

St. Peter's Catholic School

Sixth Form Course Guide



Aspire, Inspire, Achieve



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More information is available on the electronic version of this course guide which is located on the school website.

OCR A Level Art: Fine Art (H601)

Why study this subject?

A Level Art and Design encourages independent thought which feeds in to all other subjects. It can give you breadth of understanding about yourself and the wider world. You will have access to a large well equipped dedicated art studio and specialist subject support. On completing the course, you will have developed a wide range of skills and specialist knowledge to give you access to a wide range of both employment opportunities and study at further levels.

Subject Content

A level consists of 2 components.

Component 01: Personal Investigation.

Learners produce 2 elements:

- (i) a portfolio of practical work showing their response to either a starting point, brief, scenario or stimulus, devised by the learner or tutor.
- (ii) a related study: an extended response of minimum of 1000 words.

You will have approximately 56 hours to complete this.

Component 02: Externally set task.

The Externally Set Task starting points will be distributed at the beginning of February. There is a choice of themes for the Externally Set Task, which are open to all specialisms. Within the themes there will be a choice of textual and visual starting points to inspire a sustained focus.

You will have approximately 50 hours to complete the preparation and 15 hours to complete a final piece under exam conditions.

All work is marked internally and moderated externally by OCR.

How you will be assessed.

The course will be taught through a combination of practical and analytical tasks. Coursework and Controlled Assignments will be marked internally and moderated by OCR. Throughout the course you will receive regular written and verbal feedback on your progress.

Career Opportunities

Progression onto higher education, all Design and Fine Art based courses including Film, Photography, Fashion, Ceramics, Glass and Media.

Other A Levels that you could study with this subject

English Language, English Literature, Philosophy, History, Product Design, Maths & Physics (Architecture)

Additional Opportunities

As part of the course students will be directed to current local and national Art exhibitions that may be relevant to individual projects and investigations, which they may wish to visit independently to inform their project.

AQA Biology

Why study this subject?

Biology A Level will build on the skills and concepts that had been developed in the GCSE Specification. It presents Biology as exciting, relevant and challenging, with an emphasis on applying knowledge and data analysis rather than just learning facts. Studying Biology will give you a deeper understanding of how your own body and the world around you works.

Subject Content

In your first year, you will learn about the biochemistry which underpins almost all life on Earth. You will look at similarities and differences between whole organisms, systems within them, at cellular level and right down to genetic level. You will study how exchange occurs inside organisms and how messages are transferred within them. The first year is split into four units: Biological Molecules, Cells, Organisms exchange substances with the environment and genetic information, variation and relationships between organisms.

You will undertake a range of practical work to support your learning.

You will do two 90-minute exams each worth 50%. They will consist of a mixture of short answer, extended response and comprehension questions. There will be questions on practicals you have completed over the year within each paper.

In your second year, the course is split into another four units Energy transfers in and between organisms, Organisms respond to changes in their internal and external environments, Genetics, populations, evolution and ecosystems and The control of gene expression.

You will study how energy is transferred within organisms, how they respond to the environment and maintain their internal environment. You will discover how we are using cutting edge technology to investigate the causes and possible treatments of genetic disorders.

You will also be assessed again on the four AS units.

The full A-Level Biology consists of three papers. Papers 1 and 2 are similar to the AS (but 1 is on topics 1-4 and 2 is on topics 5-8). Paper 3 can assess any content and required practical work from the two year course. There is no coursework for this course as it is 100% exam.

How you will be assessed.

You will learn through a variety of methods including: lectures, discussion, group work, individual activities, laboratory practical work, field work and plenty of past paper questions throughout the two years.

Regular assessments will also be marked, graded and work set for students to develop their own areas of study which need to be improved on. Essay writing will also be included within expected homework. This leads into developing skills which are necessary for the paper 3 of the full A level.

Career Opportunities

- Medicine
- Veterinary Science
- Research Scientist
- Pharmaceutical industry
- Physiotherapy
- Dentistry
- Nursing
- Biochemistry
- Forensics and many more!

Other A Levels that you could study with this subject

- Chemistry – *essential if you wish to do a medical degree*;
- Maths;
- Physics.

EDUQAS Business Studies

Why study this subject?

In Business Studies lessons, you will learn:

- The importance of the context of business in relation to decision making;
- The interrelated nature of business activities and how they affect competitiveness;
- The competitive environment and the markets in which businesses operate;
- The influences on functional decisions and plans including ethical and environmental issues;
- The factors that might determine whether a decision is successful e.g. the quality of data and the degree of uncertainty;
- How technology is changing the way decisions are made and how businesses operate and compete;
- The impact on stakeholders of functional decisions and their response to such decisions;
- Use of non-quantitative and quantitative data in decision making (including the interpretation of index numbers and calculations such as ratios and percentages).

Subject Content

In your first year, you will learn the Units: Business 1 and Business 2

- What is business?
- Managers, leadership and decision making
- Decision making to improve marketing performance
- Decision making to improve operational performance
- Decision making to improve financial performance
- Human resources

In your second year, you will learn the Units: Business 3 and revise work covered in your first year.

- Analysing the strategic position of a business
- Choosing strategic direction
- Strategic methods: how to pursue strategies
- Managing strategic change

How you will be assessed.

You will have 3 papers, each a 2 hour exam and 33.3% of the A level.

Paper 1 consists of three compulsory sections. Section A has 15 multiple choices questions worth 15 marks. Section B has short answer questions worth 35 marks. Sections C and D have two essay questions (choice of one from two and one from two) worth 25 marks each.

Paper 2 has three data response compulsory questions worth approximately 33 marks each and made up of three or four part questions.

Paper 3 has one compulsory case study followed by approximately six questions.

Career Opportunities

A-level Business Studies can help you get into a range of careers, as it is a subject which covers a wide variety of specialist areas, including marketing, management and finance.

A knowledge of Business will be applicable to a whole range of sectors.

Other A Levels that you could study with this subject

Maths

History

Geography

Science

Languages

AQA Chemistry

Why study this subject?

Chemistry A Level will build on the skills and concepts that had been developed in the GCSE Specification. It presents Chemistry as exciting, relevant and challenging.

You could be part of the next team of researchers who find a cure for Alzheimer's, AIDs, cancer, the list goes on! Chemistry is vital in the development of new medicines and many other areas of research as well as giving you many transferable skills. Chemistry is everywhere!

Subject Content

In the first year, the course is split in to three areas of Chemistry—Physical, Organic and Inorganic.

You will cover topics such as bonding, amount of substance, periodicity. The course adds to the knowledge you have from GCSE as well as introducing new aspects of Chemistry and its applications.

Practical skills will be assessed through questions on required practicals which you will complete over the year. Your skills will also be monitored by staff allowing you to receive an endorsement of your practical capabilities.

In your second year, the course includes all of the first year content as well as new topics within each of the areas: Physical, Organic and Inorganic Chemistry. Again there are required practicals which will be assessed through questions on any of the papers.

You will sit three 2-hour exams; the first two are worth 35% of the course and the final worth 30%. There will be a mix of multi choice questions, practical-based and short and long responses.

The first two papers are on selected topics while the third can include content from anywhere in the course.

How you will be assessed.

You will learn through a variety of methods including: lectures, discussion, group work, individual activities, laboratory practical work and lots of past paper questions.

Independent learning skills will be developed making use of current technology.

Career Opportunities

An A Level qualification in Chemistry can lead to courses and careers in:

- Medicine
- Research science
- Chemical engineering
- Pharmaceutical industry
- Biochemistry
- Forensics

Other A Levels that you could study with this subject

- Biology
- Physics
- Maths
- Psychology
- Geography
- Business

AS Core Maths – AQA Level 3 Mathematical Studies

Why study this subject?

Core Maths will help you understand and apply clear, mathematical reasoning to real-life problems, analyse and interpret data in various contexts and confidently deal with everyday financial maths. Core Maths is for you if:

- You are interested in numbers, patterns, problem solving and logical thought.
- You want to continue studying maths, but want a course that is more applicable to real life.
- You enjoyed GCSE Mathematics and want to learn more.
- You are considering a career path that contains some level of mathematical content (most of them!)
- You are willing to work hard and study independently.

Subject Content

Paper 1- Core Written Calculator Exam 1 hour 30 minutes (50%)

1 Analysis of data – data, collecting and sampling data, representing data numerically and diagrammatically

Students will be expected to develop and demonstrate confidence and competence in the understanding and application of statistical techniques, interpreting data and drawing conclusions in the solution of problems.

2 Maths for personal finance - numerical calculations, percentages, interest rates, repayments and credit, graphical representation, taxation, solutions to financial problems.

Students will be expected to develop and demonstrate confidence and competence in the understanding and application of calculations in the solution of problems relating to personal finance.

3 Estimation - the modelling cycle, Fermi estimation

Students should become familiar with, and gain confidence in, ideas concerning the formulation of mathematical models.

Paper 2A – Statistical techniques Written Calculator Exam 1 hour 30 minutes (50%)

1 Critical analysis of given data and models (including spreadsheets and tabular data) - presenting logical and reasoned arguments in context, communicating mathematical approaches and solutions, analysing critically.

Students will be expected to use the data and models they are given and to be mathematically critical of these. In addition to the content presented in standard type within GCSE Mathematics criteria, students will be expected to draw on the mathematical content of analysis of data and maths for personal finance. In critical analysis, questions will concentrate on the analysis of numerical and graphical data. Numerical data will usually be given in spreadsheet or tabular form.

2 The normal distribution - properties of the normal distribution, notation, calculating probabilities

Students should be able to recognise that many things closely follow a normal distribution, e.g. heights of people, size of things produced by machines, errors in measurements, blood pressure, marks on a test etc. In these and similar situations, a graph of the distribution will have a 'bell' shaped curve.

3 Probabilities and estimation - population and sampling, confidence intervals.

4 Correlation and regression – correlation, the product moment correlation coefficient (PMCC), regression lines, calculations.

How you will be assessed.

- This qualification is linear. Linear means that students will sit two exams at the end of their course.
- Homework tasks will be set regularly which will be used to extend the learning from the lessons.
- There will be regular topic assessments throughout the year which will be sat during lessons.
- There will be two mock examinations which will be sat at key points during the year.

Career Opportunities

Core Maths has been designed to maintain and develop real-life mathematical skills. What students study is not purely theoretical or abstract; it can be applied on a day-to-day basis, whether in work, study or life. Employers from all different sectors are firmly behind Core Maths qualifications. Many roles in today's workplace require high levels of budget management and problem-solving skills; Core Maths will equip you with these skills.

Further information

The Core Maths support program is in association with STEM learning. You can find information, enrichment, news and resources on their website. The AQA website has the course specification, key dates, past exam papers and other resources that you may find interesting.

Other A Levels that you could study with this subject

Core Maths can help with other A level subjects, in particular with science, geography, business studies, economics and psychology.

Additional Opportunities

There are no formal trips or visits. Part of the course will be taught via the completion of projects, for example using a large data set to look at world statistics and statistical analysis.

OCR - Computer Science

Why study this subject?

Studying Computer Science will develop students understanding of real-world systems and allow them to create and develop solutions to work within modern day computer science. This in turn will develop the students understanding of computational thinking, their ability to analyse and solve problems, providing them with the ability to think creatively, logically and critically. As well as expanding their mathematical skills.

Computer Science will enable students to study and build their understanding of many areas of computer science that play a huge influence on the world today, providing skills that will benefit them in everyday life and many areas of future employment. The course will also develop the students understanding of project based work, including the different methodologies involved and how to effectively manage a project to ensure it reaches a successful conclusion.

Subject Content

Component 1: **Computer Systems**. This section explores the architecture of computer systems and networks. Software development, databases, web technologies, data types and structures. This will also look at the legal and ethical details within Computer Science today.

Component 2: **Algorithms and Programming**. This section will explore the different elements of computational thinking. It will look at how computers can be used to solve problems through programming and the use of computational methods. It will also examine the analysis and design of algorithms.

Component 3: **Programming Program**. Students will be required to analyse, design, develop, test and evaluate a program written by themselves using their chosen programming language.

How you will be assessed.

One 2 hours 30 minute Computer Systems written paper which will provide 40% of their total A level.

One 2 hours 30 minute Algorithm and Programming written paper which will provide 40% of their total A level

A non-exam assessed programming project which will provide 20% of their total A level.

Career Opportunities

Studying Computer Science will provide students with the required skills to work within many areas of industry due to the growing reliance of computers to manage and run many workplaces. This could include, network architecture, engineering or software development.

Other A Levels that you could study with this subject

Maths



AQA Drama and Theatre Studies

Why study Drama and Theatre?

Students of AQA drama and theatre develop skills that are not just essential for drama but applicable to a wide range of higher education subjects and in the workplace. This specification refines students' collaborative skills, their analytical thinking and their approach to research. Students grow in confidence and maturity as they successfully realise their own ideas. They learn to evaluate objectively and develop a sound appreciation of the influences that cultural and social contexts can have on decision making.

Subject Content

First Year

Component 3

Students start Year 12 studying two plays practically for their Extract 1 and 2. This is a helpful way for students to get used to using script and expand their practical skills. Study of practitioners will inform their practical work. They will make notes and reflect on their learning for the reflective report.

Component 2

After Christmas the students will begin devising practitioner workshops and writing up their learning to help prepare for their devising notebook. The performance will be assessed after Easter and the deadline for the notebook will be soon after.

Component 1

Students start to study the two set texts for their written exam, exploring practically and in a theoretical way. Exam questions, seminars on the text and performing extracts will help prepare students for the exam at the end of Year 13.

Component 1

Drama and theatre

Written exam

80 marks – 40% of the A Level

Students are assessed on their academic knowledge of drama and theatre. They will be asked questions on two set texts they will study, and analyse and evaluate a piece of live theatre they will have seen during the course.

Career Opportunities

Law in particular can benefit from a study of Drama and Theatre, with articulation of ideas, creativity and confidence being key. The written essays required both in the coursework and the exam as well as the analytical study of well-respected published plays mean that Drama and Theatre will support any written-heavy subject at university.

What other subjects fit with Drama and Theatre?

Any subject that relies on written skills and an articulate concise manner of communication works well with Drama, especially English Language, English Literature, History.

Second Year

Component 3

Students start Year 13 with Extract 3 from their third play. They will choose a practitioner to apply to it, rehearse and then present the final piece to an external AQA examiner. They will also finish their reflective report analysing and evaluating theatrical interpretation of all three extracts. This will be finished before Christmas.

Component 1

Students will see a piece of live theatre which will be studied in class before and after. The set plays from Year 12 will be revisited, and preparation for the written exam will continue until June.

Additional opportunities

As part of the course at least one piece of live theatre will need to be seen, which means at least one trip. Preferably we will see as much theatre as possible as this is incredibly beneficial to the course and the students.

Component 3

Making Theatre

Performance

60 marks – 30% of the A Level

Students explore three extracts from three different plays. The third extract is performed and marked by an external examiner and a methodology of a prescribed practitioner must be applied.

20 marks are assigned to a reflective report.

40 marks are for performance of extract 3.

Component 2

Creating original drama

Performance and coursework

60 marks – 30% of the A Level

Students create a piece of original drama influenced by the work and methodologies of a prescribed theatre practitioner.

40 marks are assigned to a devising notebook.

20 marks are for the devised performance.

AQA English Literature B

Why study this subject?

You will develop key transferrable skills. Study of this subject will encourage you to discuss complex ideas with your peers, engage with a range of texts, undertake independent research and communicate your ideas in both short- and long-form written responses with creativity and insight. This will support your studies in other subjects, as well as post-18 education.

English Literature is amazing. The influence of stories on the history of the world cannot be underestimated. By taking this course you will be exploring writers and texts that have made significant contributions to our society, and equipping yourself with the tools to further explore this rich and wide-ranging subject beyond A-levels.

Subject Content

In your first year of A Level, you will be introduced to Aspects of Tragedy and Elements of Crime through the study of:

- A collection of Keats' longer, narrative poetry, exploring how his Romantic writing develops the tragic genre.
- *Death of a Salesman* by Arthur Miller, a modern classic of the American stage.
- *Othello*, by William Shakespeare, one of the quintessential tragedies of English Literature.
- A collection of poetry on the idea of crime, including *The Laboratory* and *My Last Duchess* by Browning and Wilde's *The Ballad of Reading Gaol*.
- A wide range of literature associated with crime writing, in preparation for the unseen element of the examinations.

In your second year, you will study a further two texts associated with elements of crime writing:

- *Hamlet*, by William Shakespeare
- *When Will There Be Good News?* By Kate Atkinson

You will also complete your non-examined component, completing two essays based on a prose and poetry text of your own choosing and exploring different schools of literary criticism.

How you will be assessed

Paper 1: Aspects of Tragedy 2.5 hours, closed book exam. 40% of your A-level

Section A – analysis of a passage of *Othello*

Section B – critical debate essay on *Othello*

Section C – critical debate essay on an aspect of tragedy in Keats and *Death of a Salesman*

Paper 2: Elements of Crime 3 hours, open-book exam. 40% of your A-level

Section A – analysis of an unseen extract of crime writing

Section B & C – two critical debate questions on a combination of crime poetry, *Hamlet* and *When Will There Be Good News?*

NEA: Literary Theory and Independence 20% of your A-level

One 1,500 word essay on a prose text of your choice

One 1,500 word essay on a poetry text of your choice

Career Opportunities

English Literature is a 'facilitating subject', highly regarded by the best universities in the country. By choosing facilitating subjects you will have a much wider range of options open to you at university and beyond. Popular careers paths include:

- Media and journalism
- Publishing
- Advertising and Marketing
- Teaching
- Writing
- Law

Other A Levels that you could study with this subject

English works well with any combination of A-level subjects, particularly History, Religious Education, Business Studies, Psychology, Geography and Modern Languages.

Additional Opportunities

We endeavour to see any drama texts on the stage, depending on local productions. We have participated in a conference in London where academics from a range of universities held seminars on different aspects of the course.

Eduqas – Film Studies

Why study this subject?

Film Studies is a creative and analytical subject which requires students to explore, analyse and interpret existing film products produced globally from a wide range of genres and eras. Students will apply their knowledge when creating a media text of their own as part of the non-exam assessment.

The course is constantly updated and reflects the most up to date film theory and focuses upon why producers make the choices they do for their target audience.



Subject Content

Students will study a number of components within the time on the course which will focus on a wide range of topics. The course will take students on a journey exploring how Hollywood producers film with a close comparative study of two contrasting films produced between the period 1930-1990. While the films are yet to be confirmed, our choices can come from a list comprising some of the most exciting and influential films from this era. Following this, students will be taken into the modern day in both American and British cinema with such choices as the recent 'La La Land' (2016) and 'Shaun of the Dead' (2004) to get our teeth into. Our course will also take us into European and international cinema where we will explore how film makers from different cultures produce films for different audiences. Our final stops take us toward experimental, documentary and silent cinema where we will look at how these three contrasting media of film engage audiences with techniques specific to their genre.

As part of the non-exam assessment, students will be given the opportunity to put their understanding of film and cinema into practice when they will produce a short film or storyboard based on brief determined by the examination board.

An example of the films taught across the two years include:

'Casablanca' (1942)
'Vertigo' (1958)
'Blade Runner' (1982)
'La La Land' (2016)
'Shaun of the Dead' (2004)

'Pan's Labyrinth' (2006)
'City of God' (2002)
'Amy' (2015)
'Strike' (1924)
'Timecode' (2000)

Component 1: Varieties of film and filmmaking
Written examination: 2½ hours
35% of qualification

Component 2: Global filmmaking perspectives
Written examination: 2½ hours
35% of qualification

Component 3
Component 3: Production
Non-exam assessment
30% of qualification

Career Opportunities

Broadcasting including both distribution and production
Event management
Graphic design
Journalism

Market Researcher
Multimedia specialist
Public relations officer
Visual text production
Web content manager

Other A Levels that you could study with this subject

English literature
Drama

Art
Business studies

Additional Opportunities

Where possible, students will be given the opportunity to visit media centres including the BBC studios and the Media Museum in Bradford.

AQA French 7652

Why study this subject?

Choosing an A Level language is a really smart move if you want a fascinating subject that offers you a range of career possibilities at the end and are a lot of fun along the way. A-level language courses are interesting and varied subjects to study and give you a broad range of knowledge and skills.

Courses at University reflect the importance of a language either as a primary skill or combined with science, law, engineering, business courses or the Arts to provide a fruitful future.

Subject Content

The A-level specification builds on the knowledge, understanding and skills gained at GCSE. It constitutes an integrated study with a focus on language, culture and society. The content is suitable for students who wish to progress to employment or to further study, including a modern languages degree. The approach is a focus on how French-speaking society has been shaped socially and culturally and how it continues to change.

I. Social issues and trends:

- Aspects of Francophone society
- Modern and traditional values
- Cyberspace
- Equal rights

Multiculturalism in Francophone society

- Immigration
- Racism
- Integration

II. Political and artistic culture

- Artistic culture in the Francophone world
- Modern day idols
- French regional identity
- Cultural heritage

Aspects of political life in the Francophone world

- Today's youth, tomorrow's citizens
- Monarchies and dictatorships
- Popular movements

How you will be assessed.

Paper 1: Listening, Reading and Writing

Duration: 2 hours 30 minutes; total raw mark: 100

Paper 2: Writing

Duration: 2 hours; total raw mark: 80

Paper 3: Speaking

Duration: 21–23 minutes (including 5 minutes supervised preparation time); total raw mark: 60

Career Opportunities

Language skills are in demand and can be used in almost any career, particularly within businesses that trade internationally. Jobs where languages are a bonus are: interpreter, marketing executive, journalist, sales executive, tour manager, logistics and distribution manager, language teacher, translator, patent examiner or diplomatic. Lafarge Tarmac is a French company whose Head Office is in Solihull. Many others such as AXA, TOTAL, Renault, Dior and Peugeot have UK offices.

Other A Levels that you could study with this subject

Studying a modern foreign language combines well with most other subjects from Arts to Physics, Maths, Music or Business studies.

Additional Opportunities

French is second only to English for the number of countries where it has official status – 32 as opposed to 45. French is also the only language, with English, that is taught in every country of the world, with 100 million students and 2 million teachers – 20% of whom are outside of francophone countries. So French can literally take you anywhere!

Edexcel Further Mathematics

A Level Further Mathematics is for you if:

- You are highly interested in and excited by Mathematics.
- You want to study a challenging, stimulating and enjoyable subject.
- You want to learn why you CAN square root a negative number!
- You are considering Mathematics related degrees.
- You want to distinguish yourself as a gifted Mathematician in the university and employment market.

You are willing to work hard and study independently.

Further Mathematics is taught over 10 lessons a fortnight, in addition to A Level Mathematics lessons. Each class is taught by two Mathematics teachers.

Pure Content

Further Pure Mathematics 1 & 2 (25%, 25%)

- Topic 1 - Proof
- Topic 2 - Complex numbers
- Topic 3 - Matrices
- Topic 4 - Further algebra and functions
- Topic 5 - Further calculus
- Topic 6 - Further vectors
- Topic 7 - Polar coordinates
- Topic 8 - Hyperbolic functions
- Topic 9 - Differential functions

Applied Content

Further Mechanics 1 (25%, 25%)

- Topic 1 - Momentum and impulse
- Topic 2 - Collisions
- Topic 3 - Centre of mass
- Topic 4 - Work and energy
- Topic 5 - Elastic strings and springs

Further Statistics 1

- Topic 1 - Linear regression
- Topic 2 - Statistical distributions (discrete)
- Topic 3 - Statistical distributions (continuous)
- Topic 4 - Correlation
- Topic 5 - Hypothesis testing
- Topic 6 - Chi squared tests

How you will be assessed.

Homework will be set at least twice per week and must be completed within one week of being set. There will be additional work set for completion in supervised study sessions. Students are also expected to undertake independent study to ensure that they are ready for their next lesson. The Mathematics department recommends spending a minimum of 4 hours per week on homework and private study.

There will be regular tests, in examination conditions, during lessons. The purpose of these is to encourage students to revise regularly and to become aware of any areas for development.

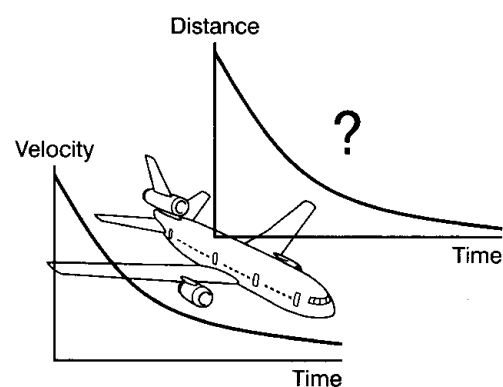
Examinations All Further Mathematics modules are examined in the summer term (May or June) of Year 13.

Career Opportunities

Former students of A Level Mathematics at St Peter's have gained places at university in a wide range of disciplines including Accountancy, Engineering, Dentistry, Law, Medicine, Biological Science, Computer Science, Economics, Pharmacy and Mathematics.

Other A Levels that you could study with this subject

- Physics
- Biology
- Chemistry
- Business
- Geography
- Further Mathematics



AQA Geography

Why study this subject?

Geography is a subject for our times. It is inherently multidisciplinary in a world that increasingly values people who have the skills needed to work across the physical and social sciences. Geographers get to learn about data analysis, and geographic information systems. They learn about the physics of climate change, or the interaction of weather events and flood risk, or the way people's behaviour is influenced by the space around them.

Geography will excite you, challenge perceptions and stimulate your investigative and analytical skills. Geography will equip you with the skills needed to succeed in employment or at university. It is a facilitating subject and so is regarded highly by universities for its academic nature.

Subject Content The course is split over two years.

Unit 1: Physical geography

What's assessed?

- Water and carbon cycles

Unit 2: Human geography

What's assessed?

- Contemporary Urban Environments
- Changing Places

Unit 3: Geographical Fieldwork Investigation

- Fieldwork (4 days)

What's assessed?

- Students complete an individual investigation which must include data collected in the field. The individual investigation must be based on a question or issue identified and developed by the student relating to any part of the specification content.

How will you be taught and assessed?

There are 5 lessons every week.

- the course is divided into Physical and Human geography.
- a variety of teaching styles are used including fieldwork.

At the end of two years you will sit 2 examinations and complete a 3,000-4,000 word report:

Unit 1: Physical geography

- written exam: 2 hours 30 minutes
- 40% of A-level

Unit 2: Human geography

- written exam: 2 hours 30 minutes
- 40% of A-level

Unit 3: Geographical investigation

- 3,000—4,000 words
- 20% of A-level

Career Opportunities

Geographers find employment in a variety of areas: Climatology, Cartography, Hydrology and Earth Sciences, Engineering and Travel, Criminology, Urban planning and Retail management, Civil Service and Environmental Conservation.

Many students study Geography further at University as a BSc or BA degree.

Other A Levels that you could study with this subject

Geography is regarded as a Science and Art subject. It fits with History, Business Studies, Economics, Psychology, Sociology, English Language and English Literature, Geology, Mathematics, Physics, Chemistry and Biology.

Additional Opportunities

Students in year 12 will undertake 5 days fieldwork. They will visit a coastal area (e.g. Rhyl), the river Arrow, the Wyre Forest, Birmingham CBD and undertake an urban transect along the Stratford Road. This is a compulsory requirement of the course.

AQA German 7661

Why study this subject?

Choosing an A Level language is a really smart move if you want a fascinating subject that offers you a range of career possibilities at the end and are a lot of fun language courses are interesting and varied subjects to study and give you a broad range of knowledge and skills.

Courses at University reflect the importance of a language either as a primary skill engineering, business courses or the Arts to provide a fruitful future.

Subject Content

The A-level specification builds on the knowledge, understanding and skills gained at GCSE. It constitutes an integrated study with a focus on language, culture and society. The content is suitable for students who wish to progress to employment or to further study, including a modern languages degree. The approach is a focus on how German-speaking society has been shaped socially and culturally and how it continues to change.

I. Social issues and trends:

- Aspects of Germanic society
- Modern and traditional values
- Cyberspace
- Equal rights

Multiculturalism in Germanic society

- Immigration
- Racism
- Integration

II. Political and artistic culture

- Artistic culture in the Germanic world
- Modern day idols
- German regional identity
- Cultural heritage

Aspects of political life in the Germanic world

- Today's youth, tomorrow's citizens
- Monarchies and dictatorships
- Popular movements

How you will be assessed.

Paper 1: Listening, Reading and Writing
Duration: 2 hours 30 minutes;
total raw mark: 100

Paper 2: Writing
Duration: 2 hours;
total raw mark: 80

Paper 3: Speaking
Duration: 21–23 minutes
(including 5 minutes supervised preparation time);
total raw mark: 60

Career Opportunities

Language skills are in demand and can be used in almost any career, particularly within businesses that trade internationally. Jobs where languages are a bonus are: interpreter, marketing executive, journalist, sales executive, tour manager, logistics and distribution manager, language teacher, translator, patent examiner or diplomatic. Aldi Supermarkets, a German company have their UK Head Office in Atherstone, Warwickshire. Many others, including BMW, Audi and VW have UK offices.

Other A Levels that you could study with this subject

Studying a modern foreign language combines well with most other subjects from Arts to Physics, Maths, Music or Business studies.

Additional Opportunities

German is among the most widely spoken language in the European Union and is the official language in **Germany, Austria and Liechtenstein**. It's also one of the official languages of **Switzerland and Luxembourg**. There are other German-speaking communities in Europe; the Province of Bolzano-Bozen in Northern Italy and the Eastern part of Belgium, as well as communities in Eastern Europe, North and South America. So A Level German can literally take you anywhere!

OCR History A

Why study this subject?

History allows you to comprehend how people thought and behaved in the past. This enables us to have a greater understanding of present day events. You will have the opportunity to study political, social, economic and religious history.

Subject Content

In your first year, you will study two units:

The Early Tudors 1485-1558. You will study the reigns of the first four Tudor monarchs – Henry VII, Henry VIII, Edward VI and Mary I. This includes a source investigation on the period of the Mid-Tudor crisis. You will consider issues such as minority rule, the impact of female rulers and social and economic problems. You will study events that had important consequences such as the Reformation.

Democracy and Dictatorships: Germany 1919-1963
This an eventful period in Germany and you will consider the government of the Weimar Republic and the problems it faced. You will study the rise of Hitler and assess the impact of Nazi policies. Germany's loss in World War 2 had momentous consequences, most notably the division of Germany. The latter part of the course focuses on a divided Germany between 1949 and 1963.

In your second year, you will study two units:

Russia 1855-1964 This is a dramatic period of History as we study the reigns of the last three Tsars and the first three Communist rulers. You will consider themes such as the nature of government, the impact of wars and treatment of nationalities. You will debate the causes and consequences of important events such as the assassination of Alexander II and the 1917 Revolutions.

Historical Enquiry Unit Y100

This unit requires students to write a 3000-4000 word essay which can be on a range of topics such as the Holocaust, Ireland or Elizabeth I. Your essay will include an analysis of primary sources and historians' interpretations.

How you will be assessed.

Assessment is by three examination papers at the end of Y13. You will also complete a Historical Enquiry of around 4000 words. You have the opportunity to choose the topic of this coursework, based on a range of topics suggested by the department.

Career Opportunities

History is well regarded as a rigorous academic subject. The study of History provides skills for a range of careers such as law, journalism, Politics, Human Resources and the Civil Service.

Other A Levels that you could study with this subject

History combines well with both arts and sciences. It complements other essay subjects such as English Literature and Religious Studies. The analysis of evidence helps with the study of science and social science.

Additional Opportunities

Y12 have the opportunity to visit Berlin and Auschwitz.

Visits to the University of Birmingham and the University of Nottingham are arranged in September of Y13 to help pupils in writing their Historical Enquiry

Edexcel Mathematics

Why study this subject?

A Level Mathematics is for you if:

- You are interested in numbers, patterns, problem solving and logical thought.
- You want to study a challenging, stimulating and enjoyable subject
- You enjoyed GCSE Mathematics and want to learn more.
- You are considering a future in Maths, Engineering, Science, Finance or Computing.

You are willing to work hard and study independently.

The Mathematics course is taught over 10 lessons a fortnight in Year 12 and 10 lessons a fortnight in Year 13.

Each class is taught by two Mathematics teachers.

Subject Content

Pure

Paper 1: Pure Mathematics 1 (33.3% 100 marks)

- Topic 1 – Proof
- Topic 2 – Algebra and functions
- Topic 3 – Coordinate geometry in the (x,y) plane
- Topic 4 – Sequences and series
- Topic 5 – Trigonometry
- Topic 6 – Exponentials and logarithms
- Topic 7 – Differentiation
- Topic 8 – Integration
- Topic 9 – Vectors

Paper 2: Pure Mathematics 2 (33.3% 100 marks)

- Topic 1 – Proof
- Topic 2 – Algebra and functions
- Topic 3 – Coordinate geometry in the (x,y) plane
- Topic 4 – Sequences and series
- Topic 5 – Trigonometry
- Topic 6 – Differentiation
- Topic 7 – Integration
- Topic 8 – Numerical methods

How you will be assessed.

Homework will be at least twice per week and must be completed within one week of being set. There will be additional work set for completion in supervised study sessions. Students are also expected to undertake independent study to ensure that they are ready for their next lesson. The Mathematics department recommends spending a minimum of 5 hours per week on homework and private study.

There will be regular tests, in

examination conditions, during lessons. The purpose of these is to encourage students to revise regularly and to become aware of any areas for development.

Examination All Mathematics examinations are in the summer term (May or June) of Year 13.

Career Opportunities

Former students of A Level Mathematics at St Peter's have gained places at university in a wide range of disciplines including Accountancy,

Applied

Paper 3: Mechanics and Statistics (33.3% 100 marks)

Section A: Statistics

- Topic 1 – Statistical sampling
- Topic 2 – Data presentation and interpretation
- Topic 3 – Probability
- Topic 4 – Statistical distributions
- Topic 5 – Statistical hypothesis testing

Section B: Mechanics

- Topic 6 – Quantities and units in mechanics
- Topic 7 – Kinematics
- Topic 8 – Forces and Newton's laws
- Topic 9 – Moments

Engineering, Dentistry, Law, Medicine, Biological Science, Computer Science, Economics, Pharmacy and Mathematics.

Other A Levels that you could study with this subject

- Physics
- Biology
- Chemistry
- Business
- Geography
- Further Mathematics

AQA Physics

Why study this subject?

Through the study of how matter and energy interact you will encounter the processes of some of the smallest objects in the Universe, from quarks and neutrinos, to the some of the largest objects such as Quasars and the Universe itself.

The A level course will develop your ability to deal with abstract concepts, problem solving, logical and critical thinking, as well as numerical and communication skills.

Subject Content

First Year

Core Content

1. Measurements and their Errors
2. Particles and Radiation
3. Waves
4. Mechanics and Materials
5. Electricity

Second Year

Core Content

6. Further Mechanics and Thermal Physics
 7. Fields and their Consequences
 8. Nuclear Physics
- As well as the core content from Year 12*

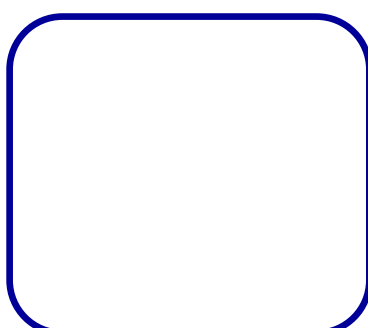
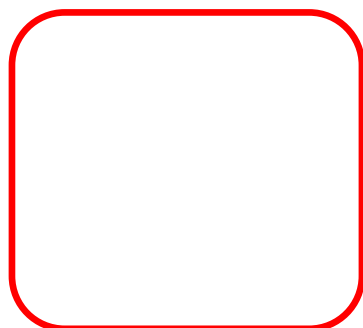
Optional Content

9. Astrophysics
10. Medical Physics
11. Engineering Physics
12. Turning points in Physics
13. Electronics

Choose one of the above topics

How you will be assessed

The course is 100% based on exams, but will have 12 required practicals which also earn you the practical endorsement.



Career Opportunities

*Airline Pilot
Astronomy Communications
Technology
Computing
Engineering
Environmental Work*

*Forensic Science
Information Technology
Medicine (Including Dentistry
And Veterinary Science)
Research
Scientific Journalism*

*Teaching/Lecturing
Television And Radio
Computer Game Designer
Finance and Trading*

Other A Levels that you could study with this subject

Maths is strongly recommended. Students who take Further Maths learn similar content to the Physics course in the Mechanics modules.

Additional Opportunities

There are frequent lectures at the University of Birmingham on Tuesday evenings. We have run the British Physics Olympiad in Year 12 and Year 13.

Edexcel Politics



Why study this subject?

Studying government and politics will give you an informed understanding of politics in its historical context, both in the United Kingdom and globally. You will develop an awareness of the nature of politics and the relationship between political ideas, institutions and processes. You will also develop an understanding of the influences and interests that impact on the decisions of governments. You will gain a greater understanding of the rights and responsibilities of individuals and groups.

Politics is an essay based subject and the course will develop essay writing skills and the ability to explain, analyse, evaluate and produce a sustained argument. The course will also help develop literacy and research skills. Therefore it would be an excellent subject for students considering higher education but equally those going into the world of work where a knowledge of the workings of government and politics would be most useful.

Subject Content

Component 1: UK politics and core political ideas. This section explores political participation and political ideas.

Component 2: UK government and non core political ideas. You will study the UK government and the political idea of feminism.

Component 3: Comparative politics. You will study the USA.

Unit 4: **Extended themes in Political Analysis**

How you will be assessed.

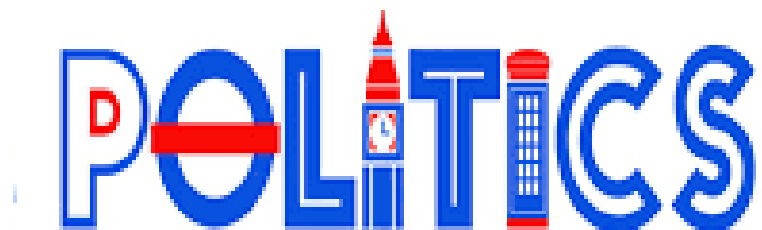
Three 2 hour exams at the end of Year 13, each worth 33.3%.

Career Opportunities

Studying Politics will give you a sound understanding of key ideas and systems. As well as leading to careers in politics and government itself, studying this subject could lead into careers in areas such as law, business and teaching.

Other A Levels that you could study with this subject

History
Business
Geography
RE
Sciences



AQA Psychology

Why study this subject?

Psychology is the scientific study of behaviour and the mind. It offers a unique educational experience that develops a distinctive and broad set of skills. It's located in scientific methodology and allows scope for extensive evaluation from a range of perspectives. You will:

- Gain hands on experience of a range of research methods encouraging active learning.
- Appreciate how psychological knowledge and understanding develops over time.
- Explore applications of Psychology and gain insight into how psychological theory can be applied to real world situations.
- Develop the ability to communicate effectively using appropriate language and become psychologically literate citizens.

First Year Subject Content

Units: 1 and 2

Unit 1- The first topic you will study is **Social Influence** through looking at conformity, obedience, minority influence and how social change occurs. The second topic is **Psychopathology** where you will learn about how we define something as abnormal, characteristics of psychological disorders and different approaches in explaining and treating psychological disorders. Thirdly, you will study **Attachment** by exploring caregiver and infant interactions, how attachments are formed, explanations of attachment and the potential consequences of not forming attachments. The final topic you will study is **Memory**. Through this you will look at explanations of how memory works, why we forget and consider the accuracy of eye-witness testimony.

Unit 2- Psychology in Context consists of three topics. Firstly you will look at **Approaches** in Psychology by outlining and evaluating different perspectives including biological, cognitive, behavioral, psychodynamic and humanistic. You will study **Research Methods** which involves looking at different ways research is conducted and evaluating these techniques. It also entails how data is analysed. Finally, you will study **Biopsychology** which looks at physiological explanations of behaviour such as genetics and brain abnormality. You will also learn about functions of the brain and control of the body and the effects of brain damage.

How you will be assessed.

Paper 1 Introductory Topics in Psychology contains compulsory content 1 to 4. Written exam 2 hours, 96 marks

Paper 2 Psychology in Context contains compulsory content 5 to 7. Written exam, 2 hours, 96 marks.
Paper 3 Issues and Options in Psychology contains

compulsory content 8 above and optional content, one from 9 to 11, one from 1 to 14, one from 15 to 17. Written exam, 2 hours, 96 marks

Other A Levels that you could study with this subject

Biology, Chemistry, Sociology, History, Languages

Career Opportunities

Clinical Psychology, Sports Psychology, Educational Psychology, Marketing, Recruitment, Police, Speech therapy

Second Year Subject Content

Units: 3 and revision

Unit 3- Issues and Options in Psychology. This will cover four topics. The first of these is **Issues and Debates** which will require you to consider different arguments relating to psychological research such as whether behaviour is governed by nature or nurture and whether we have free-will over our actions or our behaviour is determined and beyond our control. You will also learn about limitations of research such as gender bias and cultural bias and ethical issues that may arise when studying people.

The next topic you will look at is **Relationships** where you will look at explanations of how relationships are formed, maintained and breakdown. This topic also includes studying virtual relationships on social media and Para social relationships such as stalking behaviour.

The third topic you will study is **Schizophrenia** where you will learn how it is diagnosed as a psychological disorder through being able to identify symptoms. You will also consider different explanations and potential treatments that can be applied to schizophrenia.

Finally, you will study **Forensic Psychology** through considering problems in defining crime and ways that crime is measured. You will also cover offender profiling and consider different explanations of criminal behaviour. You will then look at ways of dealing with offending behaviour and evaluating their effectiveness.

OCR Religious Studies

Why study this subject?

The A Level Religious Studies course at St. Peter's aims to thoroughly engage learners and develop an interest in Religious Studies which extends beyond the classroom and can be applied to the world that we live in today.

Subject Content

First Year of Study

Philosophy of religion

- ancient philosophical influences
- arguments about the existence or non-existence of God
- the nature and impact of religious experience
- the challenge for religious belief of the problem of evil
- the nature of the soul, mind and body
- the possibility of life after death

Religion and ethics

- normative ethical theories
- the application of ethical theory to two contemporary issues of importance
- ethical language and thought

Developments in religious thought

- religious beliefs, values and teachings, their interconnections and how they vary historically and in the contemporary world
- sources of religious wisdom and authority
- practices which shape and express religious identity, and how these vary within a tradition

How you will be assessed.

At A Level in Religious Studies you will study three components that are externally assessed, these are:

- Philosophy of religion (01)
- Religion and ethics (02)
- Developments in religious thought (03)

These exams will take the form of an externally assessed written papers testing both recall, understanding and analysis. There is no coursework element with this A Level.

Further information

On the school network or ask any RE teacher and they will advise you of the content, teaching and your suitability for the course.

Other A Levels that you could study with this subject

A Level RS complements all other courses and helps develop an understanding of spiritual, moral, ethical, social and cultural issues in our world today.

Career Opportunities

RS is a useful stepping stone to many careers where it helps to understand what people believe and how it affects their lives. For example, Medicine, Social Work, Law, the Armed Services, Police Force, Journalism, Teaching and many more.

Second Year of Study

Philosophy of religion

- ideas about the nature of God
- issues in religious language.

Religion and ethics

- debates surrounding the significant ideas of conscience and free will
- the influence on ethical thought of developments in religious beliefs and the philosophy of religion.

Developments in religious thought

- significant social and historical developments in theology and religious thought
- key themes related to the relationship between religion and society.

OCR A-Level Sociology

Why study this subject?

Sociology is the study of human behaviour, focusing on how groups in society interact. We study society's diversity, examining different cultures, ethnicities, beliefs and values. We also study inequality in society, considering why some groups have different life experiences than others and the impact that this inequality can have, for instance on education and crime.

Subject Content

First Year: Units: 1 and 2

Paper 1 looks at key sociological concepts, such as 'What is culture?' and 'What is identity?' The Sociological focus of paper 1 is on the family and the diversity of family structures in the UK. We consider patterns and trends in the family over time for example, family size, rates of marriage and rates of divorce. Students will search for explanations as to why changes in the 'typical' UK family exist.

Paper 2 examines inequality in society, assessing social groups such as gender, class, ethnicity and age. Students will develop an understanding of Sociological theory and what Sociological research has shown in regards to inequality in our society. Theoretical perspectives they will critique include Functionalism, Feminism, Marxism and Postmodernism.

How you will be assessed.

Assessment Overview	
Socialisation, culture and identity (01) 90 Marks 1 hour 30 minutes Written paper	30% of total A level
Researching and understanding social inequalities (02)* 105 Marks 2 hours 15 minutes Written paper	35% of total A level
Debates in contemporary society (03)* 105 Marks 2 hours 15 minutes Written paper	35% of total A level

Second Year: Units: 3 and revision

This paper is entitled 'Debates in Contemporary Society'. In this exam, students will consider the impact of modernity on the modern world e.g. globalization, digital communication, social media and technological advances.

Students will develop an understanding of how these advances in society are shaping us in terms of our moral and values, relationships, education and learning of the world around us.

Debates will include standpoints as to whether these technological advances have been hindrance or help to our society, requiring students to imagine what the consequences of such an advanced world may be.

Career Opportunities

Direct career opportunities in Sociology include Social Work, Teaching, Nursing, Healthcare, Midwifery and Psychology. However there are many transferable skills that Sociology helps to build that can apply to all higher education courses such as the ability to conduct research, extended writing and independent learning.

Other A Levels that you could study with this subject

Psychology
History
Health and Social Care
Philosophy and Ethics

AQA Spanish 7692

Why study this subject?

Choosing an A Level language is a really smart move if you want a fascinating subject that offers you a range of career possibilities at the end and are a lot of fun along the way. A-level language courses are interesting and varied subjects to study and give you a broad range of knowledge and skills.

Courses at University reflect the importance of a language either as a primary skill or combined with science, law, engineering, business courses or the Arts to provide a fruitful future.

Subject Content

The A-level specification builds on the knowledge, understanding and skills gained at GCSE. It constitutes an integrated study with a focus on language, culture and society. The content is suitable for students who wish to progress to employment or to further study, including a modern languages degree. The approach is a focus on how Spanish-speaking society has been shaped socially and culturally and how it continues to change.

I. Social issues and trends:

- Aspects of Hispanic society
- Modern and traditional values
- Cyberspace
- Equal rights

- Multiculturalism in Hispanic society
- Immigration
- Racism
- Integration

II. Political and artistic culture

- Artistic culture in the Hispanic world
- Modern day idols
- Spanish regional identity
- Cultural heritage

- Aspects of political life in the Hispanic world
- Today's youth, tomorrow's citizens
- Monarchies and dictatorships

How you will be assessed.

Paper 1: Listening, Reading and Writing
Duration: 2 hours 30 minutes;
Total raw mark: 100

Paper 2: Writing
Duration: 2 hours;
Total raw mark: 80

Paper 3: Speaking
Duration: 21–23 minutes
(including 5 minutes supervised preparation time);
Total raw mark: 60

Career Opportunities

Language skills are in demand and can be used in almost any career, particularly within businesses that trade internationally.

Jobs where languages are a bonus are: interpreter, marketing executive, journalist, sales executive, tour manager, logistics and distribution manager, language teacher, translator, patent examiner or diplomatic.

Many large Spanish businesses have offices based in the UK, including SEAT, Santander and Iberia Airlines.

Other A Levels that you could study with this subject

Studying a modern foreign language combines well with most other subjects from Arts to Physics, Maths, Music or Business studies.

Additional Opportunities

Spanish is the primary language of 21 countries worldwide; making it the second most widely spoken language. Spanish only falls in second place behind Chinese, which is spoken by over a billion people and far outranks any other language – English comes in third place, with 335 million native speakers. So A Level Spanish can literally take you anywhere!

Pearson BTEC Level 3 National Extended Certificate in Business (2016)

Why study this subject?

The content of this qualification has been developed in consultation with academics to ensure that it supports progression to higher education or apprenticeships in the Business sector. Employers and professional bodies have been involved and consulted in order to confirm that the content is appropriate and consistent with current practice for learners planning to enter employment directly in the business sector.

The learning programme covers the following content areas:

Business environments, finance, marketing.

Subject Content

First Year

Units: 1 and 3

Unit 1: In this unit, you will gain an overview of the key ingredients for business success, how businesses are organised, how they communicate, the characteristics of the environment in which they operate, and how this shapes them and their activities. You will also look at the importance of innovation and enterprise to the success and survival of businesses, with the associated risks and benefits.

Unit 3: This unit includes aspects of both personal and business finance. Personal finance involves the understanding of why money is important and how managing your money can help prevent future financial difficulties. It is vital you understand the financial decisions you will need to take throughout your life and how risk can affect you and your choices. This unit will also give you an insight into where you can get financial advice and support.

Second Year

Units: 2 and 8

Unit 2: You will examine the marketing aims and objectives for existing products/services and understand the importance of relevant, valid and appropriate research in relation to customers' needs and wants. You will use given market research data and other information to make recommendations about the type of marketing campaign that a business should undertake. In this unit, you will draw on your learning from across your programme to complete the assessment task.

Unit 8: This unit will give you a foundation for progression to employment, for example in a human resources role, or to higher education. Through undertaking recruitment activities the unit will help you to develop the skills needed in an interview situation. You will have an opportunity to review your individual performance and analyse your skills for development.

How you will be Assessed

Unit Name and Number	Exam or Coursework?	Guided Learning Hours (GLH) / % of overall qualification
Unit 1	Coursework	90 / 25%
Unit 2	Exam	90 / 25%
Unit 3	Exam	120 / 33%
Unit 8	Coursework	60 / 17%

Career Opportunities

Units have been designed to support choices in progression to business courses in higher education and to link with relevant occupational areas:

- human resources
- marketing
- accounting
- law

Level 3 Edexcel Extended Certificate in Sport

Why study this subject?

BTEC Nationals are designed as specialist qualifications for students who have a clear view of their future career or are seeking progression to higher education. **“A BTEC National qualification is equivalent to an ‘A’ level and is highly valued by universities, further education colleges and employers alike.”**

Subject Content

First Year

Anatomy & Physiology-90 Min written exam

Having an understanding of body systems is imperative in the sports industry so that professionals can help support people who are taking part in sport and exercise. The human body is made up of many different systems that interrelate to allow us to take part in a huge variety of sport and exercise activities. In order to appreciate how each of these systems function, you will explore the structure of the skeletal, muscular, cardiovascular, respiratory and energy systems. You will gain a full appreciation of how the body is able to take part in sport and exercise.

Fitness Training and Programming-Controlled Assessment

You will explore the process required for screening clients and assessing their lifestyle and nutritional intake. You will explore how to make judgements on a specific individual's current lifestyle and suggest modifications to help improve their fitness, health and overall wellbeing. Fitness training methods will be examined for each component of physical and skill-related fitness.

Second Year

Professional Development in the Sports Industry

You will research the different possible careers and the associated job roles in the sports industry, action plan your development towards achieving a selected career aim. You will analyse your own skills and identify how to develop them into a career through the use of a career plan. This unit will prepare you for progression to a career in the sports industry either directly or through higher education, by developing your understanding of investigation, career planning and awareness of the skills and qualities that sports employers look for.

Sports Leadership

You will develop confidence in a variety of different roles when leading sport. These roles range from coach to official to captain. Learners will be guided through the requirements of effective leadership and this will develop their knowledge and understanding of the leader's role, the key skills, qualities and characteristics.

How you will be assessed.

Certain units are assessed by coursework assignments in the form of either written reports, presentations, posters, case studies or letters based upon real life scenarios. Units are assessed and graded, and an overall grade for the qualification is awarded.

Career Opportunities

A BTEC National Award is a practical, work-related course. You learn by completing projects and assignments that are based on realistic workplace situations, activities and demands. You will focus on a particular subject area and develop a range of specialist skills and knowledge. It is equivalent to one A-Level so when you have finished the course you can use it to get a job in the sports industry or you can use it alongside other subjects to go to university.

Other A Levels that you could study with this subject

Any other subject will work well with BTEC Sport.

Additional Opportunities

Pupils will complete a work placement in their Professional development unit. This can range from working in a gym to working with media in sport.

WJEC Level 3 Diploma in Criminology (2015)

Why study this subject?

Not all types of crime are alike. What different types of crime take place in our society? How do we decide what behaviour is criminal? What is the difference between criminal behaviour and deviance? How do we explain why people commit crime? What happens to those who commit a crime? Why and how do we punish people? What organisations do we have in our society to control criminality? If you'd like to answer any of these questions, then Criminology may be the subject for you!

Subject Content

First Year: Units: 2 and 4

Unit 2: At the end of this unit you will have gained the skills to evaluate some criminological theories and know there are debates within the different theories. You will understand how changes in criminological theory have influenced policy. You will also have gained the skills to apply the theories to a specific crime or criminal in order to understand both the behaviour and the theory.

Unit 4: Through this unit, you will learn about the criminal justice system in England and Wales and how it operates to achieve social control. You will have gained an understanding of the organisations which are part of our system of social control and their effectiveness in achieving their objectives. As such, you will be able to evaluate the effectiveness of the process of social control in delivering policy in different contexts.

Second Year: Units: 1 and 3

Unit 1: Knowing about the wide range of different crimes and the reasons people have for not reporting such crimes will provide an understanding of the complexity of behaviours and the social implications of such crimes and criminality. At the end of this unit, you will have gained skills to differentiate between myth and reality when it comes to crime and to recognise that common representations may be misleading and inaccurate. You will have gained the skills to understand the importance of changing public perceptions of crime. You will be able to use and assess a variety of methods used by agencies to raise awareness of crime so that it can be tackled effectively. You will have gained the skills to plan a campaign for change in relation to crime; for example to raise awareness, change attitudes or change reporting behaviour.

Unit 3: A miscarriage of justice occurs when an innocent person goes to prison and when the guilty person is still free and unpunished. At the end of this unit you will have gained the skills to review criminal cases, evaluating the evidence in the cases to determine whether the verdict is safe and just.

How you will be assessed.

Unit Name and Number	Exam or Coursework?	Guided Learning Hours (GLH) / % of overall qualification
Unit 1: Changing Awareness of Crime	Coursework	90 / 25%
Unit 2: Criminological Theories	Exam	90 / 25%
Unit 3: Crime Scene to Courtroom	Coursework	90 / 25%
Unit 4: Crime and Punishment	Exam	90 / 25%

Career Opportunities

An understanding of criminology is relevant to many job roles within the criminal justice sector, including police officers, probation and prison officers, and social workers. With their critical thinking, analytical and communication skills, criminology students are also attractive to employers outside the criminal justice sector in areas such as social research and politics.

Other A Levels that you could study with this subject

Sociology
Psychology
History

OCR Cambridge Technical (2016) Level 3 Extended Certificate in Health and Social Care

Why study this subject?

Health and Social Care is an excellent subject if you are thinking a career in healthcare may be for you. Many of our students have gone on to be nurses and midwives, developing excellent skills that have allowed them to be successful in very competitive careers and university courses. It is also a great course to pick if you are interested in working with and helping vulnerable people e.g. children, the elderly or those with a disability.

Subject Content

First Year: Units: 1, 4 and 24

Unit 1: Building positive relationships in health and social care

This unit of work looks at key care values to enable practitioners to work with patients effectively e.g. Trust, communication, safeguarding and confidentiality.

Unit 24: Public Health

This unit considers our society's key health concerns e.g. obesity, smoking and drug misuse.

Unit 4: Anatomy and physiology for health and social care

A scientific unit which is factual and excellent for our future nurses and midwives, or if you just have an interest in the key working of the human body!

Other A Levels that you could study with this subject

Applied Science Biology
Sociology Psychology Public Services

Second Year: Units: 2, 3 and 17

Unit 2: Equality, diversity and rights in health and social care

This exam considers the rights of service users and how they are met in care e.g. dignity, respect, tolerance and independence.

Unit 3: Health, safety and security in health and social care

Procedures to safeguard both staff and clients in a care setting are crucial—this exam gives learners knowledge of procedure and policy that keep people safe.

Unit 17: Supporting people with mental health conditions

The focus of this work is different mental health illnesses and the variety of treatment options available. The impact of mental health issues on social groups is also assessed.

Unit Name and Number	Exam or Coursework?	Guided Learning Hours (GLH) / % of overall qualification
1: Building positive relationships in health and social care	Coursework	60GLH 16.6%
2: Equality, diversity and rights in health and social care	Exam	60GLH 16.6%
3: Health, safety and security in health and social care	Exam	60GLH 16.6%
4: Anatomy and physiology for health and social care	Exam	90GLH 25%
17: Supporting people with mental health conditions	Coursework	60GLH 16.6%
24: Public Health	Coursework	30GLH 8.3%

Career Opportunities

Most students who take Health and Social Care are looking to become a Nurse, Midwife, Social Worker or Health Care Professional. However there are many transferable skills gained such as extended writing and independent research.

WJEC Level 3 Applied Diploma in Medical Science



Why study this subject

The qualifications have been developed in conjunction with Universities and Clinical Pathology laboratories. They provide an engaging and meaningful context led approach to the development of scientific knowledge and skills, and enable learners to develop the tools necessary to understand, assess and suggest solutions to real-world medical problems and challenges.

Subject Content

Unit 1- Human Health & Disease

will enable learners to understand the normal functioning of the body at a cellular and physiological system level. They will learn how these systems react in different situations, and how these systems can go wrong in order to report on health of individuals.

Unit 2 – Physiological measurement techniques

will enable learners to perform tests which will accurately measure a range of physiological functions. They will be able to interpret the results of these tests and other tests and link this to possible physiological disorders.

Unit 3 – Medical Science research methods

is intended to enable the acquisition of the necessary knowledge and skills to carry out research in order to obtain meaningful information. It also seeks to promote an understanding of the processes involved in drawing meaningful inferences from research data. Learners will use their knowledge and understanding of research methods to conduct their own research.

Unit 4 – Medicines and treatment of disease

will enable learners to provide information to a range of audiences on how medicines work, to bring about effective treatment of diseases and disorders.

Unit 5 – Clinical Laboratory techniques

will enable learners to perform tests which will accurately measure a range of biochemical and microbiological parameters. They will be able to interpret the results of their tests, and other test results and link these results to possible physiological disorders.

Unit 6 – Medical case study

is the overall synoptic unit for the Diploma qualification. It provides the opportunity for candidates to demonstrate their understanding of the connections between the other five units of this Medical Science qualification. The contexts provided are medical case studies, which require candidates to analyse the information provided and develop a thorough assessment of the situation based on their knowledge and understanding gained from the other units of this qualification

How you will be assessed.

Units 1, 5 and 6 will be assess externally exams with pre-released material. Units 2, 3 and 4 will be internally assessed through coursework tasks.

Unit no.	Internal			External		
	2	3	4	1*	5	6**
%	12.5	12.5	25	25	12.5	12.5

* The unit 1 exam will also be synoptic for units 2 & 3

** The unit 6 exam will also be synoptic for units 1, 2, 3, 4 & 5

Career Opportunities

This qualification equips learners with scientific knowledge and understanding, as well as practical skills that would support progression to a range of job roles within medical and health care. Job roles such as those within the areas of life sciences, i.e. carrying out a range of laboratory and scientific tests to support the diagnosis and treatment of disease, this could include microscopic examination of tissue samples, analysis of blood cells to investigate anaemia or analysis of samples to identify the cause of an infection. Alternatively, there would also be opportunities to progress to job roles within the physiological sciences, working directly with patients, measuring and evaluating particular organ and systems, such as scientists working in neurophysiology recording the electrical activity in the brain. In addition, the qualification is eligible for UCAS points (ucas.com).

Course website link - <https://tinyurl.com/uzlt8xk>



AQA Extended Project Qualification

Why study this subject?

The EPQ will help you to demonstrate, to both further education providers and future employers that you are able to work independently. It will help you to develop essential skills for working at a higher level. These include:

- Working with others
- Working to deadlines
- Planning and management of a project
- Decision making and problem solving
- Presentation skills
- Communication Skills

The skills you gain through the EPQ are excellent preparation for university level study. You can refer to your EPQ in your UCAS personal statement and at an interview to show some of the qualities that universities are looking for.

The main value of the EPQ is that it is an independent piece of work; you will receive some instruction but most of the project is self-guided. This makes it both a challenge to complete and an award worth gaining. The EPQ has the value of one AS Level qualification.

In terms of UCAS points the EPQ carries the tariff shown below.

A*	70
A	60
B	50
C	40
D	30
E	20

Your project is assessed as a whole.

The three elements of your project that will be assessed are:

- The production log
- The written report (5000 words)
- A presentation of the project to a small audience
- In all three elements you need to show evidence of planning, preparation, research and autonomous working.

60% of the marks available are for how you plan, manage and review your project.

The other 40% of the marks are for the piece of work you actually produce.

How you will be assessed

The course is a combination of the taught element and independent work.

The taught element includes the skills that are necessary to complete your project. You will receive one hour of directed teaching each week; this is delivered by two members of staff. In total, you will spend approximately 30 hours on this part of the project.

Sessions cover such areas as:

- Research and study skills
- Note taking skills & personal learning styles
- Manipulating internet search engines wisely
- Plagiarism and how to avoid it
- How to reference, e.g. Harvard Style
- How to deliver an effective presentation
- Time management skills
- How to write a report and prepare an effective plan
- How to write abstracts, summaries and conclusions
- How to critically reflect, analyse and evaluate your work
- Assessment objectives and how to meet them

The remaining 90 hours of project time should be spent on independent work, producing, recording and presenting your EPQ.

What you will study

- The EPQ topic that you select could arise from one of your study areas. For example you may wish to explore the religious arguments for and against screening for genetic diseases as an extension of your work in Biology.
- You can also explore an area of personal interest outside your study areas.
- Your topic must not be directly related to your studies.
- You cannot base your work on material you will be examined on because then you would be gaining credit twice.
- At St. Peter's, projects must have either a philosophical, ethical or theological link.

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