

Cambridge IGCSE

Last updated

14 August 2017

Last verified

14 August 2017

Countries

- International
- UK (independent schools)

Purpose

To provide a qualification recognised by universities and colleges worldwide, which can support progression internationally.

To enable a curriculum which includes internationally relevant content and use of local contexts.

In order to facilitate and standardise assessment in many countries, the qualification does not require controlled assessment and has a linear structure with terminal assessment.

Cambridge IGCSEs are subject-based, and are usually taken over a two year period with assessment at the end of the course.

Education context

Cambridge IGCSEs have been available for use internationally since 1985, with the first exam taken in 1988. They are now the world's most popular international qualification for 14 to 16 year olds.

Cambridge IGCSEs are taught by over 5,500 schools in over 140 countries.

In England they are not funded for use in state schools and do not contribute to Performance Measures.

As an interim measure, they contributed to Performance Measures in England in 2013.

They are used as an alternative to GCSEs in the UK, where Cambridge IGCSE is taught by over 2,600 schools which made over 285,000 entries in June 2015 (of which approximately 18% are independent).

Cambridge IGCSEs are separate from Level 1/Level 2 Certificates; UCAS has published a QIP for these qualifications at <https://qips.ucas.com/qip/level-1-level-2-certificates>.

Awarding organisation

- Cambridge International Examinations

Structure

Cambridge IGCSEs are not regulated by Ofqual in the same way as GCSE qualifications.

Syllabus code numbers are assigned to each Cambridge subject and qualification and for Cambridge IGCSE, these take the format of four digits beginning with 0.

Syllabus code numbers can be found at www.cie.org.uk/programmes-and-qualifications/cambridge-secondary-2/cambridge-igcse/subjects.

Cambridge IGCSEs are characterised by a linear structure with terminal assessment.

Subject areas

- Languages
- Mathematics
- Science
- Humanities
- Creative, technical, and vocational

Levels

Cambridge IGCSEs are comparable to Levels 1 and 2 of the Regulatory Frameworks in England, Wales, and Northern Ireland.

Grading

Cambridge IGCSEs are graded A* – G.

Cambridge IGCSEs at Level 1 are graded G – D

Cambridge IGCSEs at Level 2 are graded C – A*

Assessment

Cambridge IGCSE subject syllabuses are examined at the end of the two-year programme of study, and can include written, oral, coursework, and practical assessment.

Contribution of assessment components to overall grade

Subjects are externally assessed, using appropriate assessment methods.

Within the overall grade, the contribution of components varies between subjects.

For example:

Cambridge IGCSE Biology is externally assessed, with 20% of the total marks allocated to practical skills as either coursework, a practical test, or an alternative to practical paper.

Cambridge IGCSE French is assessed with equal weightings of the total marks allocated to the four skills of listening, reading, speaking, and writing.

All assessment components are entered in a single examination series. If coursework is included in the assessment, it can be completed while doing the course but will not be moderated or externally assessed until the end of the two-year course.

Resit arrangements

The full qualifications can be retaken at the November, May and March (India only) assessment opportunities.

Guided/notional learning hours notes

There is no stated qualification size, but it generally takes 120 guided learning hours to complete a course in one subject.

Key issues for UK HE admissions

Higher education providers can expect to receive applications from overseas students holding Cambridge IGCSEs.

Higher education providers can also expect to receive applications from UK students holding Cambridge IGCSEs; these are most likely to be from the independent sector.

Cambridge IGCSEs are graded A* – G. From 2017 HEPs will need to consider the differences between GCSE qualifications in England graded 9 – 1 (a nine point scale) and those graded A* – G (an eight point model).

Timing of assessments/results for learners

Results are released in mid-January for November sessions.

Results are released in mid-August for May sessions.

Results are released in May for the March session (India only).

Qualification dates notes

This qualification is current.

Reporting and certification information

Final certificates are released approximately two months after results are released.

Progression information

Sufficient Level 2 achievement in Cambridge IGCSEs enables progression to Level 3.

There will be progression to International A levels, UK A levels, or other Level 3 qualifications.

Cambridge IGCSEs enable international progression and are accepted by universities and employers worldwide.

Further information

Further information on Cambridge IGCSEs can be found at www.cie.org.uk/programmes-and-qualifications/cambridge-secondary-2/camb...

Cambridge International A and AS level

Last updated

27 June 2018

Last verified

27 June 2018

Country

- International

Purpose

To provide an advanced qualification recognised worldwide, which can support progression to higher education internationally.

Education context

The Cambridge International A and AS level have been available internationally for more than 50 years, and offered in their current format for over 15 years.

Taught by over **2,500** schools in **130** countries.

Awarding organisation

- Cambridge International Examinations

Structure

The qualifications are not regulated by Ofqual, and do not appear on the Register of Regulated Qualifications.

There are two options for learners:

1. Learners take the Cambridge International AS level in Year 1, and in Year 2 complete the Cambridge International A level.
2. Learners take all papers of the Cambridge International A level course in the same examination series, usually at the end of the second year of study.

Subject areas

- 9706 - Accounting
- 9679 - Afrikaans
- 9713 - Applied Information and Communication Technology
- 9680 - Arabic
- 9704 - Art and Design
- 9700 - Biology

- 9609 - Business
- 9701 - Chemistry
- 8681 - (AS level), 9715 (A level) - Chinese
- 9274 - Classical Studies
- 9608 - Computer Science
- 9705 - Design and Technology
- 9631 - Design and Textiles
- 9011 - Divinity
- 9708 - Economics
- 9093 - English Language
- 9695 - English Literature
- 8291 - Environmental Management (AS level only)
- 9336 - Food Studies
- 8682 (AS level), 9716 (A level) – French Language
- 8670 - French Literature (AS level only)
- 8004 - General Paper (AS level only)
- 9696 - Geography
- 8683 - (AS level), 9717 (A level) - German
- 9239 - Global Perspectives and Research
- 8687 - (AS level), 9687 (A level) - Hindi Language
- 8675 - Hindi Literature (AS level only)
- 9014 - Hinduism
- 9389 - History
- 9626 - Information Technology
- 8053 - (AS level), 9013 (A level) - Islamic Studies
- 8281 - Japanese Language (AS level only)
- 9084 - Law
- 9693 - Marine Science
- 9709 - Mathematics
- 9231 - Mathematics (Further)

- 9607 - Media Studies
- 9703 - Music
- 8024 - Nepal Studies (AS level only)
- 9396 - Physical Education
- 8780 - Physical Science
- 9702 - Physics
- 8684 - (AS level), 9718 (A level) – Portuguese Language
- 8672 - Portuguese Literature (AS level only)
- 9698 - Psychology
- 9699 - Sociology
- 8685 - (AS level), 9719 (A level) - Spanish Language
- 8673 - Spanish Literature (AS level only)
- 9689 - Tamil
- 9694 - Thinking Skills
- 9395 - Travel and Tourism
- 8686 - (AS level), 9676 (A level) - Urdu
- 9686 - Urdu, Pakistan only

Levels

- Level 3

Comparable to Level 3 of the Regulatory Frameworks in England, Wales, and Northern Ireland.

Grading

Cambridge International AS level is graded A – E.

Cambridge International A level is graded A* – E.

Assessment

Cambridge International A level is typically a two-year course, and Cambridge International AS level is typically one year.

Students can choose to:

- take a ‘staged’ assessment route – take the Cambridge International AS level in one examination series and complete the final Cambridge International A level in a subsequent series; achievement in the AS level contributes to the final A level grade

- take all assessments of the Cambridge International A level in the same examination session, usually at the end of the course

Contribution of assessment components to overall grade

Subjects are externally assessed, using appropriate assessment methods.

Within the overall grade, the contribution of components varies between subjects. See the syllabus for details.

For example, for the Cambridge International AS level Sciences, candidates are required to carry out practical work in timed conditions. This assessment consists of two or three experiments drawn from different areas of the AS level syllabus. It comprises 11.5% of the overall grade. In addition, for the A2 candidates sit an examination based on the practical skills of planning, analysis and evaluation.

Resit arrangements

The full qualifications can be retaken at the next available opportunity.

Guided/notional learning hours notes

Number of hours:

Cambridge International AS level = 180 hours.

Cambridge International A level = 360 hours.

Key issues for UK HE admissions

Higher education providers can expect to receive applications from overseas students holding Cambridge International AS & A levels.

Higher education providers can also expect to receive applications from UK students holding Cambridge International AS & A levels, typically from the independent sector, some state schools, and crown dependency countries, e.g. the Isle of Man and Channel Islands.

UK NARIC has carried out an independent benchmarking of Cambridge International AS & A levels, and found them comparable to the standard of UK AS and A level.

Learners use Cambridge International AS & A levels to gain places at universities worldwide including:

- UK
- USA
- Australia
- Canada
- Egypt
- Germany

- India
- Ireland
- Jordan
- The Netherlands
- New Zealand
- Singapore
- South Africa
- Spain

Timing of assessments/results for learners

Results are released in mid-January for November sessions.

Results are released in mid-August for June sessions.

Results are released in June for the March session (India only).

Qualification dates notes

This qualification is current.

Reporting and certification information

Cambridge publishes annual certification information on its website at: www.cie.org.uk/programmes-and-qualifications/cambridge-advanced/cambridge-international-as-and-a-levels/results-statistics/

Cambridge also provides certification information to UCAS and individual institutions worldwide.

Progression information

Students can generally expect their grades to be accepted as comparable, grade for grade, to UK AS and A level grades by universities worldwide.

Further information

Further information is available as follows:

Cambridge International AS & A level: www.cie.org.uk/programmes-and-qualifications/cambridge-advanced/cambridge-international-as-and-a-levels/

Cambridge International AS & A level syllabuses: www.cie.org.uk/programmes-and-qualifications/cambridge-advanced/cambridge-international-as-and-a-levels/subjects/

Cambridge International AS & A level recognition and acceptance: www.cambridgeinternational.org/programmes-and-qualifications/recognition...

Cambridge International AS & A level factsheet – a guide for universities: www.cie.org.uk/images/255120-cambridge-international-as-and-a-level-factsheet-english.pdf

Cambridge International AS & A Level Global Perspectives & Research (9239)

Last updated

4 January 2019

Last verified

4 January 2019

Country

- International

Purpose

Cambridge International AS & A Level Global Perspectives & Research prepares students for positive engagement with our rapidly changing world.

Education context

Students broaden their outlook through the critical analysis of - and reflection on - issues of global significance. The Cambridge International AS & A Level Global Perspectives & Research syllabus is based on skills rather than on specific content. Students develop research, thinking, reasoning and communication skills by following an approach to analysing and evaluating arguments and perspectives called the Critical Path. Collaborative skills are enhanced through participation in a team project whilst research, analysis and evaluation skills are developed through the 5000 word Cambridge Research Report (A Level only). The skills gained through study of Cambridge International AS & A Level Global Perspectives & Research enable students to meet the demands of 21st Century learning and to make a successful transition to study in higher education.

UK NARIC has reviewed Cambridge International A Level Global Perspectives & Research and found that it is of a comparable level to study at GCE A Level standard in the UK, with the Cambridge International AS Level comparable to the GCE AS Level standard, and that it develops skills that are particularly relevant in preparing students for higher education study internationally. The [executive summary](#) of the UK NARIC report can be found [here](#).

Awarding organisation

- Cambridge Assessment International Education

Structure

Students complete a series of assessments over a year (for AS) or two years (for A Level) including a written examination, essay and team project. Those students completing the full A Level will also undertake the Cambridge Research Report – an extended independent research report not exceeding 5000 words.

Subject areas

9239 – Global Perspectives & Research

The Cambridge International AS & A Level Global Perspectives & Research syllabus is based on skills rather than on specific content. Students develop research, thinking, reasoning and communication skills by following an approach to analysing and evaluating arguments and perspectives called the Critical Path. Collaborative skills are enhanced through participation in a team project.

Levels

- Level 3

Comparable to Level 3 of the Regulatory Frameworks in England, Northern Ireland, and Wales.

Level 3 is broadly aligned to the Scottish Credit and Qualifications Framework (SCQF) Level 6 / 7.

Grading

Cambridge International AS is graded A – E.

Cambridge International A Level is graded A* – E.

Assessment

Cambridge International Global Perspectives & Research A Level is typically a two-year course, and Cambridge International Global Perspectives & Research AS Level is typically one year.

Students can choose to:

- take a standalone AS Level qualification (The syllabus content for Cambridge International AS Level is half of a Cambridge International A Level programme.)
- take a ‘staged’ assessment route – take the Cambridge International AS Level in one examination series and complete the final Cambridge International A Level in a subsequent series; achievement in the AS Level contributes to the final A Level grade
- Students take all papers of the Cambridge International A Level course in the same examination series, usually at the end of the second year of study.

Component	AS Level Weighting	A Level Weighting
1 – Written Examination	30%	15%
2 – Essay	35%	17.5%
3 – Team Project	35%	17.5%
4 – Cambridge Research Report	-	50%

Contribution of assessment components to overall grade

For Cambridge International AS Global Perspectives & Research, candidates take three compulsory components: Written Examination; Essay; Team Project. All three components are externally assessed.

For Cambridge International A Level Global Perspectives & Research, candidates take four compulsory components: Written Examination; Essay; Team Project; Cambridge Research Report. Components 1 to 3 are externally assessed and Component 4 is internally assessed and externally moderated.

Resit arrangements

The full qualifications can be retaken at the next available opportunity.

Guided/notional learning hours notes

The syllabuses are designed around 180 guided learning hours for Cambridge International AS, and around 360 guided learning hours for Cambridge International A Level.

Key issues for UK HE admissions

HEPs can expect to receive applications from overseas students holding Cambridge International AS & A Level Global Perspectives & Research alongside a suite of other Cambridge International AS & A Level subjects. HEPs are encouraged to accept the full Cambridge International A Level as one of the three subjects required for entry.

HEPs can also expect to receive applications from UK students holding Cambridge International AS & A Level Global Perspectives & Research, typically from the independent sector, some state schools, and crown dependencies, e.g. the Isle of Man and Channel Islands.

UK NARIC has carried out an independent benchmarking of Cambridge International AS & A Levels, and found them comparable to the standard of UK AS and A Level.

Students have used Cambridge International AS & A Levels to gain places at universities worldwide including:

- UK
- USA
- Australia
- Canada
- Egypt
- Germany
- India
- Ireland
- Jordan
- The Netherlands

- New Zealand
- Singapore
- South Africa
- Spain

Timing of assessments/results for learners

- Results are released in mid-January for November exam series.
- Results are released in mid-August for June exam series.
- Results are released in June for the March exam series (India only).

Qualification dates notes

This qualification is current.

Reporting and certification information

Cambridge International publishes annual certification information on its website at:

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

Cambridge International also provides certification information to UCAS and individual institutions worldwide.

Progression information

Students can generally expect their grades to be considered as part of a wider suite of Cambridge International AS/A Levels for progression to Higher Education.

Further information

Further information can be found at:

<https://www.cambridgeinternational.org/programmes-and-qualifications/cambridge-international-as-and-a-level-global-perspectives-and-research-9239/>

Cambridge International AS level

Last updated

16 August 2024

Last verified

16 August 2024

Country

- International

Purpose

To provide an advanced qualification recognised worldwide, which can support progression to higher education internationally.

Education context

The Cambridge International AS level has been available internationally in its current format for over 20 years.

Taught by over **2,500** schools in **130** countries, with more than 500,000 exams annually.

Cambridge International AS Levels are particularly prevalent in countries that have a 12 (secondary) + 4 (post-secondary) year education system. The U.S. accounts for more than 45% of all Cambridge AS Level exams taken in the world.

Awarding organisation

- Cambridge International Examinations

Structure

The qualifications are not regulated by Ofqual, and does not appear on the Register of Regulated Qualifications.

For AS level: Cambridge offers only a linear structure of assessment, with terminal exams offered at the end of the course.

There are two options for learners:

1. Learners take the Cambridge International AS level only.
2. Learners take the Cambridge International AS level in Year 1, and in Year 2 complete the Cambridge International A level.

Subject areas

- 9706 - Accounting
- 9679 – Afrikaans
- 9713 - Applied Information and Communication Technology

- 9680 - Arabic
- 9704 - Art and Design
- 9700 - Biology
- 9609 - Business
- 9701 - Chemistry
- 8681 (AS level), 9715 (A level) - Chinese
- 9274 - Classical Studies
- 9608 - Computer Science
- 9705 - Design and Technology
- 9631 - Design and Textiles
- 9011 - Divinity
- 9708 - Economics
- 9093 - English Language
- 9695 - English Literature
- 8291 - Environmental Management (AS level only)
- 9336 - Food Studies
- 8682 (AS level), 9716 (A level) – French Language
- 8670 - French Literature (AS level only)
- 8004 - General Paper (AS level only)
- 9696 - Geography
- 8683 (AS level), 9717 (A level) - German
- 9239 - Global Perspectives and Research
- 8687 (AS level), 9687 (A level) - Hindi Language
- 8675 - Hindi Literature (AS level only)
- 9014 - Hinduism
- 9389 - History
- 9626 - Information Technology
- 8053 (AS level), 9013 (A level) - Islamic Studies
- 8281 - Japanese Language (AS level only)
- 9084 - Law

- 9693 - Marine Science
- 9709 - Mathematics
- 9231 - Mathematics (Further)
- 9607 - Media Studies
- 9703 - Music
- 8024 - Nepal Studies (AS level only)
- 9396 - Physical Education
- 8780 - Physical Science
- 9702 - Physics
- 8684 (AS level), 9718 (A level) – Portuguese Language
- 8672 - Portuguese Literature (AS level only)
- 9698 - Psychology
- 9699 - Sociology
- 8685 (AS level), 9719 (A level) - Spanish Language
- 8673 - Spanish Literature (AS level only)
- 9689 - Tamil
- 9694 - Thinking Skills
- 9395 - Travel and Tourism
- 8686 (AS level), 9676 (A level) - Urdu
- 9686 - Urdu, Pakistan only

Levels

- Level 3

Comparable to Level 3 of the Regulatory Frameworks in England, Wales and Northern Ireland.

Grading

Cambridge International AS level is graded A – E. If a student does not pass the exam, they are awarded a U, ungraded.

Assessment

Cambridge International AS level is typically one year.

Students can choose to:

- take the Cambridge International AS level as a certified qualification or
- proceed to the A level. AS level assessment can count 50% towards the A level grade.

The syllabus content covers the first half of the two-year Cambridge International A level.

Contribution of assessment components to overall grade

Subjects are externally assessed, using appropriate assessment methods.

Within the overall grade, the contribution of components varies between subjects. See the syllabus for details

For example, for Cambridge International AS level Sciences, candidates are required to carry out practical work in timed conditions. This assessment consists of two or three experiments drawn from different areas of the AS level syllabus. This accounts for 23% of the overall grade.

Resit arrangements

The full qualification can be retaken at the next available opportunity.

Guided/notional learning hours notes

Cambridge International AS level = 180 hours.

Key issues for UK HE admissions

Higher education providers can expect to receive applications from overseas students holding Cambridge International AS levels.

Higher education providers can also expect to receive applications from the UK, from students holding Cambridge International AS level, typically from the independent sector, some state schools, and crown dependency countries, e.g. the Isle of Man and Channel Islands.

UK NARIC has carried out an independent benchmarking of Cambridge International AS level and found it comparable to the standard of UK AS level. Other international credential evaluators, like the American Council on Education (ACE), recommend Cambridge AS Level grades of E or higher for college credit.

Learners use Cambridge International AS & A levels to gain places at universities worldwide including:

- UK
- USA
- Canada
- Australia
- New Zealand
- India
- Singapore

- Egypt
- Jordan
- South Africa
- The Netherlands
- Ireland
- Germany
- Spain

Timing of assessments/results for learners

Results are released in mid-January for November sessions.

Results are released in mid-August for June sessions.

Results are released in June for the March session (India only).

Qualification dates notes

This qualification is current.

Reporting and certification information

Cambridge publishes annual certification information on its website at: [Cambridge International AS and A Level results statistics](#)

It also submits certification information to UCAS and individual institutions worldwide.

Progression information

Students can generally expect their grades to be accepted as comparable, grade for grade, to UK AS level grades by universities worldwide.

Further information

Further information is available as follows:

Cambridge International AS & A level: [Cambridge International AS & A Levels](#)

Cambridge International AS & A level syllabuses [Cambridge International AS & A Level subjects](#)

Cambridge International AS & A level recognition and acceptance: www.cambridgeinternational.org/programmes-and-qualifications/recognition...

Cambridge International AS & A level factsheet – a guide for universities: www.cie.org.uk/images/255120-cambridge-international-as-and-a-level-factsheet-english.pdf

Cambridge International Project Qualification

Last updated

4 January 2019

Last verified

4 January 2019

Country

- International

Purpose

To provide an advanced project-based qualification which can support progression to higher education internationally.

Education context

Available internationally from 2019 onwards.

The Cambridge International Project Qualification (IPQ) complements Cambridge International A & AS Levels which have been available internationally for more than 50 years.

The Cambridge IPQ can be seen as broadly comparable to the domestic Extended Project Qualification (EPQ).

Awarding organisation

- Cambridge Assessment International Education

Structure

Students complete a 5000-word research project on a topic of their own choice. They can choose a subject to complement one of their Cambridge International AS or A Levels, or a topic that they are passionate about. They devise and develop a research question, conduct research to answer this question, record their progress in a research log and write a research report.

Subject areas

This is a skills-based subject and the syllabus has no indicative content.

Levels

- Level 3

Comparable to Level 3 of the Regulatory Frameworks in England, Northern Ireland, and Wales.

Level 3 is broadly aligned to the Scottish Credit and Qualifications Framework (SCQF) Level 6 / 7.

Grading

Students will be eligible for grades A* – E.

Assessment

Cambridge IPQ is a single component that is externally assessed (all projects are marked by Cambridge examiners). Candidates complete a research project on a topic of their own choice. The research report must not exceed 5000 words.

The assessment objectives (AOs) are:

- AO1: Research, analysis and evaluation. (70%)
- AO2: Reflection. (15%)
- AO3: Communication. (15%)

Contribution of assessment components to overall grade

Cambridge IPQ is a single component.

Resit arrangements

Candidates can retake the Cambridge IPQ as many times as they want, but they must present new work each time they enter.

Guided/notional learning hours notes

The syllabus is designed around 120 guided learning hours.

Key issues for UK HE admissions

- HEPs can expect to receive applications from overseas students holding the Cambridge IPQ in addition to Cambridge International A Levels.
- HEPs are not expected to receive applications from UK students holding the Cambridge IPQ.
- HEPs may consider the IPQ in a similar way to the domestic EPQ (e.g. for alternative offers).

Timing of assessments/results for learners

Results are released in mid-January for November exam series.

Results are released in mid-August for June exam series.

Results are released in June for the March exam series (India only).

Qualification dates notes

First teaching for the Cambridge IPQ is from June 2019 onwards with first assessment in June 2020.

Reporting and certification information

Cambridge International publishes annual certification information on its website at:

<https://www.cambridgeinternational.org/programmes-and-qualifications/cambridge-advanced/cambridge-ipq/>

Cambridge International also provides certification information to UCAS and individual institutions worldwide.

Progression information

Students can generally expect their grades to be considered as part of a wider suite of Cambridge International AS & A Levels for progression to Higher Education.

Further information

Further information can be found at:

<https://www.cambridgeinternational.org/programmes-and-qualifications/cambridge-advanced/cambridge-ipq/>

LRN International AS and A Level

Last updated

10 September 2021

Country

- International

Purpose

The LRN International AS & A Level is designed to enable international candidates to demonstrate their ability, in both practical and theoretical terms across a range of subjects.

Education context

Learning Resource Network (LRN) is an Ofqual regulated Awarding Organisation that offers a range of qualifications to candidates, educational institutes, training providers, schools and employers. LRN is recognised for its high quality qualifications that enable candidates to progress to other areas of study and employment in their designated fields. In producing its qualifications, LRN uses the experience and expertise of academics, professionals working in the pertinent industries and assessment practitioners with a wealth of best practice and knowledge of validation, verification, delivery and assessment.

Awarding organisation

- Learning Resource Network

Qualification code

[603/7692/2](#)

Structure

This qualification has been constructed to be delivered within centres. Centres will need to demonstrate to LRN, through the centre recognition processes, that they have the resources, facilities and competence to deliver through either method. However, centres must be able to demonstrate, in line with LRN's criteria, that they have the means, capability, capacity and resources (including suitably qualified centre staff) to deliver by the method chosen by the centre.

Subject areas

- English language
- Mathematics
- Biology
- Chemistry
- Physics

- Sociology
- Law
- Business
- Accounting
- Economics

Levels

- Level 3

Grading

The LRN International A Level will be graded on a six-point scale: A*, A, B, C, D and E and LRN International AS Level will be graded on a five-point scale: A, B, C, D and E Candidates who fail to reach the minimum standard for grade E will be recorded as U (unclassified) and will not receive a qualification certificate.

Assessment

Depending on the subject being taken, assessment may be based on written examination, oral examination or practical demonstration of skills.

Resit arrangements

Candidates can re-take each paper as often as they wish, within the shelf-life of the specification.

Guided/notional learning hours

180 GLH for AS Level: **360 hours**

LRN International Extended Project Qualification

Last updated

14 October 2024

Countries

Purpose

This LRN Extended Project Qualification directs educators to:-
Support students personal aspirations for higher education and employment and to provide these learners with the opportunity to develop their knowledge, understanding and skills in the following:-

- Project management and how planning and implementation phases are co-ordinated.
- Planning and carry out independent research in order to be able to select appropriate information and analyse the data resourced.
- Developing and realizing their chosen project; including problem solving, decision making and record keeping.
- Reviewing, evaluating and drawing conclusions of their project.
- Presenting their findings.

Education context

The LRN Examination Board's Extended Project Qualification (EPQ) is an academic program designed to encourage independent research, critical thinking, and project management skills among high school students (16-19 year old`s). It is specifically committed to providing an introductory experience in project-based learning, particularly for students who have not previously had the opportunity to engage with these type of learning methods.

The EPQ allows learners to explore a chosen topic of personal interest , promoting intellectual curiosity with a hands-on approach to learning. Students are given the freedom to choose their own subject matter, often extending beyond their usual curriculum thus making the EPQ a unique opportunity to develop specialized knowledge while maintaining the rigor and depth needed for a meaningful project exploration. Through the process students will gain essential skills in planning, research, analysis, realisation, evaluation and presentation, which are undoubtedly invaluable for both further studies and future careers. The structure of the LRN EPQ ensures that students will focus on key learning outcomes, which allows for creativity, innovation, critical thinking, exploration and of course fostering a sense of ownership over their learning. The LRN EPQ will help students to become more self-directed and motivated learners,

providing a perfect platform for those new to project-based work. The EPQ final outcome culminates in the creation of either a well written academic thesis/dissertation or a substantial research report/paper, or a creative artistic expression, all being complimented with a formal presentation.

Through the LRN EPQ, students will not only deepen their academic expertise but will not only build the skills needed to succeed in university-level studies but beyond in their professional lives. It is an ideal programme for learners seeking their first experience in independent project work, by offering a valuable stepping stone, into a more advanced academic and professional learning environment.

Awarding organisation

- Learning Resource Network

Structure

Project Option 1: Disquisition Project

The Student focuses on the creation of a written document which involves deep research, critical analysis, critical thinking and problem solving. Students are expected to explore a particular topic developing either a coherent argument or the use of extensive creativity and imagination. The project should demonstrate the ability to develop a logical thought process from beginning to end. Students should write in a good academic structured and formal manner.

Project Option 2: Exploration Project

Students will conduct practical research through investigation, field study, experimental work or research topic. The focus is on gathering and analyzing primary data to address a specific research question. Students will apply scientific or investigatory methods to collect evidence and interpret results, demonstrating a hands-on approach to inquiry and problem-solving.

Project Option 3: Artistic Project

Students will explore a creative art and design process through practical, experimentation and artistic development. The focus is on conceptualizing and creating own original works based on specific art and design challenges or themes. Students will apply principles and techniques to develop visual solutions, using various mediums / media and tools to bring their ideas to life. They will also engage in problem solving, realisation, critical reflection and evaluation.

Levels

- Level 3

Grading

A* to E.

Assessment

The assessment objectives are based on the key stages of the project process of:-

AO1: Manage, Process and Procedure

Identify, design, plan and manage the chosen project by applying a range of skills, strategies, processes that meet the stated objectives made.

AO2: Investigate, Research and use Resources

Research, obtain, select and organise information from a range of sources, analyse data, apply relevantly and demonstrate understanding of any links, connections and complexities of the chosen topic or theme or investigation / research question.

AO3: Develop and Realisation

Select and use a range of skills, including, where appropriate, new technologies, to solve problems, to make decisions, critical thinking, creatively, innovation and with some flexibility to achieve and deliver planned outcomes that fulfill the requirements of the chosen project.

AO4: Review and Evaluation

Review and evaluate all aspects of the chosen project including evaluating the outcomes and own learning and performance. In addition to this, to be able to select and use a range of communication and media skills to convey and present outcomes and conclusions.

Resit arrangements

Students may retake this project, but they cannot use their previous work as is; they can either

1. Submit a completely new project

or

2. Modify and enhance the existing project within the same topic and start afresh.

If that's the case, the AO1 and AO2 marks will be locked in, and the enhanced project will only be reassessed for AO3 and AO4.

Guided/notional learning hours notes

120 TQT made up of: 30 hours taught element; 5 hours supervisor meetings; 75 hours independent learning and self-study; 10 hours presentation preparation.

Qualification dates notes

Student entries for the LRN EPQ are available three times a year. These are:-

- January Submission Deadline: January 15

Global Qualification Information Profiles (QIPS)



- June Submission Deadline: June 15
- October Submission Deadline: October 15

LRN International GCSE

Last updated

10 September 2021

Country

- International

Purpose

The LRN International GCSE is designed to enable international candidates to demonstrate their ability in the subject being studied.

Education context

This qualification has been constructed to be delivered within centres. Centres will need to demonstrate to LRN, through the centre recognition processes, that they have the resources, facilities and competence to deliver through either method. However, centres must be able to demonstrate, in line with LRN's criteria, that they have the means, capability, capacity and resources (including suitably qualified centre staff) to deliver by the method chosen by the centre

Awarding organisation

- Learning Resource Network

Qualification code

[603/7691/0](#)

Subject areas

- English language
- Mathematics
- Biology
- Chemistry
- Physics
- Sociology
- Business
- Accounting
- Economics

Grading

Results are reported, as 9 to 1.

Assessment

Security Marking: Public
Document Owner: Qualifications Service Delivery Partner

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Created:
Tuesday, 29
October 2024

Depending on the subject being taken, assessment may be based on written examination, oral examination or practical demonstration of skills.

Resit arrangements

Whereas candidates can re-take the whole qualification as often as they wish, individual components cannot be re-taken as it is a traditional linear specification. Please remember, one entry per qualification is sufficient and will cover all the question papers including certification.

Guided/notional learning hours

130 hours

OxfordAQA International A level

Last updated

31 October 2017

Last verified

31 October 2017

Country

- International

Purpose

- To provide an advanced qualification, recognised worldwide, which can support progression to higher education internationally.
- To meet the needs of international students.

Education context

- Have been available internationally for teaching in core subjects since 2016.
- The first cohort of students took AS in summer 2017, and a first group of students will take A level in 2018.
- Examinations are available to students throughout the Middle East, South East Asia, and China.
- Are not available to schools in the UK, the Channel Islands, the Isle of Man or in British Forces overseas schools.
- Are not regulated by Ofqual and do not appear on the Register of Regulated Qualifications.

Awarding organisation

- Oxford International AQA Examinations

Structure

Modular. The specification content for the International AS is half that of the International A level. Students can take the International AS in the first year, then take International A2 in the second year to complete the International A level, or they can take all units together in the same exam series at the end of the course.

Subject areas

- English language
- English literature
- Mathematics

- Further mathematics
- Biology
- Chemistry
- Physics
- Business
- Geography
- Psychology

Levels

- Level 3

Comparable to Level 3 of the Regulatory Frameworks in England, Northern Ireland, and Wales.

Grading

Graded at subject level A* – E.

Assessment

All subjects are assessed by written external examinations, except English language and English literature, which have an optional, non-examined assessment (NEA) unit.

Exams in biology, chemistry, physics and include questions about practicals, but there is no coursework or practical exam. Students undertake practicals during their course learning.

English language:

- Unit 1: Language and context, two hours
- Unit 2: Language and society, two hours
- Unit 3: Language variation, two hours
- Unit 4: Language exploration, **either** 4a (examined), two hours and 30 minutes **or** 4b (NEA), marked by the teacher and moderated by AQA

English literature:

- Unit 1: Aspects of dramatic tragedy, two hours (closed book)
- Unit 2: Place in literary texts, two hours, (open book)
- Unit 3: Elements of crime and mystery, two hours (closed book);
- Unit 4: Literary representations, **either** 4a (examined), two hours and 30 minutes **or** 4b (NEA), marked by the teacher and moderated by AQA

Mathematics:

- P1 Pure mathematics, one hour and 30 minutes

- PSM1 Pure mathematics, statistics and mechanics, one hour and 30 minutes
- P2 Pure mathematics, two hours and 30 minutes; **either** S2 Statistics **or** M2 Mechanics, one hour and 30 minutes

Further mathematics:

- FP1 Pure mathematics, one hour and 30 minutes#
- FPSM1 Pure mathematics, statistics and mechanics, one hour and 30 minutes
- FP2 Pure mathematics, two hours and 30 minutes; **either** FS2 Statistics **or** FM2 Mechanics, one hour and 30 minutes.

Biology:

- Unit 1: The diversity of living organisms, one hour and 30 minutes
- Unit 2: Biological systems and disease, one hour and 30 minutes
- Unit 3: Population and genes, one hour and 30 minutes
- Unit 4: Control, one hour and 30 minutes
- Unit 5: Synoptic, one hour and 30 minutes.

Chemistry:

- Unit 1: Inorganic 1 and Physical 1, one hour and 30 minutes
- Unit 2 Organic 1 and Physical 1, one hour and 30 minutes
- Unit 3: Inorganic 2 and Physical 2, one hour and 30 minutes
- Unit 4: Organic 2 and Physical 2, one hour and 30 minutes
- Unit 5 Practical, Synoptic, one hour and 25 minutes.

Physics:

- Unit 1: Mechanics, materials, and atoms, two hours
- Unit 2: Electricity, waves and particles, two hours
- Unit 3: Fields and their consequences, two hours
- Unit 4: Energy and energy resources, two hours
- Unit 5: Synoptic assessment, two hours

Business:

- Unit 1: Business and markets, one hour and 30 minutes
- Unit 2: Managing operations, human resources, and finance, 1 hour and 30 minutes
- Unit 3: Business strategy, one hour and 45 minutes

- Unit 4: Business decision-making, one hour and 45 minutes

Geography:

- Unit 1: Physical geography, one hour and 30 minutes
- Unit 2: Human geography 1, one hour and 30 minutes
- Unit 3: Physical geography 2, one hour and 30 minutes
- Unit 4: Human Geography, one hour and 30 minutes
- Unit 5: Fieldwork, one hour and 30 minutes (students must engage in a personal fieldwork investigation during the course, and students will be assessed on their investigation through examination)

Psychology:

- Unit 1: Introductory topics in Psychology, one hour and 30 minutes
- Unit 2: Bio-psychology, Development, and Research methods, one hour and 30 minutes
- Unit 3: Advanced topics and research methods, one hour and 30 minutes
- Unit 4: Approaches and applications, one hour and 30 minutes.

Contribution of assessment components to overall grade

For each subject, units 1 and 2 are AS units, contributing 50% each to the AS. Unit 1 contributes 20% and unit 2 contributes 20% to the A level.

For maths, P2 contributes 37.5%, and either S2 or M2 contributes 22.5%. Similarly, for further maths, FP2 contributes 37.5%, and either FS2 or FM2 contributes 22.5%.

For biology, physics, and geography, units 3, 4, and 5 each contribute 20%.

For chemistry, units 3 and 4 each contribute 21%, and unit 5 contributes 18%.

For English language, English literature, business, and psychology, units 3 and 4 each contribute 30%.

Resit arrangements

- Students can resit units as many times as they like.
- Students can resit the qualification by resitting one or more units.
- Resits are available in January and June.

Guided/notional learning hours notes

360 GLH (AS: 180 hours and A2: 180 hours).

Key issues for UK HE admissions

- Higher education providers can expect to receive applications from overseas students holding International A levels.

- Since they are not available in UK schools, higher education providers will not receive applications from UK educated students holding International A levels.
- UK NARIC has carried out an independent benchmarking of International A and AS levels and found them comparable to the standard of UK A and AS levels.
- Learners use International A and AS levels to gain places at universities worldwide including UK, US, Canada, Australia, New Zealand, UAE, Malaysia, Singapore, and China.

Timing of assessments/results for learners

Assessment

- Assessments take place in January and June.

Candidate results

- Results are issued in March and August.
- Candidates receive their certificates in May and October.

Qualification dates notes

- Biology, chemistry, and physics available for teaching from September 2016, and AS assessment from June 2017, with A level exams from June 2018 onwards.
- English language, English literature, mathematics, and further mathematics available for teaching from September 2017, and AS assessment from June 2018, with A level exams from June 2019 onwards.
- Business, geography, and psychology available for teaching from September 2018, and AS assessment from June 2019, with A level exams from June 2020 onwards.

Reporting and certification information

Arrangements to be confirmed in future years as entries grow.

Progression information

Students can generally expect that their grades will be accepted as equivalent, grade for grade, to UK A and AS grades by universities worldwide.

Further information

Oxford International AQA Examinations is a joint venture between AQA and Oxford University Press, a department of the University of Oxford. These qualifications are administered and awarded by AQA, on behalf of Oxford International AQA Examinations, using the same quality control procedures and quality standards applied to the GCE qualifications which AQA operates within the regulated UK market.

Further information can be found: www.oxfordaqaexams.org.uk/subjects/

OxfordAQA International AS level

Last updated

31 October 2017

Last verified

31 October 2017

Country

- International

Purpose

- To provide an advanced qualification, recognised worldwide, which can support progression to higher education internationally.
- To meet the needs of international students.

Education context

- Have been available internationally for teaching in core subjects since 2016.
- The first cohort of students took AS in summer 2017, and a first group of students will take A level in 2018.
- Examinations are available to students throughout the Middle East, South East Asia, and China.
- Are not available to schools in the UK, the Channel Islands, the Isle of Man, or in British Forces overseas schools.
- Are not regulated by Ofqual and do not appear on the Register of Regulated Qualifications

Awarding organisation

- Oxford International AQA Examinations

Structure

Modular. The International AS can be taken as a standalone qualification, or can be used to count towards the international A level.

Subject areas

- English language
- English literature
- Mathematics
- Further mathematics
- Biology

- Chemistry
- Physics
- Business
- Geography
- Psychology

Levels

- Level 3

Comparable to Level 3 of the Regulatory Frameworks in England, Northern Ireland, and Wales.

Grading

Graded at subject level A* – E.

Assessment

All subjects are assessed by written external examinations.

English language:

- Unit 1: Language and Context, two hours
- Unit 2: Language and society, two hours

English literature:

- Unit 1: Aspects of dramatic tragedy, two hours, (closed book)
- Unit 2: Place in literary texts, two hours (open book)

Mathematics:

- P1 Pure mathematics, one hour and 30 minutes
- PSM1 Pure mathematics, statistics, and mechanics, one hour and 30 minutes

Further Mathematics:

- s-FP1, Pure mathematics, one hour and 30 minutes
- FPSM1 Pure mathematics, statistics and mechanics, one hour and 30 minutes.

Biology:

- Unit 1: The diversity of living organisms, one hour and 30 minutes
- Unit 2: Biological systems and disease, one hour and 30 minutes.

Chemistry:

- Unit 1: Inorganic 1 and Physical 1, one hour and 30 minutes
- Unit 2: Organic 1 and Physical 1, one hour and 30 minutes.

Physics:

- Unit 1: Mechanics, materials, and atoms, two hours
- Unit 2: Electricity, waves, and particles, two hours

Business:

- Unit 1: Business and markets, one hour and 30 minutes
- Unit 2: Managing operations, human resources, and finance, one hour and 30 minutes

Geography:

- Unit 1: Physical geography, one hour and 30 minutes
- Unit 2: Human geography 1, one hour and 30 minutes

Psychology:

- Unit 1: Introductory topics in Psychology, one hour and 30 minutes
- Unit 2: Bio-psychology, Development, and Research methods, one hour and 30 minutes

Contribution of assessment components to overall grade

For each AS, unit 1 is 50% and unit 2 is 50%.

Resit arrangements

- Students can resit units as many times as they like.
- Students can resit the qualification by resitting one or more units.
- Resits are available in January and June.

Guided/notional learning hours notes

180 GLH.

Key issues for UK HE admissions

- Higher education providers can expect to receive applications from overseas students holding International A levels.
- Since they are not available in UK schools, higher education providers will not receive applications from UK educated students holding International A levels.
- UK NARIC has carried out an independent benchmarking of International A and AS levels, and found them comparable to the standard of UK A and AS levels.
- Learners use International A and AS levels to gain places at universities worldwide, including UK, US, Canada, Australia, New Zealand, UAE, Malaysia, Singapore, and China.

Timing of assessments/results for learners

Assessment

- Assessments take place in January and June.

Candidate results

- Results are issued in March and August.
- Candidates receive their certificates in May and October.

Qualification dates notes

- AS biology, chemistry, and physics available for teaching from September 2016, and assessment from June 2017.
- AS English language, English literature, mathematics, and further mathematics available for teaching from September 2017, and assessment June 2018.
- AS business, geography, and psychology available for teaching from September 2018, and assessment June 2019.

Reporting and certification information

Arrangements to be confirmed in future years as entries grow.

Progression information

Students can generally expect that their grades will be accepted as equivalent, grade for grade, to UK A and AS grades by universities worldwide.

Further information

Oxford International AQA Examinations is a joint venture between AQA and Oxford University Press, a department of the University of Oxford. These qualifications are administered and awarded by AQA, on behalf of Oxford International AQA Examinations, using the same quality control procedures and quality standards applied to the GCE qualifications which AQA operates within the regulated UK market. Further information can be found at: www.oxfordaqaexams.org.uk/subjects.

OxfordAQA International GCSE

Last updated

23 March 2018

Last verified

23 March 2018

Country

- International

Purpose

To provide a qualification recognised by universities and colleges worldwide, which can support progression internationally.

To enable a curriculum which includes internationally relevant content and use of local contexts.

To facilitate and standardise assessment in many countries, the programme does not require controlled assessment, and has a linear structure with terminal assessment, except English language and English literature, which have non-examined assessment (NEA) options. In addition, English as a second language (ESL) assesses speaking skills by NEA.

Education context

Have been available internationally for teaching in core subjects since 2016.

The first group of students will take GCSEs in summer 2018.

Are only available outside the UK of Great Britain and Northern Ireland.

Are not regulated by Ofqual and do not appear on the Register of Regulated Qualifications

These International GCSEs are separate from Level 1 and Level 2 certificates: [UCAS has published a QIP for these qualifications.](#)

Awarding organisation

- Oxford International AQA Examinations

Structure

International GCSEs are characterised by a linear structure with terminal assessment.

International GCSE Plus allows a student-led project to be undertaken as part of OxfordAQA International GCSEs.

Subject areas

- Biology
- Business

- Chemistry
- Computer science
- English language
- English literature
- Geography
- Mathematics
- Physics
- Combined science (double award)
- English as a second language

Levels

International GCSEs are comparable to Levels 1 and 2 of the Regulatory Frameworks in England, Northern Ireland, and Wales.

Grading

Subjects are graded at overall qualification level using the new 9 – 1 grading structure being implemented for GCSEs in England.

Combined science (double award) is graded 9 – 9 to 1 – 1.

English language offers an optional endorsement for speaking and listening (pass, merit, or distinction).

International GCSE Plus is an optional endorsed component of all OxfordAQA International GCSEs except International GCSE English language. This endorsement will be reported as a separate grade – Distinction, Merit, Pass – and will not contribute to the result of the overall GCSE.

Qualification grade Structure	Module qualification structure (if required)	Date grade applicable from
9	English language, Speaking and Listening: Distinction	
8	English language, Speaking and Listening: Merit	
7	English language, Speaking and Listening: Pass	

6

5

4

3

2

1

Assessment

All assessment is external, except for optional NEA units in English language and English literature, which are teacher assessed and AQA moderated, and ESL, where the speaking component is NEA marked by AQA.

English language has an optional endorsement for speaking and listening, which is teacher assessed.

International GCSE Plus is a student-led project which is teacher assessed and OxfordAQA verified.

Practicals are included in the course curriculum for the science subjects. There is no coursework or practical examination. Working scientifically is assessed across the papers.

Maths and combined science are tiered exams. Grades 5 to 1/5 – 5 to 1 – 1 are available at core tier, and 9 – 4/9 – 9 to 4 – 4 at extension for the respective subjects.

For mathematics students take two one hour and 30 minute papers at either core or extension.

For combined science students take three one hour and 45 minutes papers (one each in biology, chemistry, and physics) at either core or extension.

For biology, chemistry, and physics, students take two one hour and 30 minute papers.

For English language, students take Paper 1 in two hours and either Paper 2 in two hours or NEA project. There is an optional endorsement in speaking and listening, which is an extended task spoken presentation, or interview.

For English literature, there are two routes:

- Route A: Paper 1: one hour and 30 minutes and Paper 2a: two hours and 15 minutes
- Route B: Paper 1, one hour 30 minutes; Paper 2b: one hour and 30 minutes and NEA.

For ESL, students take Paper 1: one hour and 15 minutes; Paper 2: one hour and 15 minutes, Paper 3: 45 minutes, Paper 4: NEA speaking.

For business and computer studies: students take two two hour papers.

For geography, students take Paper 1: one hour and 30 minutes, Paper 2: one hour and 30 minutes, and Paper 3: one hour and 15 minutes.

Contribution of assessment components to overall grade

Mathematics:

- Papers 1c (50%) and 2c (50%)
- Papers 1e (50%) and 2e (50%)

Combined science:

- Paper 1 (Biology), 33.3%
- Paper 2 (Chemistry), 33.3%
- Paper 3 (Physics), 33.3% at **either** core **or** extension

Biology, chemistry, physics:

- Paper 1 (50%)
- Paper 2 (50%)

English language:

- Paper 1 (60%); and **either** Paper 2 (40%) **or** NEA (40%)

English literature:

- Route A: Paper 1 (40%) and Paper 2a (60%)
- **or** Route B: Paper 1 (40%); Paper 2b (40%) and NEA (20%)

ESL:

- Paper 1 (30%)
- Paper 2 (30%)
- Paper 3 (20%)
- Paper 4, NEA (20%)

Business and computer studies:

- Paper 1 (50%)
- Paper 2 (50%)

Geography:

- Paper 1 (34%)
- Paper 2 (34%)

- Paper 3 (32%)

Resit arrangements

These are linear specifications. Students can retake the whole qualification as many times as they wish.

Students may only re-sit International GCSE Plus alongside a re-sit of their associated OxfordAQA International GCSE.

Retakes are available in November and June.

Guided/notional learning hours notes

The GLH for each subject is 120 hours, except combined science, which is 240 hours, as it is a double award.

The GLH for International GCSE Plus is 30 hours, 10 of which are taught. Students who complete more than one International GCSE Plus need only go through the taught element once.

Key issues for UK HE admissions

Higher education providers can expect to receive applications from overseas students holding International GCSEs.

Since they are not available in the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, higher education providers will not receive applications from UK educated students holding OxfordAQA International GCSEs.

UK NARIC has carried out an independent benchmarking of International GCSEs and found them comparable to the standard of UK GCSEs.

Timing of assessments/results for learners

Assessment

GCSE English language, English literature, mathematics, biology, chemistry, physics, and combined science are available for teaching from September 2016 onwards. First examination in May or June 2018, then November and May or June onwards.

GCSE ESL, business, and computer science are available for teaching from September 2017 onwards. First examination in May or June 2019, then November and May or June onwards.

GCSE geography is available for first teaching from September 2018. First examination in May or June 2020, then November and May or June onwards.

The International GCSE Plus endorsement is available in examinations from Summer 2019, then November and May or June onwards, except Geography which is available from Summer 2020.

Candidate results

Results are issued in August and January.

Certificates are issued in October and March.

Qualification dates notes

GCSE English language, English literature, mathematics, biology, chemistry, physics, and combined science are available for teaching from September 2016 onwards.

GCSE ESL, business, and computer science are available for teaching from September 2017 onwards.

GCSE geography is available for first teaching from September 2018.

Reporting and certification information

Arrangements to be confirmed in future years as entries grow.

Progression information

Sufficient Level 2 achievement in International GCSEs enables progression to Level 3.

There is progression to International A levels, UK A levels, or other Level 3 qualifications.

International GCSEs enable international progression, and are accepted by universities and employers worldwide.

International GCSE Plus helps students prepare for their next stage of education by fostering creativity, initiative and independent learning.

Further information

Oxford International AQA Examinations is a joint venture between AQA and Oxford University Press, a department of the University of Oxford. These qualifications are administered and awarded by AQA, on behalf of Oxford International AQA Examinations, using the same quality control procedures and quality standards applied to the GCE qualifications which AQA operates within the regulated UK market. Further information can be found www.oxfordaqaexams.org.uk/subjects.

OxfordAQA International GCSE Plus

Last updated

23 March 2018

Last verified

23 March 2018

Country

- International

Purpose

To provide a qualification recognised by universities and colleges worldwide, which can support progression internationally.

To enable a curriculum which includes internationally relevant content and use of local contexts.

To help students prepare for their next stage of education by fostering creativity, initiative and independent learning.

Education context

Have been available for teaching internationally since January 2018.

The qualification is available for teaching as an optional component in OxfordAQA International GCSEs.

The qualification is available to students throughout the Middle east, South east Asia and China.

These GCSEs are separate from Level 1/Level 2 certificates: [UCAS has published a QIP for these qualifications](#).

Awarding organisation

- Oxford International AQA Examinations

Structure

A single optional component.

Subject areas

- Biology
- Business
- Chemistry
- Science - integrated science / combined science
- Computer science

- English literature
- Geography
- Mathematics
- Physics
- English as a second language

Levels

International GCSEs are comparable to Levels 1 and 2 of the Regulatory Frameworks in England, Northern Ireland, and Wales.

Grading

International GCSE Plus is an optional endorsed component of OxfordAQA International GCSEs in the subjects listed above. The endorsement is reported as a separate grade – Distinction, Merit, Pass – and does not contribute to the overall GCSE.

Assessment

International GCSE Plus is a single optional component. It is internally assessed.

The student undertakes a project which requires 20 hours of supervised study following 10 hours of taught skills. The project is developed and extended from one of the student's study areas.

The student submits a 2000-word report alongside a progress diary.

The supervisor grades the project against defined assessment criteria.

Assessments are verified by OxfordAQA.

Contribution of assessment components to overall grade

The project is assigned a grade against published criteria.

AO1: Organisation (30%)

AO2: Research (30%)

AO3: Realisation (30%)

AO4: Review (10%)

Resit arrangements

Students may only re-sit International GCSE Plus alongside a re-sit of their associated International GCSE.

They may do this any number of times within the shelf-life of the specification.

Any re-sit must involve the development of a new Progress diary along with a new title.

Students may not re-sit by enhancing previous work.

Guided/notional learning hours notes

30 GLH, 10 of which are taught. A student who completes more than one International GCSE Plus only needs to do the taught element once.

Key issues for UK HE admissions

HEPs can expect to receive applications from overseas students holding International GCSEs with the GCSE Plus endorsement.

Since they are not available in the UK, HEPs will not receive applications from UK educated students holding GCSE Plus endorsements.

Learners use the GCSE Plus endorsement to supplement their International GCSE studies and to support their application to gain places at universities worldwide.

Timing of assessments/results for learners

Assessment

Assessments take place in June and November each year.

Candidate Results

Results are issued in August and January each year.

Certificates are issued in October and March each year.

Qualification dates notes

GCSE Plus is available from Summer 2019, except for Geography which is available from 2020.

Reporting and certification information

Arrangements to be confirmed in future years as entries grow.

Progression information

Sufficient Level 2 achievement in International GCSEs enables progression to Level 3.

There may be progression to International A levels, UK A levels or other Level 3 qualifications.

International GCSEs enable international progression and are accepted by universities and employers worldwide.

International GCSE Plus provides a foundation for A-level specialism or the IBDP Extended Essay.

Further information

Oxford international AQA Examinations is a joint venture between AQA and Oxford University Press, a department of the University of Oxford. These qualifications are administered and awarded by AQA, on behalf of Oxford international AQA Examinations, using the same quality control procedures and quality standards applied to GCSE qualifications which AQA operates

Global Qualification Information Profiles (QIPS)



within the regulated UK market. Further information can be found at <https://www.oxfordaqaexams.org.uk/subjects/projects/gcse-plus>.

OxfordAQA International Independent Project Qualification

Last updated

8 November 2017

Last verified

8 November 2017

Country

- International

Purpose

To provide an advanced qualification recognised worldwide which can support progression to higher education internationally.

To provide an opportunity for students to extend their abilities beyond the A level syllabus.

Education context

Has been available for teaching internationally since September 2017.

The qualification is available to students throughout the Middle East, South East Asia and China.

Is not available to schools in the UK, the Channel Islands, the Isle of Man or in British Forces overseas schools.

Is not regulated by Ofqual and does not appear on the Register of Regulated Qualifications.

Awarding organisation

- Oxford International AQA Examinations

Structure

A single component linear qualification.

Subject areas

The subject content is not prescribed but chosen by the student as it focuses on developing skills.

Levels

- Level 3

Comparable to Level 3 of the Regulatory Frameworks in England, Northern Ireland, and Wales.

Grading

The overall qualification is graded on a six point scale A* – E.

Assessment

The International Independent Project Qualification is a single-unit internally assessed qualification.

The student's project overseen by teacher/supervisor.

The student researches and develops the project proposal, develops the project, submits a 5000 word report and production log and delivers an oral presentation.

The supervisor grades the report.

Assessments are moderated by AQA.

Contribution of assessment components to overall grade

The Project is assigned a grade against criteria.

AO1:

- Selection of topic, 10%

AO2:

- Planning, monitoring and developing, 20%

AO3:

- Demonstration of research skills, 20%

AO4:

- Analysis and application of research, 20%

AO5:

- Evaluation of product, process and self, 10%

Resit arrangements

Students may resit an unlimited number of times. Any resit must involve a new title and the full project process.

Guided/notional learning hours notes

120 hours, 30 of which will be taught.

Key issues for UK HE admissions

Providers can expect to receive applications from overseas students holding International Independent Project Qualifications.

Since they are not available in the United Kingdom, HEPs will not receive applications from UK educated students holding International IPQs.

UK NARIC has carried out an independent benchmarking of International IPQ and found it comparable to the standard of UK Level 3 Extended Project Qualification.

Learners use the International IPQ to supplement their A levels and support their application to gain places at universities world-wide including the UK, US, Canada, Australia, New Zealand, UAE, Singapore, Malaysia and China.

Timing of assessments/results for learners

Assessment:

- Assessments take place in June and January each year.

Results:

- Results are issued in August and March.

Certificates are issued in October and May.

Qualification dates notes

The IPQ is available for teaching from September 2017.

Reporting and certification information

Arrangements to be confirmed in future years as entries grow.

Progression information

Students can generally expect that their grades will be accepted as equivalent, grade for grade, to UK Level 3 Extended Project Qualifications by universities worldwide.

The IPQ has been designed to allow students to develop transferable skills which support their aspirations for HE. These include:

- Developing and improving their own learning as critical, reflective and independent students
- Developing and applying decision making and problem solving skills
- Extending their planning, research, critical thinking, analysis, synthesis, evaluation and presentation skills
- Developing and applying skills creatively, demonstrating initiative and enterprise

Further information

Oxford International AQA Examinations is a joint venture between AQA and Oxford University Press, a department of the University of Oxford. These qualifications are administered and awarded by AQA, on behalf of Oxford International AQA Examinations, using the same quality control procedures and quality standards applied to the GCE qualifications which AQA operates within the regulated UK market. Further information can be found

at: www.oxfordaqaexams.org.uk/subjects/projects/ipq

Pearson BTEC International Level 3

Last updated

27 November 2019

This is a suite of level 3 vocational qualifications designed to support progression to employment and higher education from schools and colleges globally.

The content has been aligned with that of the reformed BTEC National qualifications delivered in the UK, although allowing for local adaptation to include international rules and regulations. The scheme of assessment differs from the UK Applied General and Tech Level qualifications and allows for the delivery of the qualifications in different time zones around the world.

Country

- International

Purpose

The Pearson BTEC International Level 3 qualifications are career-focused, designed to enable learners to gain the knowledge and skills required for employment, or to be taken as part of a wider study programme or apprenticeship.

They have been designed for international learners, and have therefore been developed in collaboration with employers, HE Institutions and teaching professionals from around the world. This is reflected in the depth and breadth of the content, and the design of the assessment. They are designed to enable the combination of theory and practice in teaching and learning which is then assessed through a combination of written and practical tasks set in work-related contexts.

They are designed for learners aged 16+ intending to progress into higher education, higher applied courses or direct to employment. The UK is a target destination for many of these international students for both entry into higher education institutions and/or employment.

Education context

These qualifications are based on the Pearson BTEC National Level 3 qualifications on the Regulated Qualifications Framework (RQF) but have been adapted for international learners. These qualifications will form part of a new portfolio of international BTECs, which will include Level 2 qualifications.

BTEC courses are available in schools, colleges and universities across a range of subjects including business, construction, creative, engineering, hospitality, IT, land-based, sport, science, and travel and tourism.

Pearson is working with international governments and qualification frameworks to recognise and validate these qualifications for local delivery. In acknowledgement that many of these international students will want to progress their education and/or career in the UK, Pearson is also working with universities and employers across England, Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland.

Awarding organisation

- Pearson (Edexcel)

Structure

The Pearson BTEC International Level 3 qualifications follow a unitised approach. The qualification specification outlines the number of mandatory and optional units required for each qualification size. The ratio between the number of mandatory and optional units that must be taken varies per qualification.

The units give learners experience of the breadth and depth of the sector that will prepare them for further study or training. This includes the opportunity for learners to choose several topics from a selection of options reflecting different progression pathways.

Subject areas

- Applied science
- Art and design
- Business
- Construction
- Creative media production
- Engineering
- Hospitality
- Information technology
- Land-based technology
- Music
- Performing arts
- Production arts
- Sport
- Travel and tourism

Applied Science

Pearson BTEC International Level 3 Certificate in Applied Science

Pearson BTEC International Level 3 Subsidiary Diploma in Applied Science

Pearson BTEC International Level 3 Foundation Diploma in Applied Science

Pearson BTEC International Level 3 Diploma in Applied Science

Pearson BTEC International Level 3 Diploma in Biomedical Science

Pearson BTEC International Level 3 Diploma in Environmental Science

Pearson BTEC International Level 3 Extended Diploma in Applied Science

Pearson BTEC International Level 3 Extended Diploma in Biomedical Science

Pearson BTEC International Level 3 Extended Diploma in Environmental Science

Art and Design

Pearson BTEC International Level 3 Subsidiary Diploma in Art and Design

Pearson BTEC International Level 3 Foundation Diploma in Art and Design

Pearson BTEC International Level 3 Diploma in Art and Design

Pearson BTEC International Level 3 Extended Diploma in Art and Design

Business and Enterprise

Pearson BTEC International Level 3 Certificate in Business

Pearson BTEC International Level 3 Subsidiary Diploma in Business

Pearson BTEC International Level 3 Foundation Diploma in Business

Pearson BTEC International Level 3 Diploma in Business

Pearson BTEC International Level 3 Extended Diploma in Business

Pearson BTEC International Level 3 Certificate in Enterprise and Entrepreneurship

Pearson BTEC International Level 3 Subsidiary Diploma in Enterprise and Entrepreneurship

Pearson BTEC International Level 3 Foundation Diploma in Enterprise and Entrepreneurship

Pearson BTEC International Level 3 Diploma in Enterprise and Entrepreneurship

Pearson BTEC International Level 3 Extended Diploma in Enterprise and Entrepreneurship

Construction and the Built Environment

Pearson BTEC International Level 3 Certificate in Construction and the Built Environment

Pearson BTEC International Level 3 Subsidiary Diploma in Construction and the Built Environment

Pearson BTEC International Level 3 Foundation Diploma in Construction and the Built Environment

Pearson BTEC International Level 3 Diploma in Construction and the Built Environment

Pearson BTEC International Level 3 Diploma in Civil Engineering

Pearson BTEC International Level 3 Diploma in Building Services Engineering

Pearson BTEC International Level 3 Extended Diploma in Construction and the Built Environment

Pearson BTEC International Level 3 Extended Diploma in Civil Engineering

Pearson BTEC International Level 3 Extended Diploma in Building Services Engineering

Creative Media

Pearson BTEC International Level 3 Subsidiary Diploma in Creative Media

Pearson BTEC International Level 3 Foundation Diploma in Creative Media

Pearson BTEC International Level 3 Diploma in Creative Media

Pearson BTEC International Level 3 Extended Diploma in Creative Media

Engineering

Pearson BTEC International Level 3 Certificate in Engineering

Pearson BTEC International Level 3 Subsidiary Diploma in Engineering

Pearson BTEC International Level 3 Foundation Diploma in Engineering

Pearson BTEC International Level 3 Diploma in Mechatronic Engineering

Pearson BTEC International Level 3 Diploma in Aeronautical Engineering

Pearson BTEC International Level 3 Diploma in Manufacturing Engineering

Pearson BTEC International Level 3 Diploma in Digital Engineering

Pearson BTEC International Level 3 Diploma in Mechanical Engineering

Pearson BTEC International Level 3 Diploma in Electrical and Electronic Engineering

Pearson BTEC International Level 3 Diploma in Engineering

Pearson BTEC International Level 3 Extended Diploma in Mechatronic Engineering

Pearson BTEC International Level 3 Extended Diploma in Aeronautical Engineering

Pearson BTEC International Level 3 Extended Diploma in Manufacturing Engineering

Pearson BTEC International Level 3 Extended Diploma in Digital Engineering

Pearson BTEC International Level 3 Extended Diploma in Mechanical Engineering

Pearson BTEC International Level 3 Extended Diploma in Electrical and Electronic Engineering

Pearson BTEC International Level 3 Extended Diploma in Engineering

Hospitality

Pearson BTEC International Level 3 Certificate in Hospitality

Pearson BTEC International Level 3 Subsidiary Diploma in Hospitality

Pearson BTEC International Level 3 Foundation Diploma in Hospitality

Pearson BTEC International Level 3 Diploma in Hospitality

Pearson BTEC International Level 3 Extended Diploma in Hospitality

Information Technology

Pearson BTEC International Level 3 Certificate in Information Technology

Pearson BTEC International Level 3 Subsidiary Diploma in Information Technology

Pearson BTEC International Level 3 Foundation Diploma in Information Technology

Pearson BTEC International Level 3 Diploma in Information Technology

Pearson BTEC International Level 3 Extended Diploma in Information Technology

Land-based Studies

Pearson BTEC International Level 3 Certificate in Land-based Studies

Pearson BTEC International Level 3 Subsidiary Diploma in Land-based Studies

Pearson BTEC International Level 3 Foundation Diploma in Land-based Studies

Pearson BTEC International Level 3 Foundation Diploma in Agriculture

Pearson BTEC International Level 3 Foundation Diploma in Horticulture

Pearson BTEC International Level 3 Diploma in Land-based Studies

Pearson BTEC International Level 3 Diploma in Agriculture

Pearson BTEC International Level 3 Diploma in Horticulture

Pearson BTEC International Level 3 Extended Diploma in Land-based Studies

Pearson BTEC International Level 3 Extended Diploma in Agriculture

Pearson BTEC International Level 3 Extended Diploma in Horticulture

Music

Pearson BTEC International Level 3 Subsidiary Diploma in Music

Pearson BTEC International Level 3 Subsidiary Diploma in Music (Production)

Pearson BTEC International Level 3 Foundation Diploma in Music

Pearson BTEC International Level 3 Foundation Diploma in Music (Production)

Pearson BTEC International Level 3 Diploma in Music

Pearson BTEC International Level 3 Diploma in Music (Production)

Pearson BTEC International Level 3 Extended Diploma in Music

Pearson BTEC International Level 3 Extended Diploma in Music (Production)

Performing Arts

Pearson BTEC International Level 3 Subsidiary Diploma in Performing Arts

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Pearson BTEC International Level 3 Foundation Diploma in Performing Arts
Pearson BTEC International Level 3 Foundation Diploma in Performing Arts (Acting)
Pearson BTEC International Level 3 Foundation Diploma in Performing Arts (Dance)
Pearson BTEC International Level 3 Foundation Diploma in Performing Arts (Musical Theatre)
Pearson BTEC International Level 3 Foundation Diploma in Performing Arts (Circus)
Pearson BTEC International Level 3 Diploma in Performing Arts
Pearson BTEC International Level 3 Diploma in Performing Arts (Acting)
Pearson BTEC International Level 3 Diploma in Performing Arts (Dance)
Pearson BTEC International Level 3 Diploma in Performing Arts (Musical Theatre)
Pearson BTEC International Level 3 Diploma in Performing Arts (Circus)
Pearson BTEC International Level 3 Extended Diploma in Performing Arts
Pearson BTEC International Level 3 Extended Diploma in Performing Arts (Acting)
Pearson BTEC International Level 3 Extended Diploma in Performing Arts (Dance)
Pearson BTEC International Level 3 Extended Diploma in Performing Arts (Musical Theatre)
Pearson BTEC International Level 3 Extended Diploma in Performing Arts (Circus)

Production Arts

Pearson BTEC International Level 3 Subsidiary Diploma in Production Arts
Pearson BTEC International Level 3 Foundation Diploma in Production Arts
Pearson BTEC International Level 3 Foundation Diploma in Production Arts (Design)
Pearson BTEC International Level 3 Foundation Diploma in Production Arts (Technical)
Pearson BTEC International Level 3 Foundation Diploma in Production Arts (Management)
Pearson BTEC International Level 3 Foundation Diploma in Production Arts (Make Up)
Pearson BTEC International Level 3 Diploma in Production Arts
Pearson BTEC International Level 3 Diploma in Production Arts (Design)
Pearson BTEC International Level 3 Diploma in Production Arts (Technical)
Pearson BTEC International Level 3 Diploma in Production Arts (Management)
Pearson BTEC International Level 3 Diploma in Production Arts (Make Up)
Pearson BTEC International Level 3 Extended Diploma in Production Arts
Pearson BTEC International Level 3 Extended Diploma in Production Arts (Design)
Pearson BTEC International Level 3 Extended Diploma in Production Arts (Technical)

Pearson BTEC International Level 3 Extended Diploma in Production Arts (Management)

Pearson BTEC International Level 3 Extended Diploma in Production Arts (Make Up)

Sport

Pearson BTEC International Level 3 Certificate in Sport

Pearson BTEC International Level 3 Subsidiary Diploma in Sport

Pearson BTEC International Level 3 Subsidiary Diploma in Sport, Fitness and Personal Training

Pearson BTEC International Level 3 Subsidiary Diploma in Sports Coaching and Development

Pearson BTEC International Level 3 Foundation Diploma in Sport

Pearson BTEC International Level 3 Foundation Diploma in Sport Fitness and Personal Training

Pearson BTEC International Level 3 Foundation Diploma in Sports Coaching and Development

Pearson BTEC International Level 3 Diploma in Sport

Pearson BTEC International Level 3 Diploma in Sport, Fitness and Personal Training

Pearson BTEC International Level 3 Diploma in Sports Coaching and Development

Pearson BTEC International Level 3 Extended Diploma in Sport

Pearson BTEC International Level 3 Extended Diploma in Sport, Fitness and Personal Training

Pearson BTEC International Level 3 Extended Diploma in Sports Coaching and Development

Travel & Tourism

Pearson BTEC International Level 3 Certificate in Travel and Tourism

Pearson BTEC International Level 3 Subsidiary Diploma in Travel and Tourism

Pearson BTEC International Level 3 Foundation Diploma in Travel and Tourism

Pearson BTEC International Level 3 Diploma in Travel and Tourism

Pearson BTEC International Level 3 Extended Diploma in Travel and Tourism

Levels

- Level 3

These qualifications have been benchmarked to level 3 on the Ofqual Regulated Qualifications Framework (RQF) in England.

Grading

Claiming the overall qualification grade

The total unit points contribute to the overall qualification grade according to the qualification size.

Certificate (180 GLH)

Grade	Points threshold
U	0
Pass	18
Merit	26
Distinction	42
Distinction*	48

Subsidiary Diploma (360 GLH)

Grade	Points threshold
U	0
Pass	36
Merit	52
Distinction	74
Distinction*	90

Foundation Diploma (510/540 GLH)

Grade	Points threshold
U	0
Pass	54

Merit	78
Distinction	108
Distinction*	138

Diploma (720 GLH)

Grade	Points threshold
U	0
PP	72
MP	88
MM	104
DM	124
DD	144
D*D	162
D*D*	180

Extended Diploma (1080 GLH)

Grade	Points threshold
U	0
PPP	108
MPP	124

MMP	140
MMM	156
DMM	176
DDM	196
DDD	218
D*DD	234
D*D*D	252
D*D*D*	270

Assessment

Pearson BTEC International Level 3 qualifications are 100% internally assessed through written assignments and practical tasks. Most assessments are set and marked by educators in the school or college and verified by Pearson. Pearson will set and provide centres with assignments for some mandatory units (approximately 25% of all units).

This means that all assessments can be arranged at a time that best accommodates the varying academic years in different countries. This style of assessment gives learners the opportunity to build up a portfolio of evidence which demonstrates how they can apply their knowledge, skills and achievements in real-life scenarios.

Contribution of assessment components to overall grade

Qualification grading is dependent on the level, unit grade achieved and the size of the unit. The table below shows the number of points scored per unit size.

Grade	Size: 60 GLH	Size: 90 GLH	Size: 120 GLH
U	0	0	0
Pass	6	9	12
Merit	10	15	20
Distinction	16	24	32

For example, a merit for a 90 GLH unit will earn the learner 15 points. The combination of the unit points will then determine the overall qualification grade.

Resit arrangements

Resubmission of evidence

Learners are eligible for one resubmission of evidence for each unit assignment submitted. The centre may only authorise a resubmission if all of the following conditions are met:

- the learner has met initial deadlines set in the assignment, or has met an agreed deadline extension
- the assessor judges that the learner will be able to provide improved evidence without further guidance
- the assessor has authenticated the evidence submitted for assessment and the evidence is accompanied by a signed-and-dated learner declaration of authenticity

If a learner has not met these conditions, the centre may not authorise a resubmission.

Resubmission must be scheduled within 15 working days of the learner receiving the results of the initial assessment and undertaken by the learner with no further guidance.

Guided/notional learning hours

Certificate: **180 hours**

Subsidiary Diploma: **360 hours**

Foundation Diploma: **510 hours**

Foundation Diploma: **540 hours**

Diploma: **720 hours**

Extended Diploma: **1080 hours**

Key issues for UK HE admissions

There are a number of key considerations for HEPs when reviewing vocational qualifications that are not listed on the DfE 16 – 19 performance tables for England:

- These qualifications have been designed to enable the combination of theory and practice in teaching and learning. They are intended for learners aged 16+ intending to progress into higher education, higher applied courses or direct to employment in some sectors.
- Applicants holding these qualifications may be school or college leavers, however, some may be more mature learners who are likely to have other relevant experience alongside these qualifications.
- These qualifications may have been taken as part of a wider study programme or an apprenticeship.

- These qualifications vary in GLH. If smaller sizes are presented for admission to HE they are likely to be in conjunction with other qualifications.

Timing of assessments/results for learners

Centres must develop an overall plan for delivery of the programme and decide when the assignments take place. Assignments are planned for when the learner is suitably prepared to undertake the assessment. Once learners are working on assignments which will be submitted for assessment, it is essential they work independently to produce and prepare evidence for assessment.

Qualification date

Starting from 01 Apr 2020

Qualification dates notes

First awarding will vary depending on the size of the qualification.

Reporting and certification information

Non-ABL quals

The results of Pearson BTEC Internal Level 3 qualifications are not reported to UCAS through Awarding Body Linkage (ABL). This does not reflect the validity of the qualification. HEPs will need to ask applicants to provide their own evidence of achievement.

Progression information

Pearson BTEC International Level 3 qualifications have been designed for progression into higher education, higher applied courses such as Higher Nationals, or direct to employment in some sectors.

Each year, around 100,000 students enter university in the UK having taken a Level 3 BTEC qualification. This makes up around one in four of the annual UK cohort progressing to university. Around one third of these students take a Level 3 BTEC alongside A levels, whilst two-thirds take a BTEC on its own. In all, 146 universities and conservatoires in the UK recognise Level 3 BTECs. Internationally, the BTEC Nationals are recognised by 172 universities in 29 countries around the world, including the USA, Canada, Australia, UAE, Netherlands, Malaysia and Japan.

Further information

Qualification website:

<https://qualifications.pearson.com/en/qualifications/btec-international-level-3.html>

Qualification Specifications:

<https://qualifications.pearson.com/en/qualifications/btec-international-level-3/btec-international-2019.html>

BTEC Centre Guide to Internal Assessment:

https://qualifications.pearson.com/content/dam/pdf/BTEC-Firsts/news/Guide_to_Internal_Assessment_for_BTEC_Firsts_and_Nationals.pdf

Pearson Edexcel International Advanced level

Last updated

15 November 2018

Last verified

15 November 2018

Country

- International

Purpose

To provide an advanced qualification recognised worldwide, which can support progression to higher education internationally.

Education context

Pearson Edexcel International AS/A levels have been available internationally since September 2013. Taught by over 790 schools in 75 countries

Pearson Edexcel International AS/A Level qualifications are available to students attending International Schools (outside the UK) and any students attending Online Schools. They are not available to schools in the UK, the Channel Islands, the Isle of Man or in British Armed Forces schools overseas.

Awarding organisation

- Pearson (Edexcel)

Structure

This qualification is not regulated by Ofqual, and does not appear on the Register of Regulated Qualifications.

- Accounting: 2 unit, modular qualification.
- Business Studies & Economics: 4 unit, modular qualification.
- English Language & English Literature: 4 unit, modular qualification.
- Geography: 4 unit, modular qualification.
- History: 4 unit, modular qualification.
- Arabic & Greek: 2 unit, modular qualification.
- French, German & Spanish: 4 unit, modular qualification.
- Law: Linear course, comprising 2 papers.
- Applied ICT: 6 unit, modular qualification.
- Mathematics: 4 unit, modular qualification.

- Further Mathematics: 6 unit, modular qualification.
- Pure Mathematics: 4 unit, modular qualification.
- Biology, Chemistry & Physics: 6 unit, modular qualification.
- Psychology: 4 unit, modular qualification.

Subject areas

- Business and Finance (Accounting, Business Studies, Economics)
- English (English Language, English Literature)
- Humanities (Geography, History)
- Languages (Arabic, French, German, Greek, Spanish)
- Law (IAL only)
- ICT
- Mathematics (Mathematics, Further Mathematics, Pure Mathematics)
- Science (Biology, Chemistry, Physics)
- Psychology

Levels

- Level 3

Comparable to Level 3 of the Regulatory Frameworks in England, Wales, and Northern Ireland.

Grading

The full International Advanced level will be graded on a six-point scale A* – E.

Assessment

Most are entirely assessed through externally examined assessments.

The only exception is ICT, in which four of the six units are internally assessed, and the evidence is presented as either an ebook or eportfolio.

Contribution of assessment components to overall grade

- Accounting: 2 units worth 50% each.
- Business Studies & Economics: 4 units worth 25% each.
- English Language & English Literature: 4 units worth 25% each.
- Geography: Units 1 & 3 worth 30% each and Units 2 & 4 worth 20% each.
- History: 4 units worth 25% each.
- Arabic & Greek: 2 units worth 50% each.

- French, German & Spanish: Units 1 & 3 worth 15.4% each and Units 2 & 4 worth 34.6% each.
- Law: Each paper worth 50%.
- Applied ICT: 6 units worth 17% each.
- Mathematics: Units C12 & C34 worth 33.3% each plus 2 units worth 16.7% each.
- Further Mathematics: 6 units worth 16.7% each.
- Pure Mathematics: Units C12 & C34 worth 33.3% each plus 2 units worth 16.7% each.
- Biology, Chemistry & Physics: Units 1, 2, 4 & 5 worth 20% each plus Units 3 & 6 worth 10% each.
- Psychology: Units 1 & 3 worth 20% each and Units 2 & 4 worth 30% each.

Resit arrangements

For all qualifications (except Law which is linear), students can resit any unit irrespective of whether the qualification is to be cashed in.

If a student resits a unit more than once, only the better of the two most recent attempts will be available for aggregation to a qualification grade.

Please refer to the individual qualification specifications for assessment and resit arrangements for specific IAL/IAS subjects.

Guided/notional learning hours notes

360 guided learning hours.

Key issues for UK HE admissions

Higher education providers can expect to receive applications from overseas students holding International Advanced levels.

Since they are not available in UK schools, HEPs will not receive applications from UK students holding International Advanced levels.

UK NARIC has carried out an independent benchmarking of International Advanced level and found it comparable to the standard of UK A level.

Learners use International Advanced levels to gain places at universities world-wide including United Kingdom, United States, Canada, Australia, UAE, Singapore, and Hong Kong.

Timing of assessments/results for learners

January examination series – candidate results released in March.

June examination series – candidate results released in August.

October examination series – candidate results released in January.

Qualification dates notes

This qualification is current.

Reporting and certification information

Grading statistics made available on Pearson Edexcel qualifications

website: <http://qualifications.pearson.com/en/support/support-topics/results-certification/grade-statistics.html?Qualification-Family=International-Advanced-Level>

Progression information

Students can generally expect that their grades will be accepted as equivalent, grade for grade, to UK A level grades by universities worldwide.

Further information

<http://qualifications.pearson.com/en/qualifications/edexcel-international-advanced-levels.html>

Pearson Edexcel International Advanced Subsidiary level

Last updated

15 November 2018

Last verified

15 November 2018

Country

- International

Purpose

To provide an advanced qualification recognised worldwide, which can support progression to higher education internationally.

Education context

Have been available internationally since September 2013.

Taught by over 790 schools in 75 countries

Is not available to schools in the UK, the Channel Islands, the Isle of Man or in British Forces overseas schools.

Awarding organisation

- Pearson (Edexcel)

Structure

This qualification is not regulated by Ofqual, and does not appear on the Register of Regulated Qualifications.

- Accounting: 1 unit, modular qualification.
- Business Studies & Economics: 2 unit, modular qualification.
- English Language & English Literature: 2 unit, modular qualification.
- Geography: 2 unit, modular qualification.
- History: 2 unit, modular qualification.
- Arabic & Greek: 1 unit, modular qualification.
- French, German & Spanish: 2 unit, modular qualification.
- Applied ICT: 3 unit, modular qualification.
- Mathematics: 2 unit, modular qualification.
- Further Mathematics: 3 unit, modular qualification.
- Pure Mathematics: 2 unit, modular qualification.

- Biology, Chemistry & Physics: 3 unit, modular qualification.
- Psychology: 2 unit, modular qualification.

Subject areas

- Business and Finance (Accounting, Business Studies, Economics)
- English (English Language, English Literature)
- Humanities (Geography, History)
- Languages (Arabic, French, German, Greek, Spanish)
- ICT
- Mathematics (Mathematics, Further Mathematics, Pure Mathematics)
- Science (Biology, Chemistry, Physics)
- Psychology

Levels

- Level 3

Comparable to Level 3 of the Regulatory Frameworks in England, Wales, and Northern Ireland.

Grading

The IAS qualification is graded and certificated on a five-grade scale from A – E.

Assessment

Most are entirely assessed through externally examined assessments.

The only exception is ICT, in which two of the three units are internally assessed and the evidence is presented as either an ebook or eportfolio.

Contribution of assessment components to overall grade

- Accounting: 1 unit worth 100%.
- Business Studies & Economics: 2 units worth 50% each.
- English Language & English Literature: 2 units worth 50% each.
- Geography: Unit 1 worth 60% and Unit 2 worth 40%.
- History: 2 units worth 50% each.
- Arabic & Greek: 1 unit worth 100%.
- French, German & Spanish: Unit 1 worth 30.8% and Unit 2 worth 69.2%.
- Applied ICT: 3 units worth 33% each.
- Mathematics: Unit C12 worth 66.6% plus 1 unit worth 33.3%.

- Further Mathematics: 3 units worth 33.3% each.
- Pure Mathematics: Unit C12 worth 66.6% plus unit F1 worth 33.3%.
- Biology, Chemistry & Physics: Units 1 & 2 worth 40% each plus Unit 3 worth 20%.
- Psychology: Unit 1 worth 40% and Unit 2 worth 60%.

Resit arrangements

Students can resit any unit irrespective of whether the qualification is to be cashed in. If a student resits a unit more than once, only the better of the two most recent attempts will be available for aggregation to a qualification grade.

Please refer to the Entry, Aggregation and Certification document on the Pearson Edexcel qualifications

website: <http://qualifications.pearson.com/content/dam/pdf/International%20Advanced%20Level/2013/Forms%20and%20administration/IAL-entry-aggregation-and-certification-rules-update.pdf>

Guided/notional learning hours notes

180 guided learning hours.

Key issues for UK HE admissions

Higher education providers can expect to receive applications from overseas students holding International AS levels.

Since they are not available in UK schools, HEPs will not receive applications from UK students holding International AS levels.

UK NARIC has carried out an independent benchmarking of International AS level, and found it comparable to the standard of UK AS level.

Learners use International AS levels to gain places at universities worldwide including United Kingdom, United States, Canada, Australia, UAE, Singapore, and Hong Kong.

Timing of assessments/results for learners

January examination series – candidate results released in March.

June examination series – candidate results released in August.

October examination series – candidate results released in January.

Qualification dates notes

This qualification is current.

Reporting and certification information

Grading statistics made available on Pearson Edexcel qualifications

website: <http://qualifications.pearson.com/en/support/support-topics/results-certification/grade-statistics.html?Qualification-Family=International-Advanced-Level>

Progression information

Students can generally expect that their grades will be accepted as equivalent, grade for grade, to UK AS level grades by universities worldwide.

Further information

<http://qualifications.pearson.com/en/qualifications/edexcel-international-advanced-levels.html>

Pearson Edexcel International GCSE

Last updated

8 July 2019

Last verified

8 July 2019

Countries

- International
- UK (independent schools)

Purpose

To provide a qualification recognised by universities and colleges worldwide, which can support progression internationally.

To enable a curriculum which includes internationally relevant content and use of local contexts.

In order to facilitate and standardise assessment in many countries, the programme does not require controlled assessment and has a linear structure with terminal assessment.

Education context

Pearson Edexcel International GCSEs have been available for use internationally since 2009.

They are used by over 800 centres in over 80 countries. There are currently more than 100,000 learners studying Pearson Edexcel International GCSEs in countries throughout Asia, Africa, Europe, the Middle East, and Latin America.

In England they are not funded for use in state schools and do not contribute to Performance Measures.

As an interim measure, they contributed to Performance Measures in England in 2013.

They are used as an alternative to GCSEs in over 350 independent schools in the UK.

Pearson Edexcel GCSEs are separate from Level 1/Level 2 certificates; UCAS has published a QIP for these qualifications at <https://qips.ucas.com/qip/level-1-level-2-certificates>.

Awarding organisation

- Pearson (Edexcel)

Structure

Pearson Edexcel International GCSEs are not regulated by Ofqual and do not appear on the Register of Regulated Qualifications.

International GCSEs are characterised by a linear structure with terminal assessment.

Subject areas

International GCSEs are currently available in around 40 subjects (some subjects are available to international centres only). Pearson Edexcel International GCSEs are being revised according to the following timetable:

- **First teaching 2016, first awards in 2018 (UK and international schools):** English Language A, English Language B, English Literature, Mathematics A, Mathematics B.
- **First teaching 2017, first awards 2019 (UK and international schools):** Biology, Business Studies, Chemistry, Chinese, Double Award Science, Economics, English as a Second Language, French, Further Pure Mathematics, Geography, German, History, Human Biology, ICT, Physics, Religious Studies, Single Award Combined Science, Spanish.
- **First teaching 2017, first awards 2019 (international schools only):** Art and Design, Bangladesh Studies, Bengali, Commerce, Computer Science, Global Citizenship, Greek 1st Language, Islamiyat, Pakistan Studies, Sinhala, Swahili, Tamil.

To be phased out (last award 2018): Hindi, Urdu

To be phased out (last award 2019): Classical Arabic, Gujarati, Turkish

Levels

Pearson Edexcel International GCSEs are comparable to Levels 1 and 2 of the Regulatory Frameworks in England, Wales, and Northern Ireland.

Grading

All Pearson Edexcel International GCSEs are now graded 9-1.

The phasing in of the new grading started in Sept 2016 and was finalised for all subjects in August 2019.

Assessment

Assessment is terminal, taking place at the end of the course, and can include written, oral, coursework, and practical assessment.

Contribution of assessment components to overall grade

Only the terminal assessment contributes to the final grade.

Within the terminal assessment, the contribution of components varies between subjects.

Resit arrangements

The full qualifications can be retaken at either the January or June assessment points.

Guided/notional learning hours notes

There is no stated programme size but it generally takes 120 guided learning hours to complete a course in one subject.

Key issues for UK HE admissions

Higher education providers can expect to receive applications from overseas students holding Pearson Edexcel International GCSEs.

Higher education providers can also expect to receive applications from UK students holding the qualifications; these are most likely to be from the independent sector.

Until the 2018 application cycle, all Pearson Edexcel International GCSEs will be graded A* – G.

In the 2019 and 2020 application cycles, applicants may hold Pearson Edexcel International GCSEs graded A* – G or 9 – 1, depending on the subject.

From the 2021 application cycle onwards, you should expect most applicants to hold Pearson Edexcel International GCSE grades on the 9–1 scale, with only mature applicants holding International GCSEs with lettered grades.

In April 2019, UK NARIC carried out an independent benchmarking of International GCSE and found it comparable to the UK GCSE standard.

Timing of assessments/results for learners

Exam series are in:

- January (results released in March)
- June (results released in August)

Qualification dates notes

This qualification is current.

Reporting and certification information

Certificates sent to schools and colleges as follows:

- January series – by 31 May
- June series – by 31 October

Progression information

Sufficient Level 2 achievement in Pearson Edexcel International GCSEs enables progression to Level 3.

There will be progression to International A levels, UK A levels, or other Level 3 qualifications.

Pearson International GCSEs enable international progression and are accepted by universities and employers worldwide.

Students can generally expect that their grades will be accepted as equivalent, grade for grade, to UK GCSE grades by universities worldwide.

Further information

Further information on Pearson Edexcel International GCSEs is available at
: <https://qualifications.pearson.com/en/qualifications/edexcel-international-gcses.html>.