY REQUIREMENTS

at least 70% in IGCSE Mathematics

COURSE COSTS

NIL

COURSE DESCRIPTION

This course is made up of two Papers: Pure Mathematics 1 and Statistics 1. Pure Mathematics 1 consists of the following topics: coordinate geometry, surds and indices, functions and graphs, quadratics, inequalities, differentiation, applications of differentiation, sequences, trigonometry, and integration. Statistics 1 has the following topics: representation of data, measures of location and spread, probability, probability distributions, binomial distributions, geometric distribution, expectation and variance of random variables and normal distribution.

Pure Mathematics 1 is worth 75 marks (60% of total mark) and has an exam of length 1 hour and 50 minutes. Statistics 1 is worth 50 marks (40% of total mark) with an exam length of 75 minutes.

MUSIC FACULTY

Head of Faculty: Mr Antun Poljanich, apoljanich@st-peters.school.nz

A Level Music

ENTRY REQUIREMENTS

C grade in AS Music / Equivalent entry test

COURSE COSTS

NIL

COURSE DESCRIPTION

Students choose **two** of the **following three** options below.

1. Extended Performance: 15-20 minute performance on a single instrument plus a 1000-1500 word research report analyzing the music, comparing performances of the piece and discussing various performance and issues arising through practice.
2. Extended Composition: Single composition 6-8 minutes plus 1000-1500 word research report on relevant composers and styles and their impact on the composition, explaining the context and purpose of composition and providing an account of technical and creative decisions made.
3. Investigating Music:
 - a) 2500-3000 words on music topic such as repertoire of instrument, national characteristics, a genre, composer/performer etc.
 - b) 500 words reflective statement on process of research and listening.

PHYSICAL EDUCATION FACULTY

Head of Faculty: Mr Kieran Machin, kmachin@st-peters.school.nz

AS Level Sport and Physical Education

Entry Requirements

at least C in IGCSE Physical Education

COURSE COSTS

Textbook and course-related costs \$120

COURSE DESCRIPTION

AS Sport and Physical Education consists of 2 components:

1. 50% of the course is made up of a written paper to be assessed externally in a 1hr 45 minutes examination. It will consist of a range of different topics including anatomy, biomechanics, exercise physiology, sociocultural issues, skill acquisition, and performance in physical activity.
2. The remaining 50% of the coursework students will follow a minimum of 2 activities offered. Practical assessments will take place in conditioned competitive situations and grades will be internally and externally moderated.

SCIENCE FACULTY

Head of Biology: Ms Lynne Dell, ldell@st-peters.school.nz

Head of Chemistry: Dr Andrew Rogers, arogers@st-peters.school.nz

Head of Physics: Mr Peter Harris, pharris@st-peters.school.nz

AS Level Biology

ENTRY REQUIREMENTS

A*, A or B in IGCSE Biology recommended
C Grade entry requiring interview with HOF

COURSE COSTS

\$25 for practical manual resources

COURSE DESCRIPTION

AS Biology is a single award course which builds on knowledge and skills developed in IGCSE Biology. The course is assessed by 3 papers sat in October and November including 2 theory papers and an advanced practical skills paper.

AS Level Chemistry

ENTRY REQUIREMENTS

A or B in IGCSE Chemistry (on rare occasions, a high C will be allowed after discussion with HOF)

COURSE COSTS

Course Manual \$30

COURSE DESCRIPTION

AS Chemistry is a single award course which builds on knowledge and skills developed in IGCSE Chemistry. The course is assessed by 3 papers sat in October and November including 2 theory papers and an advanced practical skills paper.

AS Level Physics

ENTRY REQUIREMENTS

A*, A or B in IGCSE Physics, plus A*, A or B in IGCSE Mathematics, this will be strictly enforced

COURSE COSTS

\$25 for resources

COURSE DESCRIPTION

AS Physics is a single award course which builds on knowledge and skills developed in IGCSE Physics. The course is assessed by three papers sat in October and November including two theory papers and an advanced practical skills examination.

TECHNOLOGY FACULTY

Head of Faculty: Mr Jonathan Bay, jbay@st-peters.school.nz

AS Level Design & Technology (Product Design)

ENTRY REQUIREMENTS

Prior knowledge gained in Design & Technology/at least a "C" pass at IGCSE

COURSE COSTS

\$140

COURSE DESCRIPTION

AS Level Consists of two parts:

Part 01: Students undergo a Product Improvement project; this is weighted at 50% of the overall grade. Students identify an existing product on which they will base their improvement project. Students then create a coursework portfolio containing detailed research and analysis of the existing product and how that product could be improved in terms of function, ergonomics, safety or sustainability. They must identify a series of problems or opportunities for improvement through the analysis and focus on one of these areas to improve the design of the product. This component has been designed to be flexible so that students can choose an existing product that reflects the area of design and technology that appeals to them.

Part 02: This is a written paper weighted at 50% of the overall grade completed during end of the year examinations. The paper is completed in 2 hours 15 minutes, split into 3 sections:

- structured questions (76 Marks)
- one design modification question (12 Marks)
- one extended response question on the wider issues in design technology (12 Marks)

Note: The AS grade contributes 50% of the A grade.

AS LEVEL COURSE PLANNER FOR:

Name: _____

AS LEVEL COMPULSORY SUBJECTS	
Subject 1	Theology & Philosophy
Subject 2	English
AS LEVEL OPTIONAL SUBJECTS	
Subject 1	
Subject 2	
Subject 3	
Subject 4	