

2011-2012 | CURRICULUM CHOICES

INTERNATIONAL SCHOOL OF CREATIVE ARTS

COMPULSORY | FINE ART

CREATIVE ART A LEVEL

*Please note that students looking to progress onto the Foundation Plus are required to study two Creative Art A Level subjects, out of a total of four A Level subjects, and the **Fine Art A Level is a compulsory subject.***

Course Description

It is not essential to have a GCSE in Art & Design before taking AS level but students should display an ability and interest in the subject. Students should have a flexible approach and an open mind in order to fully explore and expand their creative skills.

Fine Art provides the foundation for all Art & Design disciplines. In undertaking the course, students will be required to produce structured coursework components together with written analysis of their own work as well as that of other artists.

Year 1 AS Course

Students are required to produce 2 coursework sketchbooks for Unit 1 which supports final pieces and responses relating to the theme 'Conflict'.

Unit 2 is the timed examination element, and the theme is set by Edexcel, our chosen examination board for Fine Art. Students research and develop their ideas over 6 weeks and produce their final pieces unaided during an 8 hour timed examination.

Coursework and examination work is submitted during terms 2 and 3.

Year 2 A2 Course

Students are required to produce 2 coursework sketchbooks for Unit 3 which supports final pieces and responses relating to the theme 'Transition'. Unit 3 also comprises a 1000- 3000 word written element documenting and contextualising the student's work in relation to that of others and the world around them.

Unit 4 is the timed examination element, and the theme is set by Edexcel, our chosen examination board for Fine Art. Students research and develop their ideas over 6 weeks and produce their final pieces unaided during a 12 hour timed examination.

Coursework and examination work is submitted during terms 2 and 3.

Examination Board: Edexcel

GRAPHIC DESIGN

CREATIVE ART A LEVEL

Course Description

Graphic design and communication is a response to image-based problems within a set of constraints and successfully conveys messages through the organisation of images, words, and symbols that interpret ideas, meanings and feelings. Often different processes from hand drawn to computer aided design are used in combination to effectively respond to a client's needs and stimulate the audience, considering commercial and aesthetic needs. Within this course there are 5 disciplines:

- Advertising (branding, promotional campaigns, corporate identity, use of images and typography in advertising)
- Illustration (how images can enhance and re-interpret text and the relationship between narrative and illustration using a variety of methods and media)
- Packaging (Design of surface decoration, illustration and patterning for packaging and processes for manufacture, planning and developing procedures for packaging products)
- Typography (the relationship of letter forms, their characteristics and disposition to text; and specific typographic technical and design appropriate necessities)
- Interactive Media (formats for presenting information to audiences including, web-based, projection, t.v., consoles, mobile telephones, touch-screen, CD ROM and DVD)

Hand and CAD techniques are taught and developed for each of the disciplines.

This course allows for students to freely combine these different disciplines and embrace both modern technologies and traditional techniques in the creation of designs and in answering briefs.

Year 1 AS Course

Students are required to produce 2 coursework sketchbooks for Unit 1 which supports final pieces and responses relating to the theme 'Identity'.

Unit 2 is the timed examination element, and the theme is set by Edexcel, our chosen examination board for Fine Art. Students research and develop their ideas over 6 weeks and produce their final pieces unaided during an 8 hour timed examination.

Coursework and examination work is submitted during terms 2 and 3.

Year 2 A2 Course

Students are required to produce 2 coursework sketchbooks for Unit 3 which supports final pieces and responses relating to the theme 'Signs & Symbols'. Unit 3 also comprises a 1000- 3000 word written element documenting and contextualising the student's work in relation to that of others and the world around them.

Unit 4 is the timed examination element, and the theme is set by Edexcel, our chosen examination board for Graphic Design. Students research and develop their ideas over 6 weeks and produce their final pieces unaided during a 12 hour timed examination.

Coursework and examination work is submitted during terms 2 and 3.

Examination Board: Edexcel

PHOTOGRAPHY

CREATIVE ART A LEVEL

Course Description

It is not essential that students have studied Photography previously, but a basic understanding and interest in the subject is required. It is particularly suited to those who have technical flair as well as a natural artistic appreciation.

Students will have the use of the photographic studio in order to learn about studio lighting and composition for interior, figure and object based work and they will learn to print their own black and white images in the specially designed darkroom.

Emphasis is on analogue photography for the A level course, however students also have access to the media suite for digital photography, where they will be able to learn Adobe Photoshop techniques. Students will be required to produce structured coursework components together with written analysis of their own work as well as that of other photographers.

Year 1 AS Course

Students are required to produce 2 coursework sketchbooks for Unit 1 which supports final pieces and responses relating to the theme 'Surfaces'.

Unit 2 is the timed examination element, and the theme is set by Edexcel, our chosen examination board for Fine Art. Students research and develop their ideas over 6 weeks and produce their final pieces unaided during an 8 hour timed examination.

Coursework and examination work is submitted during terms 2 and 3.

Year 2 A2 Course

Students are required to produce 2 coursework sketchbooks for Unit 3 which supports final pieces and responses relating to a given theme. Unit 3 also comprises a 1000- 3000 word written element documenting and contextualising the student's work in relation to that of others and the world around them.

Unit 4 is the timed examination element, and the theme is set by Edexcel, our chosen examination board for Photography. Students research and develop their ideas over 6 weeks and produce their final pieces unaided during a 12 hour timed examination.

Coursework and examination work is submitted during terms 2 and 3.

Examination Board: Edexcel

Equipment

For this course students are required to have their own equipment consisting of a SLR 35mm film camera as well as a compact digital and/or SLR digital camera.

TEXTILES

CREATIVE ART A LEVEL

Course Description

Contemporary textiles practice is often a hybrid activity, with the possibility of bringing together different disciplines in the creation, selection and manipulation processes.

Students will be required to work in one or more of the following disciplines:

- Constructed textiles (knit, weave, stitch, bonded)
- Printed textiles (silk screen, block, transfer, relief)
- Dyed textiles (batik, tie-dye, spray, silk painting)
- Fine art textiles (A working knowledge of a range of textile processes chosen from the other textile techniques and disciplines)
- Fashion textiles (A working knowledge of a range of textile processes chosen from the other textile techniques and disciplines, including garment construction, which would sit within the stitch element of constructed textiles).

Appropriate, necessary and relevant skills for the development of ideas through colour, materials and design may include CAD or computer generated ideas in any of the above textile disciplines.

This course allows for students to freely combine these different disciplines and embrace both modern technologies and traditional techniques in the creation of samples and designs.

Year 1 AS Course

Students are required to produce 2 coursework sketchbooks for Unit 1 which supports final pieces and responses relating to the theme 'Identity'.

Unit 2 is the timed examination element, and the theme is set by Edexcel, our chosen examination board for Fine Art. Students research and develop their ideas over 6 weeks and produce their final pieces unaided during an 8 hour timed examination.

Coursework and examination work is submitted during terms 2 and 3.

Year 2 A2 Course

Students are required to produce 2 coursework sketchbooks for Unit 3 which supports final pieces and responses relating to the theme 'Skin'. Unit 3 also comprises a 1000- 3000 word written element documenting and contextualising the student's work in relation to that of others and the world around them.

Unit 4 is the timed examination element, and the theme is set by Edexcel, our chosen examination board for Graphic Design. Students research and develop their ideas over 6 weeks and produce their final pieces unaided during a 12 hour timed examination.

Coursework and examination work is submitted during terms 2 and 3.

Examination Board: Edexcel

ENGLISH LANGUAGE & LITERATURE

ACADEMIC A LEVEL

Course Description

Edexcel GCE in English Language and Literature offers the student the opportunity to undertake a wide and varied programme of study in order to develop interest in and enjoyment of English.

Unit 1 AS

Description

In this unit students will study voices in speech and writing from an integrated linguistic and literary perspective. Students will explore spoken and written language in literary, non-literary and multimodal texts of the 20th and 21st centuries in order to learn about how spoken voices are used and how written voices are created. The focus will be on the reading of one prose text: **Dubliners by James Joyce**. Students will also sample from a wide range of other texts.

Assessment

Examination: 2 hours 15 minutes

Students will analyse three short unseen texts/extracts/transcripts. These will be drawn from spontaneous and scripted sources. Students will be required to provide both short answer responses and longer analytical answers. In addition there will be one essay on Dubliners.

Unit 2 AS

Description

In this unit students will develop their own skills as writers. They will produce a coursework folder of their own writing supported by commentaries. The folder should be no more than 3,500 words. Studies for this unit will be based on the topic area 'Journeys and Pilgrimages'. Students will study one prose fiction text; **One Day by David Nicholls** and one drama text; **Our County's Good by Timberlake Wertenbaker**. In addition students will cover a wide range of reading from both fiction and non-fiction genres.

The coursework folder will include one piece of writing for a reading audience (word count 1750), and one piece for a listening audience (word count 750). Plus two commentaries of 500 words each.

Unit 3 A2

Description

In this unit students will study the topic of 'Family Relationships'. They will cover two drama texts: **All My Sons by Arthur Miller** and **A Doll's House by Henrik Ibsen**, supported by wider reading of non-fiction texts. Students will explore and evaluate the different ways writers deal with similar themes and issues and make creative connections between texts and contexts.

Assessment

Examination: 2 hours and 45 minutes

There are two sections.

Section A: students will be presented with an unseen prose non-fiction extract which will be drawn from texts from the 18th century to the present day and be related to the topic they have studied. Students will write a critical analysis of the extract.

Section B: Students will write an essay response to the drama texts studied.

Unit 4 A2

Description

In this unit of independent study, students will study texts from a range of writers in English and will be given a reading list based around the topic of 'Alienation and Exclusion'. Students will produce their own literary and non-fiction responses for a defined purpose and audience. The folder should be no more than 4000 words.

The coursework folder will include one piece of literary writing (word count 1,500) and one piece of non-fiction writing (word count 1,500). Plus one commentary of 1000 words.

Summary of Specification for Edexcel English Language and Literature.

Unit number and unit title	Level	Assessment information
Unit 1: Exploring Voices in Speech and Writing	AS	Exam: 2 hours 15 minutes Section A: Short answer response to unseen material – spoken voice transcript, two other extracts from a range of fiction and non-fiction material. Section B: Essay question on Dubliners by James Joyce.
Unit 2: Creating Texts	AS	Coursework: 2500 words maximum, 500 words maximum for each commentary. Two pieces of written coursework on the theme of 'Journeys and Pilgrimages'. One piece for a reading audience and one piece for a listening audience. Novel and play to be studied. A range of other fiction and non-fiction to be covered.
Unit 3: Varieties in Language and Literature	A2	Exam: 2 hours 45 minutes Section A: Unprepared prose. An unseen passage taken from non fiction on the theme of family relationships. Section B: Essay question in response to the two set drama texts.
Unit 4: Presenting the World	A2	Coursework: 3000 words maximum, 1000 words maximum for the commentary. Three pieces of writing: literary, non-fiction on the theme of 'Alienation and Exclusion', and an analytical evaluative commentary. Reading list provided.

Edexcel English Language and Literature **Unit 4 A2 Reading List**

These texts are essential reading in preparation for your A2 coursework. You will be expected to read the following texts in your own time. The books will form the basis of English lessons in the autumn term of A2.

- In Cold Blood – Truman Capote
- Oranges Are Not the Only Fruit – Jeanette Winterson
- The Curious Incident of the Dog in the Night Time – Mark Haddon
- Death of a Salesman – Arthur Miller
- The Yellow Wallpaper – Charlotte Perkins Gilman
- Short Cuts – Raymond Carver
- The Rime of the Ancient Mariner – Samuel Taylor Coleridge
- Talking Heads – Alan Bennett

Examination Board: Edexcel

BUSINESS STUDIES

ACADEMIC A LEVEL

Course Description

If you are planning to work in any of the Creative Arts fields you will find it helpful to understand how the business world works and how you will fit in as an employed or self-employed person.

The aims of this course will encourage students to:

- Develop an interest in and enthusiasm for the study of Business
- Gain a holistic understanding of business
- Develop a critical understanding of organisations and their ability to meet society's needs and wants
- Understand that business behaviour can be studied from a range of perspectives
- Generate enterprising and creative solutions to business problems and issues
- Be aware of the ethical dilemmas and responsibilities faced by organisations and individuals
- Acquire a range of relevant business and generic skills, including decision making, problem solving, the challenging of assumptions and the quantification and management of information

Examination Board: OCR (to be confirmed for 2011 onwards), Edexcel (A2 2011 -12)

HISTORY OF ART: CRITICAL AND CONTEXTUAL STUDIES

ACADEMIC A LEVEL

Course Description

History of Art is the academic study of the visual arts through the ages. Exploring a variety of historical and contemporary artworks in terms of their social, cultural, historical and economic contexts, History of Art A-Level students will consider different conceptual approaches to artistic creation and production which can in turn inform their own creative practice.

The course aims to foster a lively and questioning approach to the study of art as a whole, whilst developing academic rigour. As the subject is largely essay-based, students are expected to have - and be prepared to develop - good writing skills. An emphasis is placed on first hand experience of works of art and all History of Art students are expected to visit galleries independently as well as attending a programme of gallery and museum visits.

The study of History of Art at A-Level can provide students with a wide range of career opportunities, including: museum or gallery work, curating, research, television, publishing, journalism, the art market, restoration or teaching, as well as the general range of careers open to all arts graduates. It is also valuable for gaining university entry for studying a wide range of arts-based courses.

Year 1 AS Course

Unit 1: Coursework Portfolio

Students complete a critical studies book covering one main theme (for example 'The human form in painting and sculpture' or 'The machine age and abstract art'). Students will produce two short research essays on set topics in the autumn and early spring terms. They also need to include a timeline, discussion of at least 20 works of art and evidence of gallery visits.

Unit 2: Controlled Assignment

This is on a topic set by the board. From February onwards, students will prepare a written and visual response to the question(s) set. The required format will vary from year to year but essentially this is a written essay with visual support. The final written part is done in a 5 hour exam.

Unit 1: Coursework Portfolio 60% of total AS marks

Unit 2: Controlled Assignment 40% of total AS marks

Year 2 A2 Course

Unit 3: Personal Investigation

The personal investigation allows for an opportunity for more detailed research and analysis of a chosen topic, supported by firm understanding of its place within a broader cultural, historical, social or economic context.

Unit 4: Controlled Assignment

Students are given 15 hours to submit a response to an externally set question paper. This will be based on theoretical aspects and will include a balance of written and visual material.

Examination board: OCR

MATHEMATICS

ACADEMIC A LEVEL

Course Description

Why study maths?

Mathematics is the universal language that underpins every field of study. Completing the A-level course will give you valuable skills needed to excel in any career, and will especially compliment students aiming to pursue careers in Architecture, Product Design, Automotive Design, or Business within the creative industries.

How is the course structured?

We shall be following the Edexcel syllabus, composed of four core units and two choice units over the two years of study.

Year 1 AS Course

Unit title	Topics covered	
Core Unit 1	Algebraic functions 1, quadratic functions, inequalities, sketching curves, coordinate geometry 1, series and sequences 1, differentiation 1, integration 1	
Core Unit 2	Algebraic functions 2, sine and cosine, exponentials and logarithms, coordinate geometry 2, binomial expansion, radian measurements, series and sequences 2, graphical trigonometry, trigonometric Identities, differentiation 2, integration 2	
Choice Unit (only one unit may be chosen)	Statistics	Representation and summary of data, probability, correlation and regression; discrete random variables, discrete distributions, the Normal distribution
	Mechanics	Vectors in mechanics, kinematics of a particle moving in a straight line, dynamics of a particle moving in a straight line or plane, statics of a particle, moments
	Decision	Algorithms, algorithms on graphs, the route inspection problem, critical path Analysis, linear programming, matchings.

Year 2 A2 Course

The second year builds upon the knowledge developed during the previous AS course. The A2 course consists of core Unit 3 and Unit 4, with further choice units towards the end of the year.

Examinations

Exams will be held for all the units in June 2012, although there is a possibility of taking unit Core 1 in January, provided other examinations do not clash. Retakes for exams will be held in either January or June 2013.

What do you need for the course?

- All students entering the maths course will be required to have a grade C or above at GCSE level or equivalent
- Calculators – a Casio FX-991ES is the recommended calculator for the course

Examination Board: Edexcel