

مدرسة الصقبة الدولية

AQABA INTERNATIONAL SCHOOL



A GUIDE TO 'A' LEVELS 2018-2019

Empowering Learners as Leaders of Change



Dear all students & guardians,

It is a pleasure to welcome you to the Secondary School section of our Annual revised booklet. In secondary we follow Cambridge International Examinations at IGCSE and Advanced Level. We aspire to high academic standards and take great pride in the exam results we have achieved in recent years, but the experience we seek to offer students goes far beyond exam results.

At AIS we aim to create a stimulating learning environment where students can ask questions, investigate for themselves and take a leading role in their own learning, acquiring the skills to become independent learners. AIS has an all-inclusive philosophy and a strongly multicultural ethos; we welcome students from a wide range of backgrounds, including those who are beginning to learn English and students who have difficulties with aspects of their learning.

We are part of the school community and the values of our school permeate across all aspects of the A level students provision. Students play a unique and valuable role in the school, contributing actively to the wider life of the school community. Students arrange and run events, mentor students and take on leadership responsibilities. Our student leadership team mirror the staff leadership team who work alongside each other to support and drive whole school initiatives.

Our students are actively encouraged to participate in the range of enrichment activities available to them so they further develop personal skills. Our beloved A level students have a dedicated area for silent study where students spend their supervised study sessions and in January 2017 we welcomed a space equipped with an area for students to complete group work.

In Grades 9 and 10, students have studied a broad range of IGCSE subjects, with a compulsory core, in line with the English National Curriculum and Jordanian Ministry of Education requirements. The AS and A level subject choices are entirely yours, albeit with some limitations imposed by the regulations on Tawjihi Equivalency. This booklet has been produced by the staff here at AIS, to assist you in making this decision. You should read it carefully and discuss it with your teachers and your parents.

This booklet contains the following sections:

- **An introduction**
- **How Grade 11 and 12 will be different**
- **AS and A Level Courses**
- **Entry requirements**
- **Applications**
- **Choosing subjects**

All of the staff, at AIS are working together our A level to succeed; we all want you to choose the courses that will help you to prepare for the exciting future ahead of you. We will help you in any way that we can.

Yours sincerely,
Feras Tarawneh
Head of Secondary School

INTRODUCTION

A-levels are a two-year course, with AS levels being obtained within the first year as part of the International British qualification.

- We welcome back existing students from our own Year 11 (Grade 10) and open our doors to students currently at other schools in Jordan and the rest of the world.
- We offer one year courses leading to AS Level and two year courses culminating in full A Levels.
- Apart from possessing the right qualifications needed to succeed, any student can apply for the AIS Grade 11 and 12 as long as they have successfully finished their IGCSE's.
- The teaching staff are highly qualified for teaching AS and A Levels. Indeed, we have among the best qualified school staff for delivering A Levels in Jordan showing high levels of commitment to individual students and providing tailor made courses catering for the student's individual needs.
- Teaching sets are small to ensure the levels of individual attention needed to guarantee the highest results.

The AIS Grade 11 and 12 nurtures independent learning, responsibility and trust.

Styles of teaching at AS and A Level are much less formal and far more student centred than they are at IGCSE Level. Relationships with teachers are more relaxed than in the younger years, though politeness will be insisted on at all times.

HOW WILL THE GRADE 11 AND 12 BE DIFFERENT?

- It is essential that students learn how to undertake private study during their non-taught lessons.
- The character of the individual is a key feature. Students are expected to show high levels of self-discipline and appropriate personal qualities at all times.
- The emphasis on relations with adults and other students on the site is one of mutual trust.

Opportunities are provided for students to take part in community service and charity events, to organise school events and/or to help younger students in the school if they wish. The latter may take the form helping primary children with their reading, helping with PE and so on. A level of commitment in keeping with students' maturity is required towards these activities.

- The Grade 11 and 12 is represented at a high level on the School Council which will be represented by two Head Students.
- Recreational PE, in the interests of maintaining high levels of physical fitness, is compulsory.
- Students who are keen on the Arts are encouraged to take part in musical and drama activities. It may even be possible to help with the production of such events.
- Throughout the Grade 11 and 12, students receive guidance and support

from their teachers and from the Grade Level Coordinator of Grade 11 and 12.

- We provide opportunities for students to visit universities, UK and US university fairs held in Jordan. Also speakers are invited to explain about Higher Education and how to access it later. We always encourage students to take part in work experience.
- The school also has a University Counsellor who provides students with consultations and guidance through the process of applying to universities.
- Grade 11 and 12 students are expected to demonstrate full attendance at academic lessons and other school activities such as assembly, PE, etc. as specified by the Grade coordinator of Grade 11 and 12.

'AS' AND 'A' LEVEL COURSES

Aqaba International School offers Grade 11 courses leading to the Advanced Supplementary (AS) Level of certification. Students will then have the choice to go on to take A level, the name given to the courses in the second year of study – leading to the full A Level certificate in Grade 12.

Most students will take 4 AS subjects in Grade 11, reducing to 3 in Grade 12. Highly gifted individuals can take 5 AS subjects reducing to 4 A2s, whilst students with marginal entry qualifications will be encouraged to take a slimmer programme of 3 AS Levels leading to 2 or 3 A Levels, depending on the progress they make. A single A Level subject is not encouraged but may be suitable for some marginal students striving to gain Jordanian GCE (Tawjihi) Equivalency. It is possible for a student to pick up another AS Level as part of a Grade 12 programme if appropriate.

The choice of subjects will depend largely on the Higher Education course or career to which a student aspires. We will offer impartial advice on this when students register and in a counselling session to be held after the publication of IGCSE results at the end of August/ beginning of September.

We will be offering the following subjects at AS and A2 level:

- Arabic.
- Biology.
- Business Studies.
- Chemistry.
- English Language.
- IT.
- General Studies.
- Mathematics.
- Physics.

Full details of these courses are provided in the second half of this booklet.

Timetabling will be based on the choices made by students on their initial application forms. Students normally have 6 or 7 taught lessons of each subject per week.

Every effort will be made to ensure that students get the subjects of their choice, whether a particular subject runs will depend on the demand and available staffing.

THE STRUCTURE OF 'AS' AND 'A' LEVEL COURSES

AS and A Levels at AIS are administered by two British Examination Boards: PEARSON/EDEXCEL and CI (Cambridge Assessment International Examinations).

The International A Levels offered by the Edexcel Board consist of a number of

modules at both AS Level and A2, which can be re-taken to improve a student's grades. Cambridge International also has AS Levels leading on to A2s.

Apart from the few linear A Levels on offer at AIS, students who wish to terminate courses at AS Level can claim their result when they are satisfied with their entire result. In these subjects the full 'A' Level grade is based on the cumulative total of the AS and A2 marks.

AS and A Levels are graded from A* (the highest pass) to E (a limited pass). 'U' (unclassified) is awarded to anyone who fails.

For further information, refer to the websites:

Edexcel – www.edexcel.org.uk

Cambridge International Examination – www.cie.org.uk

ENTRY REQUIREMENTS

Entry to AS/A Level courses at AIS will generally require a minimum of 5 IGCSE passes at Grade C or above. B grades are preferable in the subjects you wish to take at A Level for high level success. Students may be considered for acceptance on certain AS Level courses if they have fallen below this minimum requirement in exceptional circumstances on the understanding that they re-sit those subjects. Failure to gain at least a Grade C at the second attempt will mean that a student will not be able to continue on the AS course and will have to take a programme of IGCSE re-sits for the remainder of the year.

Students who have been educated in other systems, e.g. the American, IB or local Jordanian system are welcome to apply. Entry requirements will be the nearest equivalent to those described above. We will require evidence of competence at written and spoken English and may request that you

come to the school and sit an English test if necessary.

Any student who failed to reach a Grade C in either English or Mathematics at IGCSE will be required to take a re-sit in Grade 11. Jordanian students will be required to fulfil the GCE Tawjihi equivalency requirements.

APPLICATIONS

How do I find out more?

Prospective students and their parents are welcome to visit us at any time, though we would request that you make an appointment in advance. We will show you the school with its excellent facilities. All students are asked to fill out a form to prove they have done some pre-planning.

HOW DO I CHOOSE MY SUBJECTS?

Subject choices will depend on:

- The requirements of the Higher Education course you wish to apply for.
- The career you aspire to.
- The grades you are likely to get in different subjects in Year 11 (Grade 10).
- Your interests and talents.

We will discuss these with you when you apply and before you start in September, but we recommend that you do some research yourself.

For information on British universities, look on the UCAS website: www.ucas.ac.uk

The top American universities also have a centralised application service, CAF – the Common Application Form. We hold information about Jordanian universities but you are also advised to contact the universities concerned directly.

SUBJECTS

WHAT IS THE REQUIREMENTS FOR TAWJIHI EQUIVALENCY?

The Tawjihi certificate is the official school leaving certificate for Jordanian students. To qualify for this, you must have satisfactorily completed 12 years of full time education.

At Grade 11 and 12 level, there are two streams available:

Scientific Stream: Students are required to have 6 passes at IGCSE level at Grade D or above. 2 of these must be in Science subjects and one must be in First Language Arabic. For these purposes, Mathematics and ICT count as sciences. In addition, you require at least two passes at full A Level equivalent (Grade E or above). One of these must be in either Mathematics or Physics. The other may be either a full A Level in a science subject or two AS Levels also in science subjects.

Literary Stream: Students are required to have 6 passes at IGCSE level at Grade D or above. One of these must be in Mathematics and one in ICT. At A Level, you must have a full A Level in Arabic (Grade E or above) and one other full A Level equivalent. This may be either a full A Level in another literary subject, or two AS Levels in literary subjects, or one AS Level in a literary subject and one AS Level in a science.

These are minimum requirements. Any student wishing to be considered for university should aim to maximise their chances through passing at the best grades possible, preferably in 3 or 4 subjects.

Please refer to Appendix (1) for more detailed information on the equivalency for Jordanian students.

ARABIC - CIE 9680

What will I learn about?

This course will enable you to develop your skills in a modern foreign language and the attitudes required for further study, work and leisure. It will help students to communicate at a higher level in this language through the study of literary texts where appropriate. This will build a positive attitude to language learning and a sympathetic approach to Arab cultures and civilizations. Most of all, it will support intellectual and personal development by promoting learning and social skills.

What are the entry requirements?

You will need to have attained a certain level of proficiency in the language before taking this course in any of the following ways: First Language Arabic IGCSE (at least Grade C), through knowledge of the language as a native speaker or through study at a suitable level in another school in the Arab world. You will need to feel confident in the two language skills of reading and writing. You must also have some knowledge and understanding of the culture and way of life of the target language region and be interested in exploring these areas in much more depth.

How is the course structured?

Reading and writing:

This course consists of two passages in Arabic:

- The first passage will cover vocabulary recognition and grammar manipulation. This will be followed by a series of comprehension questions.
- In the second passage, there will be a series of comprehension questions.

- The last question will require candidates to write about 140 words, drawing information from both passages and adding their own opinions.

Essay:

A question will be set on each of five topics. Candidates choose **one** question and write an essay in Arabic of 250-400 words.

A2 (Full A Level)

There is no stand about AS Level qualification in Arabic.

The full A Level qualification is made up of the AS units plus two more units which are studied at a higher level.

These two units are:

Texts:

Candidates answer three questions in Arabic. Each question must be on a different text

taken from a list of six books. Candidates are advised to write between 500-600 words.

Prose:

Candidates translate a short passage from English into Arabic.

Progression

Having Arabic at A Level will improve your employability, in particular with companies which have international branches. For details of requirements for the equivalency of British A Level certificates with the Jordanian General Secondary Education Certificate refer to:

<http://www.moe.gov.jo/arabic/ass.html>

A Level Arabic is an essential qualification in the literary branch of the Tawjihi for students intending to take further studies in Jordan. It is not a requirement for the scientific branch.

grade B in Biology, Mathematics and English at IGCSE or equivalent.

BIOLOGY (IAL) - EDEXCEL

What will I learn about?

Students studying Biology at A Level will develop their previous knowledge and learn about the structure and roll of DNA and RNA, cell structure and ultra-structure, principles of taxonomy, photosynthesis and nutrient recycling, brain structure and development and coordination. Students will also need to develop their practical skills to learn through experimentation. The A Level course is designed to encourage students to become independent learners.

How is the course structured?

The course is divided up into three units for Grade 11 and three units for grade 12

AS Level

1. Lifestyle, Transport, Genes and Health
2. Development, Plants and the Environment
3. Practical Biology and Research Skills

What are the entry requirements?

Students embarking on this course will need to have achieved a minimum of

A2 Level or full A Level

4. The Natural Environment and Species Survival
5. Energy, Exercise and Coordination

6. Practical Biology and Investigative Skills

Assessment

Each unit is assessed by means of a written examination paper of 1 hour 30 minutes' duration.

The paper will consist of objective questions, short questions and long questions. Students may be required to apply their knowledge and understanding of biology to situations that they have not seen before. They will

BUSINESS STUDIES - CIE 9609

What will I learn about?

The AS Business course is run over the period of one year. The five compulsory units studied are:

1. Business and its Environment
2. People in organizations
3. Marketing
4. Operations and Project Management
5. Finance and Accounting

The A Level course is run over the duration of a two year period. In the first year students take the five compulsory units which cover the core content of the AS Business Studies syllabus. In the second year of the course they study the core and extended content of six compulsory units to gain the full A Level qualification. There are:

1. Business and its Environment
2. People in organizations
3. Marketing
4. Operations and Project Management
5. Finance and Accounting

also be assessed on their practical skills in paper 3 and paper 6

Progression

Biology A Level leads to the study of all life sciences as well as ecology and conservation, land management, agriculture and marine conservation. Students may wish to pursue careers in medical and pharmaceutical sciences including health and sports science.

6. Strategic Management

What are the entry requirements?

- A good standard of English is required. It is recommended that students attain a grade C or above in English.
- It is essential to have studied Business at IGCSE Level

Assessment

Paper	Weighting	
	AS Level	A Level
Paper 1: Core Topics (1hr 15 mins) Section A: Four short answer questions Section B: Essay on core topics (1 question out of a choice of 3)	20%	10%
Paper 2: (1 hr 30 mins) Core Topics: 2 data response questions	60%	30%
Paper 3: (3 hours Core and Extension Topics) Case study: 5 questions plus 1 essay question (from choice of 2)	-	50%

Progression

Business Studies lends itself to university courses all around the world. It is a good general option to take and also combines well with A Levels in Mathematics, Science, ICT and Humanities.

CHEMISTRY (IAL) - EDEXCEL AS XCH01; A2 YCH01

What will I learn about?

The EDEXCEL AS/A2 IAL Qualifications are the international and modular equivalent of a traditional AS/A-level curriculum in the UK. Students studying EDEXCEL IAL Chemistry will build on their previous knowledge, gained at IGCSE level, and develop it further by learning more about formulae and equation writing, enthalpy changes, chemical bonding, the chemistry of groups 2 and 7, qualitative understanding of reaction rates, chemical kinetics and reaction mechanisms, electro-potential, redox and organic chemistry.

It is aimed by the end of the course that students are able to recognise, recall and show understanding of scientific knowledge relating to chemistry, and are able to select, organise and communicate relevant information in a variety of forms. It is also aimed that students will be able to analyse and evaluate scientific knowledge and processes, and apply gained scientific knowledge and processes to any situation, including unfamiliar ones, and assess the validity, reliability and credibility of any scientific information.

Entry Requirements

Students embarking on this course will need to have achieved a minimum of grade C in Chemistry, Mathematics and English at IGCSE or equivalent.

How is the course structured?

The course is divided up into three units for Grade 11, and three units for Grade 12.

Grade 11 Units: AS Level (XCH01)

1. Module: WCH01: The Core Principles of Chemistry
2. Module: WCH02: Application of Core Principles of Chemistry
3. Module: WCH03: Chemistry Laboratory Skills

Grade 12 Units: A2 Level (YCH01)

4. Module: WCH04: General Principles of Chemistry I (Equilibria and Further Organic Chemistry)
5. Module: WCH05: General Principles of Chemistry II (Transition Metals and Organic Nitrogen Chemistry)
6. Module: WCH06: Chemistry Laboratory Skills II (Alternative)

Assessment

Each unit is assessed by means of a written examination paper of 1 hour 15 minutes duration at AS Level and 1 hour 40 minutes at A2 Level. Each paper will consist of objective questions, short questions and extended questions.

Students may be required to apply their knowledge and understanding of chemistry to situations that they have not seen before. They will also be assessed on their practical skills in paper 3 and paper 6, each of duration of 1 hour 15 minutes.

Progression

Chemistry A Levels are, in general, an excellent preparation for any science degree, but are mostly mandatory for students aiming to study for degrees in Pharmacy, Medicine, Chemical Engineering, Agrochemicals and Environmental Studies.



Cambridge International AS and A Level Information Technology (9626)

In a world where information Technology (IT) is constantly changing, individuals increasingly need technological and information literacy

skills that include the ability to gather, process and manipulate data.

The impact of IT on society is enormous and as the percentage of businesses and households connected to communication networks such as the internet grows, so does the need for individuals who understand these new technologies.

This syllabus encourages learners to become effective and discerning users of IT. It helps them to develop a broad range of IT skills, knowledge and understanding. Learners study the structure and use of IT systems within a wide range of organisations, including the use of a variety of computer networks. As a result,

What are the entry requirements?

A minimum of grade C at IGCSE ICT and good written English skills are required. Students inexperienced in the use of Microsoft Office applications (particularly 'Excel' and 'Access') will be severely disadvantaged.

Assessment

Assessment is by a combination of course work assignments and written examinations.

How is the course structured?

- This course will take a modular approach, leading to an AS Level at the end of Grade 11 and an A Level qualification by the end of Grade 12.
- The course will be divided into nineteen topic areas that are divided into AS and A Level.

AS Level

1. Data, information, knowledge and processing
2. Hardware and software
3. Monitoring and control
4. E-safety and health and safety
5. The digital divide
6. Using networks
7. Expert systems
8. Spreadsheets
9. Database and file concepts
10. Sound and video editing.

A2 (Full A Level)

Candidates for Cambridge International A Level Information Technology study topics 1–10 and the following topics 11–19.

11. Emerging technologies
12. Role and impact of IT in society
13. Networks
14. Project management
15. System life cycle
16. Graphics creation
17. Animation
18. Mail merge
19. Programming for the web



Progression

ICT is vital in the world of today. An A Level in ICT will support any future university course or career. For students who want a future career in ICT or computing, it is invaluable.

ENGLISH LANGUAGE - CIE 9093

What will I learn about?

Students will read and discuss a wide range of fiction, non-fiction and media texts. They will increase their knowledge and understanding of linguistic terms and concepts, which will increase their ability to analyse a variety of texts in different forms and styles.

Students will develop their ability to write imaginative pieces, using language to create deliberate effect. They will also improve their ability to construct an argument, presenting a view clearly, coherently and persuasively for a particular audience.

Those going on to A2 will also study spoken language and other specified areas of the English language.

What are the entry requirements?

The English Language AS Level course is suitable for students who have achieved a good pass in IGCSE First or second Language English. Students who have been educated in English to an appropriate level in the IB or American systems will also be considered.



How is the course structured?

At AS Level students are prepared for two papers: *Passages* and *Writing*.

Paper 1 (Passages) involves writing a commentary on the use of language in a passage followed by a directed writing task on the passage. Students will need to identify distinguishing features of passages and relate them to the function and content of the writing.

Paper 2 (Writing) is divided into two sections: Imaginative Writing (narrative / descriptive) and Writing for an Audience (discursive / argumentative). In both sections students must use language accurately in an appropriate style. In the second section they will be required to write in a specified form for a specified audience.

For the full A Level, students will work towards two further papers: *Text Analysis* and *Language Topics*.

Paper 3 (Text Analysis) requires students to emulate a style of writing and compare their work to the original, as well as comparing the language and style of different passages.

Paper 4 (Language Topics) contains questions on spoken language and social groups, English as a global language, and language acquisition by children and teenagers.

Assessment

Each paper requires candidates to answer two equally weighted questions. Papers 1 and 2 both carry 50% of the AS Level marks. Each of the four papers is worth 25% of the marks for the full A Level.

ENGLISH LITERATURE – CIE 9695

What will I learn about?

Students will study a range of texts in the three main forms: prose, poetry and drama. Set texts are offered from a wide range of different periods and cultures. Students will develop skills of reading and analysis of texts, and are encouraged to undertake wider reading to aid understanding of the texts studied. They will learn skills of effective and appropriate communication including the ability to discuss the critical context of texts.

What are the entry requirements?

The English Literature AS Level course is suitable for students who have achieved a good pass in iGCSE First or Second Language English. Students who have been educated in English to an appropriate level in the IB or American systems will also be considered.

How is the course structured?

The AS Level students are prepared for two papers: Poetry /Prose and Drama. Paper 3 (Poetry/Prose) contains two sections: Section A: Poetry and Section B: Prose. Students will respond to an essay question and a passage-based question on the texts they have studied. The set texts consist of a range of poetry from a particular era, writer or a range of cultures and the prose will be either from an anthology of short stories or classic novel. They will need to show understanding of the text and an informed independent opinion, which they must communicate clearly and appropriately.

Paper 4 (Drama) involves responding to both an essay question and a passage-based question on two plays they have studied. They will need to show understanding of the dramatic qualities of the plays and how language shapes meaning. In the examination they will need to give an informed independent opinion, which they must communicate clearly and appropriately.

For the full A Level, students will work towards to further papers: *Shakespeare and Pre-20th Century Texts* and *1900 to Present*.

Assessment

Each paper requires candidates to answer two equally weighted questions. Papers 3 and 4 both carry 50% of the AS level marks. Each of the four papers is worth 25% of the marks for the full A Level.

Progression

Studying English Literature helps to sharpen your analytical skills. If you can take a text and find the themes plus connect it with other texts, theories and historical events, you are showing that you can handle complex ideas, search for patterns and interpret information in a wider context. You will also develop your planning and research skills as well as gain knowledge of history, culture, philosophy and even human behaviour. English Literature study is good preparation for any career that involves communication, writing and / or literary knowledge as well as preparing students for the skills they need to study at degree level in other subjects.

Progression

English Language provides useful preparation for a degree in analytical subjects like law, history and psychology, as well as being a good foundation for journalism and many other careers where strong reading and writing skills are essential.

MATHEMATICS (IAL) EDEXCEL

What are the entry requirements?

For students this course is suitable who have achieved at least a grade B at IGCSE Mathematics.

What will I learn about?

While studying mathematics you will be expected to:

- solve problems by using mathematical arguments and logic
- Understand and demonstrate what is meant by proof in mathematics
- simplify real-life situations so that you can use mathematics to show what is happening and what might happen in different circumstances
- use calculator technology and other resources (such as formulae booklets or statistical tables)
- effectively and appropriately understand calculator limitations and when it is inappropriate to use such technology



How is the course structured?

Pure Mathematics 1-4 (covering the A Level Pure Core Content)

When studying pure mathematics at AS and A2 Level you will be extending your knowledge of such topics as algebra and trigonometry as well as learning some brand new ideas such as calculus.

Mechanics (M1)

Mechanics deals with the action of forces on objects. It is therefore concerned with many everyday situations, e.g. the motion of cars, the flight of a cricket ball through the air, the stresses in bridges. Such problems have to be simplified or modelled to make them capable of solution using relatively simple mathematics.

Statistics (S1)

When you study statistics you will learn how to analyse and summarise numerical data in order to arrive at conclusions about it. You will extend the range of probability problems that you looked at in IGCSE using the new mathematical techniques learnt in the pure mathematics units.

How will I be assessed?

For AS Level you will take 2 units and for a full A Level you will take a further 2 units.

Progression

An AS in mathematics is very valuable as a supporting subject to many courses at Advanced GCE and degree level, especially in the sciences and geography, psychology, sociology and medical courses. Advanced GCE mathematics is a much sought-after qualification for entry to a wide variety of full time courses in higher education. Higher Education courses or careers that either require Advanced GCE Mathematics or are strongly related include:

- economics

- medicine
 - architecture
 - engineering
 - accountancy
 - psychology
 - physics
- computing
 - information and communication Technology

PHYSICS (IAL) - EDEXCEL AS

What will I learn about?

Students studying Physics at A level will develop their previous knowledge and learn about mechanics and how it is relevant to the real world, waves and electricity, momentum, circular motion and particle physics, thermal energy, nuclear decay, oscillations, astrophysics and cosmology. Students will also need to develop their practical skills to learn through experimentation. The A Level course is designed to encourage students to become independent learners.

Entry Requirements

Students embarking on this course will find the concepts difficult if they achieve below a grade B in Physics, Mathematics and English at IGCSE or equivalent.

How is the course structured?

The course is divided up into three units for Grade 11 and three units for Grade 12

AS Level

1. Physics on the go
2. Physics at work
3. Exploring Physics

A2 Level

4. Physics on the Move
5. Physics from Creation to Collapse
6. Experimental Physics

Assessment

Each unit is assessed by means of a written examination paper of 1 hour 30 minutes duration.

The paper will consist of objective questions, short questions and long questions. Students may be required to apply their knowledge and understanding of physics to situations that they have not seen before. They will also be assessed on their practical skills in paper 3 and paper 6

Progression

Physics prepares students for degree courses and further training or employment in a variety of areas, including information technology, electronics, engineering, control systems, space research and astronomy, medical technology and construction.

As part of a non-science curriculum it gives an understanding of how and why modern technology functions.

ART AND DESIGN (CIE 9704)

The personal response encouraged by the Art and Design syllabus will stimulate students' imaginations, sensitivity, conceptual thinking, powers of observation and analytical ability. The students who choose to undertake the AS level will become more innovative and equipped for new and future challenges as well as more engaged intellectually and socially with the different areas of art. The qualifications are accepted as a proof of academic ability for entry to universities worldwide.

Students will develop confidence and enthusiasm in the practice of Art and Design as they gain the technical skill necessary to form, compose and communicate in two and three dimensions and the ability to identify and solve problems in visual and tactile form. Students are expected to show the development of ideas from initial attempts to final solutions, through the development of a portfolio. In this process they will acquire an in-depth subject knowledge, develop independent thinking skills, handle and evaluate different types of information sources, make judgements, recommendations and decisions and present reasoned explanations and implications. The learners will have 180 guided learning hours over the duration of the course. The course will provide a suitable foundation for the study of Art and Design and relative courses in higher education. The study of Art and Design will lead to wider awareness of the role played by the visual arts in society and in the history of civilisation. It will broaden students' cultural horizons and enrich their individual experience.

SCHEME OF ASSESSMENT

Examination	Length of Exam	Weighting
Component 1: Controlled test	One folder of support work plus an examination of 15 hours, externally marked by Cambridge.	60%
Component 2: Coursework	One coursework project plus a folder of support work, externally moderated by Cambridge.	40%

Examination	Length of Exam	Weighting
Component 3: Coursework	One coursework project plus a folder of supporting work and a sketchbook, externally moderated by Cambridge.	30%
Component 4: Personal study	One written detailed study of any aspect of the visual arts that is a critical and visual appraisal or theoretical study undertaken in a written and practical form, externally marked by Cambridge.	20%
Examination	Length of Exam	Weighting
Component 3: Coursework	One coursework project plus a folder of supporting work and a sketchbook, externally moderated by Cambridge.	30%
Component 4: Personal study	One written detailed study of any aspect of the visual arts that is a critical and visual appraisal or theoretical study undertaken in a written and practical form, externally marked by Cambridge.	20%

GENERAL STUDIES

Students will generally take one lesson a week of non examination General Studies to introduce them to Higher Education and the world of work and how to apply for course and jobs. Lessons will also feature discussions on matters of topical and general interest to broaden students' horizons.

PHYSICAL EDUCATION

A Level students participate in a minimum of 45 minutes of physical education twice per week. These lessons are aimed at promoting the lifelong enjoyment of sport and maintaining their knowledge and understanding of personal health and fitness.

In their lessons students are exposed to a variety of sporting activities

Students use the advanced techniques and skills specific to each sport and aim to play with consistency and control in competitive situations. They are provided with the opportunity to participate in matches against schools from Aqaba, Amman and the rest of the Middle East.



RELIGIOUS STUDIES

This course, which is a requirement of the Ministry of Education in both Islamic and Christian Studies, will use analysis and research to study different aspects of the Quran and Bible in order to create awareness of the lives and works of the prophets / principle religious figures and their teachings.

JORDANIAN SOCIAL STUDIES

This subject, which is a requirement of the Ministry of Education, aims at making students more aware of good citizenship and how we can use our religious values to build our country, particularly with regards to tourism in Aqaba and in Jordan as a whole.

Appendix (1)

School Exams GCE / IGCSE / GCSE equivalency

Ministry of Education requirements to receive an equivalency to the Jordanian Tawjihi

General conditions

1. Provide the Ministry with a proof that you have completed 12 years of schooling.
2. You must provide a proof of passing the following number of subjects:
 - six O-levels and/or IGCSE/GCSE subjects
 - two A-level subjects.
3. Passing grades are as follows:
 - O-level/IGCSE/GCSE : A, B, C and D
 - A-level/AS : A, B,C,D, and E
4. For the Arab student one of the eight subjects must be Arabic language at either the O or A level. The Ministry of Education will not accept the subject of Arabic as a Second Language for the equivalency purposes. It will consider acceptance if the student was enrolled in an English language medium school outside Jordan for the majority of his/her scholastic years. The Ministry will consider case by case to grant the equivalency.
5. The Ministry of Education will consider the same subject in two levels as two separate subjects (i.e. O level Biology and A level Biology).
6. Graduates from Jordanian schools, and in addition to the subjects of the British programme, must pass the three subjects from the Jordanian curriculum; Arabic, Islamic studies (for muslim students) and General Studies during the last two scholastic years.
7. Graduates from schools outside Jordan must provide certified copies of their last three scholastic years certificates. All GCE/IGCSE certificates must be certified by the British Council Jordan.
8. At the advanced level Computing is considered a science subject. At the ordinary level Computer Studies and Information Technology are considered as science subjects.
9. The Ministry of Education has agreed to equate the Co-ordinated Science as two subjects. Students sitting for Co-ordinated Science should not sit the exams for individual science subjects (i.e. biology, chemistry and physics) as they will not be considered as additional subjects.
10. The Ministry of Education has agreed that two AS subjects are equivalent to one A level for Tawjihi Equivalency purposes. To receive an equivalency for a science subject the two AS subjects should be science subjects (i.e. AS Biology + AS Chemistry). If one AS is a science subject and the other is a literary subject (i.e. AS Math. + AS Arabic) then it equals one A level towards the literary stream. The student should check with the university they are applying to whether they require a full A level or not.
11. If after obtaining equivalency, a student wants to repeat some of the

subjects to improve his/her grade, he can do that after one semester from the date of his equivalency and he can repeat up to two subjects.

12. Final centennial grade is calculated based on the below formula and according to the average of the eight subjects:

A*	=	98	C	=	75
A	=	95	D	=	65
B	=	85	E	=	55

Equivalency for the Scientific stream

To gain Tawjihi equivalency in the scientific stream, the following is needed:

- 6 passes in IGCSE or “O” level exams including:
 - Two passes in science subjects
 - One pass in Arabic
- 2 passes in A level
 - One full A level in Physics or 2 AS’s in Mathematics.
 - The other A level may be an AS/A2 in any science or two AS’s in two sciences.

Equivalency for the Literary stream

To gain Tawjihi equivalency in the **literary stream**, the following is needed:

- 6 passes in IGCSE or “O” level exams including:
 - One pass in Mathematics
 - One pass in Computer Studies/Information Technology
- 2 passes in A-level
 - one full A-level must be in Arabic
 - the other A-level can be one of the following options:
 - AS/A2 in any literary subject
 - Two AS’s in any two literary subjects
 - One AS in a literary subject and one AS in a scientific subject.

