Heathfield
Sixth Form

COURSE GUIDE

SEPTEMBER 2027

Course Offer September 2027

Courses will run dependent on sufficient interest. Therefore, we cannot guarantee that every subject will definitely run. We will make these decisions after initial application and contact students with any changes.

Entry requirements listed below are for specific subjects. Please reference our Prospectus for our baseline College entry requirements. Our BTEC, CTEC and Applied Courses are single subjects, therefore, two other qualifications are studied alongside of them. For EPQ three other courses must also be studied.

Type	Course Name	Entry Requirements
A Level	Art, Craft and Design	Grade 4 or above in GCSE Art
A Level	Biology	Grade 6 or above in GCSE Biology, 1 other GCSE Science (or 66 in Combined Science) and Grade 6 in GCSE Maths
A Level	Business	Grade 6 or above in GCSE Maths
A Level	Chemistry	Grade 6 or above in GCSE Chemistry, 1 other GCSE Science (or 66 in Combined Science) and Grade 6 in GCSE Maths
A Level	Computer Science	Grade 6 or above in GCSE Maths
BTEC	Creative Media Digital Production	College baseline requirements
Applied Cert.	Criminology	College baseline requirements
A Level	Design & Technology: Product Design	Grade 5 or above in GCSE Design and Technology
A Level	Drama	Grade 5 or above in GCSE Drama or Performing Arts and English
A Level	Economics	Grade 6 or above in GCSE Maths and English Language
A Level	English Combined	Grade 5 or above in GCSE English Language and Literature
A Level	English Language	Grade 6 or above in GCSE English Language and Literature
A Level	English Literature	Grade 6 or above in GCSE English Language and Literature
AS	Extended Project	College baseline requirements
A Level	French	Grade 6 or above in GCSE French
A Level	Further Mathematics (Double Mathematics)	Grade 7 or above in GCSE Maths
A Level	Geography	Grade 5 or above in GCSE Geography
A Level	Graphic Design	Grade 5 or above in Art, Photography or Design and Technology
A Level	History	Grade 6 or above in GCSE History
A Level	Mathematics	Grade 6 or above in GCSE Maths
A Level	Music	Grade 6 or above in GCSE Music and Grade 5 in Music Theory
BTEC	Music Performance	Baseline Requirements including Grade 4 Music and Grade 1-3 Music Theory or GCSE/Level 2 at Grade 4 or above.
A Level	Photography	Grade 4 or above in GCSE Photography
A Level	Physics	Grade 6 or above in GCSE Physics, 1 other GCSE Science (or 66 in Combined Science) and Grade 6 in GCSE Maths
A Level	Politics	Grade 5 or above in GCSE English
A Level	Psychology	Grade 6 or above in GCSE English and Grade 5 or above in Science
A Level	Sociology	College baseline requirements
A Level	Spanish	Grade 6 or above in GCSE Spanish
CTEC	Sport	College baseline requirements, GCSE/Level 2 PE at Grade 4 and competitive sport

Course Guide

Art, Craft & Design

Course Information

Please find below specific details about the course and specification followed.

QAN Code	60149589	**Level**	A Level	**Exam Board**	Edexcel
College Contact	Ms F Strachan	fstrachan@heathfieldcc.co.uk		**Course Code**	9ADO
Subject Specific Entry Requirements		Grade 4 or above in GCSE Art			

Course Overview

This exciting and stimulating course will enable you to visually explore ideas and concepts in a creative environment, through varied media. You will use a wide range of materials and processes to communicate your ideas through sketchbooks, that will act as 'visual diaries' tracking your creative growth towards exciting outcomes that can be constructed using any 2D or 3D processes.

Please note; in order to facilitate this course and to allow students to explore the full range of materials, media and processes available, we are requesting a £31 course fee for the first year of study and a further £7 for the second. This will include an art pack to assist students in completing their homework.

What you will learn

The main purpose of A level Art is to develop your individual artistic skills, ideas and visions. The very nature of the subject means there are a vast array of disciplines that can be explored. We encourage the discovery of self, and spend time developing your confidence and belief in your ability and your ideas. We will encourage the use of a wide range of specialist tools, techniques and processes and help you realise how to apply these to your creative vision.

How you will learn

We strongly encourage students to take ownership of their learning. As teachers our aim is to facilitate your learning rather than dictate it. We have bridging projects to help you learn these skills and as you progress we let you take more ownership over your work. We use a tutorial style of teaching that is a two way constructive discussion on your work and how best to realise your intentions.

Course Assessment

This course is assessed using terminal examination and Non-Examined Assessment

Assessment 1

Assessment Title	Personal Portfolio
Type	Coursework
Time	Sept to Jan of Year 13
% of Qualification	60%

This component allows students opportunities to generate and develop ideas, research primary and contextual sources, record practical and written observations, experiment with media and processes, and refine ideas towards producing personal resolved outcome(s).

This course comes under the general heading of Arts, Craft and Design, leaving students free to explore all ranges of Art and Design, including sculpture, print, graphics and textiles.

Assessment 2

Assessment Title	Externally Set Assignment
Type	Coursework & 15 hour exam
Time	Feb to April of Year 13
% of Qualification	40%

This component allows students opportunities to generate and develop ideas, research primary and contextual sources, record practical and written observations, experiment with media and processes, and refine ideas towards producing personal resolved outcome(s) in response to an externally set theme during a 15 hour exam.

Course Outline

1 Year 1

The course starts with a skills based workshop that runs from September through to December. It is designed to bridge the gap between GCSE and A level and expose students to a wider range of techniques and processes and also help them develop a more independent way of working.
From this students move onto their second thematic project, running from January through to April. In this project, students will start to show greater levels of independence and take a more active role in the direction their project develops.
In May students will start the Personal Investigation. This is a completely self designed project where students choose their theme, and guide their own learning. Teachers facilitate this process through 1:1 tutorials. It is this project from which most marks are taken.

2 Year 2

The Personal Investigation straddles year 1 and 2, coming to a close in January of the following year. Students are then given a month to tie up loose ends before the release of the externally set assignment in February. This is a theme chosen and set by the exam board and culminates in a 15 hour practical exam.

Progression & Course Combination

Where Next?

Academic: Art foundation course, Art related degree
Career: Architecture, Fine Art, Advertising, Media, Illustration, Set and stage design, Fashion Design, Teaching degree.

Course Combinations

The course combines well with a range of A Levels including Photography, Creative Media, Product Design, English courses and History.

Facts about Art, Craft & Design at Heathfield

Each year we run a trip to help collect resources for your projects. Destinations change depending what is being exhibited.

We have a history of outstanding results.

We are extremely well resourced and able to source many specialist materials.

A large number of our students go on to study further on local Art Foundation courses and at degree level nationally.

Course Guide

Biology

Course Information

Please find below specific details about the course and specification followed.

QAN Code	60146254	**Level**	A Level	**Exam Board**	AQA
College Contact	Mr D James	djames@heathfieldcc.co.uk		**Course Code**	7402
Subject Specific Entry Requirements	Grade 6 or above in Biology and 1 other science (or Grade 6,6 or above in combined science) plus Grade 6 in Maths.				

Course Overview

A Level Biology explores the theories and principles involved in living systems, in all their intricate beauty. Biology is a great choice of subject for students who have an interest in the world around them. The course is divided into 8 Units (4 covered at AS: Biological molecules, Cells, exchange surfaces & variation (paper1) and 4 covered at A2: Energy, coordination and control, genetics and evolution & control of gene expression (paper2)

What you will learn

Understanding of the human body, its biochemistry and physiology are key components along with evolution, ecology and genetics.
Key topics studied are; the structure of biological molecules (amino acids, DNA), transport across membranes (diffusion, osmosis), immunology, gas exchange, the heart, blood. Genes and the control of proteins, the control of gene expression and gene technologies. The nervous and hormonal control of the body.

How you will learn

The course is structured as 'spiralled learning,' building upon the 'foundation' blocks of understanding of simple molecules and processes of life.
Practical work: In addition to other practical work, there are 12 'required practicals' which are specifically examined in final exam questions. Dissections are carried out, but these are optional. Field work is carried out in the Summer term.
Throughout the course there is a programme of 'retrieval practice' to embed content covered. Regular assessments.

Course Assessment

This course is assessed using terminal examination

Assessment 1

Assessment Title	Paper 1
Type	Written Examination
Time	2 Hours
% of Qualification	35%

Written examination based around the following topics:

- Biological molecules
- Cells
- Organisms exchange substances with their environment
- Genetic information, variation and relationships between organisms.

Assessment 2

Assessment Title	Paper 2
Type	Written Examination
Time	2 Hours
% of Qualification	35%

Written examination based around the following topics:

- Energy transfers in and between organisms
- Organisms respond to change in their internal and external environments
- Genetics, populations, evolution and ecosystems
- The control of gene expression.

Assessment 2

Assessment Title	Paper 3
Type	Written Examination
Time	2 Hours
% of Qualification	30%

Any topic listed in Paper 1 and Paper two assessed in a written examination (including essay question.)

Course Outline

1 Year 1

The 4 sections / topics covered in Year 1 are those tested in Paper 1:

- Biological molecules (Carbohydrates, Proteins, Lipids, Enzymes, DNA, ATP, Water)
- Cells (Ultra Cell Structure, Movement across membranes, Osmosis, Immunity)
- Organisms exchange substances with their environment (Heart, Lungs, Digestion)
- Genetic information, variation and relationships between organisms (Protein synthesis, mutations, genetic diversity.)

There are also 6 required practicals which may be tested in written papers. Being a practical subject, other practicals are also carried out, that enhance the understanding of the theory content.

2 Year 2

The 4 sections / topics covered in Year 2 are those tested in Paper 2:

- Energy transfers in and between organisms (Photosynthesis, Respiration, Energy transfers)
- Organisms respond to change in their internal and external environments (Nerves, Muscles, Homeostasis)
- Genetics, populations, evolution and ecosystems (Inheritance, Evolution, Ecosystems)
- The control of gene expression (Gene mutation and expression, Recombinant DNA technology.)

There are also another 6 required practicals which may be tested in written papers.
The content of year 1 is frequently revisited in the concepts of year 2, which helps to make it easier when covering the content of the 2 years at the end of year 2.

Progression & Course Combination

Where Next?

It is essential for students who want a career in health and clinical professions, such as medicine, dentistry, veterinary science, physiotherapy, pharmacy, optometry, nursing, zoology, marine biology or forensic science. It also enables progression to careers as diverse as law, computing, accounting or teaching.

Course Combinations

Students who take Biology often also study from a wide range of subjects including Chemistry, Physics, Mathematics, Geography, Psychology, PE and Sociology.

Facts about Biology at Heathfield

Biology has been in the top 3 most popular A Level subjects at Heathfield for more than the past 10 years.

Greater than 50% of students go on to study a Science related course at University, including medicine, midwifery, marine biology, biotechnology and nursing.

Course Guide

Business

Course Information

Please find below specific details about the course and specification followed.

QAN Code	610/6449/X	**Level**	A Level	**Exam Board**	AQA
College Contact	Mr O Perkins	operkins@heathfieldcc.co.uk		**Course Code**	7138
Subject Specific Entry Requirements	GCSE 6 or above in GCSE Mathematics				

Course Overview

This course is relevant to people with an interest in what is going on in the world around them, especially in terms of the behaviour of small, medium sized and large businesses. It is for people who want to understand, analyse and evaluate why businesses do what what they do. It is not a course about how to set up a business but you will learn lots of useful things if that is what you want to do.

What you will learn

It teaches you to be critical, analytical and to write extended evaluations, giving you the necessary theoretical models so that you can evaluate real business decisions for yourself. This includes the following topic areas:

1. Businesses & their objectives
2. Types of Business & Stakeholders
3. Marketing management
4. Financial management
5. Operations management
6. People management
7. Managing Business Culture
8. Business & Society
9. Business & the external environment
10. Strategy
11. Change

How you will learn

There will be the following teaching styles:

- Note making on basic knowledge, key terms, theoretical frameworks and calculations
- Practice using knowledge in business based scenarios
- Analysing and evaluating case studies in context
- Practising calculations, how to interpret the answers and how the answers help make decisions.
- Practical activities
- Paired / small group work
- Whole class questioning and discussion
- Independent learning, including research, note making and problem solving
- Self assessing one's own work and action planning revision
- Responding to advice and other feedback

Course Assessment

This course is assessed using terminal examination.

Assessment 1

Assessment Title	Paper 1
Type	Written Exam
Time	2 Hours
% of Qualification	33.3%

Two compulsory sections each with a case study.
Each section will have 5 complusory questions.
Total marks = 90.
Assesses only the topic areas 1-4 above.

Assessment 2

Assessment Title	Paper 2
Type	Written Exam
Time	2 Hours
% of Qualification	33.3%

Two compulsory sections each with a case study.
Two compulsory sections each with a case study.
Each section will have 5 complusory questions.
Total marks = 90.
Assesses the topic areas 5-7 above but knowledge from topics 1-4 will also be needed to help solve problems based in topics 5-7.

Assessment 3

Assessment Title	Paper 3
Type	Written Exam
Time	2 Hours
% of Qualification	33.3%

Two compulsory sections each with a case study.
Each section will have 5 complusory questions.
Total marks = 90.
Assesses the topic areas 8-11 above but knowledge from topics 1-7 will also be needed to help solve problems based in topics 8-11.

Course Outline

1 Year 1

Businesses & their objectives, Types of Business & Stakeholders, Marketing management, Financial management, Operations management, People management

2 Year 2

Managing Business Culture, Business & Society, Business & the external environment, Strategy, Change.

Progression & Course Combination

Where Next?

Traditional OR apprenticeship degrees OR the world of work. Example subjects that Business students move onto are as follows: Accounting, Business, Business Management, Business Administration, Economics, Human Geography, International Business, International Relations, Law, Management, Marketing, Operations Management, Politics, Psychology, Sociology.

Course Combinations

Business is a good subject for combining with almost any other subject as it is so broad and uses expertise from other subjects. Really good combinations include the following: Design Technololgy, Economics, English Language, English Literature, Geography, Law, Mathematics, Media, Politics, Psychology and Sociology.

Facts about Business at Heathfield

Supportive, committed & knowledgable teachers with ‘real’ (non teaching) work experience.

Strong trend of students progressing onto further Business related study and / or becoming entrepreneurs.

Strong final grades attained by students over a long period of time.

Course Guide

Chemistry

Course Information

Please find below specific details about the course and specification followed.

QAN Code	60153714	**Level**	A Level	**Exam Board**	OCR
College Contact	Miss D Taylor	dtaylor@heathfieldcc.co.uk		**Course Code**	H433
Subject Specific Entry Requirements	Grade 6 or above in Chemistry and 1 other science (or Grade 6,6 or above in combined science) plus Grade 6 in Maths.				

Course Overview

Chemistry is a highly regarded, and increasingly necessary A level subject for anyone interested in the sciences. The course aims to develop interest and enthusiasm for Chemistry and specifically looks at its impact on our society and economy.

What you will learn

Students have the opportunity to undertake a wide range of practical activities and will link what they learn to their day to day life. The A level course includes a practical endorsement which is ideal preparation for any practical work at university. You will find Chemistry a challenging course. With topics ranging from 'What's in a medicine?' to 'Colour by design' there is something for everyone!

How you will learn

You will learn through a mixture of classroom teaching, independent and peer group study, and laboratory based practicals and investigations.
Your teaching will be split between two teachers, each having over 10 years experience in teaching OCR B Chemistry A level, along with an absolute love for the subject, which we hope will be evident in our lessons.

Course Assessment

This course is assessed using terminal examination

Assessment 1

Assessment Title	Fundamentals of Chemistry
Type	Written Examination
Time	2 hrs 15 mins
% of Qualification	41%

This component is split into two sections and assesses content from all teaching modules.
Section A contains multiple choice questions.
Section B includes short answer question styles (structured questions, problem solving, calculations, practical) and extended response questions.

Assessment 2

Assessment Title	Scientific Literacy in Chemistry
Type	Written Examination
Time	2 hrs 15 mins
% of Qualification	37%

This component assesses content from across all teaching modules and places a particular emphasis on scientific literacy.
This component includes a pre-release Advance Notice article.
Question styles include short answer questions (structured questions, problem solving, calculations, practical) and extended response questions.

Assessment 3

Assessment Title	Practical Skills in Chemistry
Type	Written Examination
Time	1 hr 30 mins
% of Qualification	22%

This component assesses content from across all teaching modules and places a particular emphasis on practical skills.
Question styles include short answer question (structured questions, problem solving, calculations, practical) and extended response questions.

Assessment 4

Assessment Title	Practical Endorsement in Chemistry
Type	Non-Examined Assessment
Time	-
% of Qualification	-

Performance in this component is reported separately to the performance in the A level as measured through externally assessed components. This non exam assessment component rewards the development of practical competency for chemistry and is teacher assessed. Learners complete a minimum of 12 assessed practical activities covering the specified technical skills.
Learners may work in groups but must be able to demonstrate and record independent evidence of their competency. Teachers who award a pass to their learners need to be confident that the learner consistently and routinely exhibits the competencies required before completion of the A level course.
This is awarded on a pass or fail basis and is reported seperately to the A Level grade.

Course Outline

1 Year 1

Topics covered this year are:

- Elements of Life
- Developing Fuels
- Elements from the Sea
- The Ozone Story
- What's in a Medicine?

2 Year 2

Topics covered this year are:

- The Chemical Industry
- Polymers and Life
- Oceans
- Developing Metals
- Colour by Design

Progression & Course Combination

Where Next?

Chemistry links to a huge range of courses and careers varying from Medical, Pharmaceutical and Veterinary courses to Accountancy! Any science based degree course will welcome a chemistry qualification.
There are also many aprenticeships and work based degree programmes, for which an A level in chemistry would be suitable.

Course Combinations

The course combines well with several A Level subjects including Biology, Maths and Physics.

Facts about Chemistry at Heathfield

Results are consistently above national average. This high level of achievement means that, each year students from Heathfield have gone on to study Medicine, Dentistry, Veterinary Science, Chemical Engineering, etc. at their first choice of University.

The high quality of teaching, and quantity of practicals, with specialist equipment, undertaken during the course, means that students are well prepared to study laboratory based courses at university. Students have reported that they "were much better prepared for practical work than others" when returning with stories from University.

Course Guide

Computer Science

Course Information

Please find below specific details about the course and specification followed.

QAN Code	60145699	**Level**	A Level	**Exam Board**	AQA
College Contact	Miss Walter	lwalter@heathfieldcc.co.uk		**Course Code**	7517D (Python)
Subject Specific Entry Requirements	Grade 6 or above in GCSE Mathematics				

Course Overview

A level Computer Science is an ideal course for students with strong logical thinking skills who enjoy problem solving and have an interest in computing.

What you will learn

The A-level Computing course focuses on software development skills i.e. programming. However, we study a variety of other topics including how data is stored, networking and internal computer architecture.

How you will learn

Computer Science at Heathfield Community College is taught using a mixture of traditional classroom teaching and flipped learning. You will also be given practical experience of programming and problem solving.

Course Assessment

This course is assessed using terminal examination and Non-Examined Assessment

Assessment 1

Assessment Title	Paper 1
Type	On screen examination
Time	2 ½ hours
% of Qualification	40%

The focus of this unit is to develop you as an effective problem solver and programmer of computer based solutions to problems. The paper will be a two and a half hour practical examination undertaken on a computer.
Preparation for this exam will be around practical activities writing and developing computer programs in Python in order to solve a variety of problems.

Assessment 2

Assessment Title	Paper 2
Type	Written examination
Time	2 ½ hours
% of Qualification	40%

The focus for this unit is to develop your understanding of computing theory in a variety of areas including data storage, computer architecture, functional programming and networking. This paper will be a two and a half hour paper based examination.

Assessment 3

Assessment Title	Non-examined Assessment (NEA)
Type	Coursework
Time	N/A
% of Qualification	20%

This is your opportunity to design, develop and test a system of your own. You have the freedom to build almost anything from apps to games, interactive websites to network tools. The choice is yours! This unit is an assessed piece of coursework.

Course Outline

1 Year 1

Topics

- Fundamentals of programming
- Fundamentals of data structures
- Fundamentals of algorithms
- Fundamentals of data representation
- Fundamentals of computer systems
- Fundamentals of comptuer organisation and architecture
- Fundamentals of functional programming

2 Year 2

Topics

- Theory of computation
- Consequences of uses of computing
- Big Data
- Systematic approach to problem solving
- NEA (Coursework)

Progression & Course Combination

Where Next?

If you wish to pursue computing at University then you would probably go on to study Computer Science BSc. Such degrees often demand an A level in mathematics too. However, having studied computing would help you with any science or engineering degree.
In terms of career opportunities the options are plentiful. There are numerous apprenticeships being offered in ICT and there is still an acknowledged skills gap (less people than jobs) in the computing sector.

Course Combinations

Computing goes particularly well with Maths, Further Maths and Physics.

Facts about Computing at Heathfield

67% of students who finished studying Computing A level at Heathfield Community College this year went on to study Computing or a closely related degree at university.

Our Computing block is home to four fully equipped Computing suites.

Heathfield Sixth Form | Course Guide

Creative Media Digital Production

Course Information

Please find below specific details about the course and specification followed.

QAN Code	60174675	**Level**	BTEC Extended Diploma	**Exam Board**	Edexcel
College Contact	Ms B Maguire	bmaguire@heathfieldcc.co.uk		**Course Code**	601/7467/5
Subject Specific Entry Requirements	College minimum entry requirements				

Course Overview

Media is an exciting and creative course that is both practically and intellectually challenging.

What you will learn

It will develop your knowledge and understanding of the digital world and interactive media products. The creative industry is one of the largest growing industries in the UK and is a major contributor to the UK economy.

How you will learn

You will be using the latest technology, often in a vocational context, as you tackle tasks and challenges posed in the digital age on a regular basis. There are also many opportunities to create practical work in all areas of the media.

Course Assessment

This course is assessed using terminal examination and Non-Examined Assessment

Assessment 1

Assessment Title	Pre-Production Techniques for the Creative Media Industries
Type	Coursework
Time	90 Guided Learning Hours
% of Qualification	25%

An introduction to the pre-production processes that underpin successful media products.
Carry out and produce pre-production tasks for a creative media product.

Assessment 2

Assessment Title	Media Representation
Type	Examined
Time	90 Guided Learning Hours
% of Qualification	25%

Introduction to theories of media representation, decoding messages and ideology. Stylistic codes - camera work, editing, lighting and sound.

Assessment 3

Assessment Title	Fictional Film
Type	Coursework
Time	60 Guided Learning Hours
% of Qualification	17%

Understanding the codes and conventions of fictional film production.
Produce material for a fictional film of a specified genre and apply post-production techniques to create a 3-5 minute short film.

Assessment 4

Assessment Title	Responding to a Commission
Type	Examined
Time	120 Guided Learning Hours
% of Qualification	33%

Generating ideas and developing a response to a given commission and presenting creative ideas.

Course Outline

1 Year 1

Topics

- Finance and logistics
- Regulation and legal considerations
- Media representation
- Decoding messages
- Understanding ideology
- Fictional film – narrative, genre and representation

Creating a 20 minute broadcast for Radio Heathfield
Completing a genre study on 3 films of your choice.

2 Year 2

Topics

- Pre-production formats and functions
- Storyboarding
- Script writing
- Planning and preparing for production
- Filming – framing, lighting and sound
- Post-production – editing and after effects

Responding to a commission – generating creative ideas, planning and executing to a design brief.

Creating a 3-5 minute fictional film to be broadcast on HTV.

Progression & Course Combination

Where Next?

Media is a good foundation for a range of careers or university courses which require a sound knowledge of technology and digital based equipment. It is a natural choice for any career in digital media and design, journalism, marketing and publishing, press and public relations, policy and lobbying and education. We have students who have gone on to a range of careers from director of photography, race commentator, visual effects co ordinator for film and television, 3D artists and graphic designers, campaign managers and those working freelance in photography and web design.

Course Combinations

This course combines well with English, Photography and Computing

Facts about Creative Media at Heathfield

Heathfield Community College has its own radio station – Radio Heathfield – which broadcasts every day in and around college as well as streaming onto our college website.

Heathfield Community College also has its own TV channel on YouTube. You can check this out at Heathfield_TV Students are encouraged to actively participate in journalism via the Heathfield TV channel.

Course Guide

Criminology

Course Information

Please find below specific details about the course and specification followed.

QAN Code		**Level**	Level 3 Applied Diploma	**Exam Board**	WJEC
College Contact	Mrs L Turner	lturner@heathfieldcc.co.uk		**Course Code**	601/6248/X
Subject Specific Entry Requirements		College entry requirements			

Course Overview

Criminology will be an engaging subject for anyone who is interested in any aspect of the criminal justice system. This subject will suit anyone who is interested in answering questions such as, what is a crime, why are some crimes reported and others are not, and how are crimes are punished? You should be interested the reasons behind why people commit crime and how this influences the criminal justice system. Students who are fascinated to learn about what happens from the crime scene, during forensic investigation, right up until the person accused is taken to court and punished will enjoy criminology.

What you will learn

The level 3 Applied Diploma course content provides you with the opportunity to study a wide range of topics that anyone interested in the criminal justice system in the UK needs to be aware of. In year 1 you will learn about the nature of crime in the UK and you will have the opportunty design a campaign for change related to crime after analysing previous examples of campaigns. The first year of the course also includes the opportunity to consider different criminal theories and will enhance your sociological and psychological understanding. In year 2 you will learn about how laws are made, the aims of punishment, and whether the punishments used meet these aims. You will look a the process from the crime scene to the court room and all of the roles of the personnel involved.

How you will learn

We encourage you to be independent and proactive in your learning and in the completing of coursework. You will need a detailed and accurate knowledge of the content we cover. Classroom activities will focus on discussion, extension and application of your knowledge, in addition to developing your precision in answering exam questions for the exam units. You will also complete coursework in each year and will need to demonstrate excellent organisation and time management skills.

Course Assessment

This course is assessed using Internal and External Assessment

Assessment 1

Assessment Title	Changing Awareness of Crime
Type	Written Coursework
Time	90 GLH
% of Qualification	25%

This coursework covers content from year 1 including, how crime reporting affects the public perception of criminality, how campaigns are used to elicit change, and it will require learners to plan a campaign for change relating to crime.

Assessment 2

Assessment Title	Criminological Theories
Type	Written Examination
Time	1.5 Hours
% of Qualification	25%

This exam covers content from year 1 including, the biological, psychological and sociological theories of criminality, policy development and policy making, and aspects of learning from assessment 1.

Assessment 3

Assessment Title	Crime Scene to Courtroom
Type	Written Coursework
Time	90 GLH
% of Qualification	25%

This coursework covers content from year 2 including, the process and techniques of criminal investigations, the rights of individuals, the prosecution of cases, and a review of criminal cases.

Assessment 4

Assessment Title	Crime and Punishment
Type	Written Examination
Time	1.5 hours
% of Qualification	25%

This exam covers content from year 2 including, law making and the criminal justice system, the types and aims of punishment, the agencies involved in law making, and aspects of learning from assessment 1, 2 and 3.

Course Outline

1 Year 1

Comparing criminal behaviour: Types of crime, reasons for unreported crime, consequences of unreported crime, media representation of crime, impact of the media's representation on public perception of crime, the methods of collecting the statistics about crime, campaigns for change, effectiveness of media used in campaigns for change, planning a campaign for change relating to crime, designing materials for use in a campaign for change and justification of campaign for change.

Criminal theories: Criminal behaviour, deviance, social construction of criminality, biological theories, individualistic theories, sociological theories, situations relating to criminality, the effectiveness of the criminological theories, policy development, campaigns

2 Year 2

Crime scene to courtroom: Personnel in criminal investigations, techniques in criminal investigations, criminal investigations, types of evidence, evidence process, rights of individuals, requirements of the CPS, trial processes, rules of evidence, key influences affecting the outcomes of criminal cases, the use of lay people in criminal cases, validity of information, drawing conclusions from information.

Crime and punishment: Processes of law making, models of criminal justice, forms of social control, aims of punishment, forms of punishment, role of agencies in social control, the contribution of agencies in social control, the limitations of agencies in achieving social control, the effectiveness of agencies in social control

Progression & Course Combination

Where Next?

Criminology students go on to study at degree level in courses such as, Criminology, Psychology, Law and Sociology. The qualification also allows students to gain skills and understanding that would support careers in areas such as the National Pobation Service, the Courts and Tribunals Service or the National Offender Management Service.

Course Combinations

Criminology combines both exam and coursework units this will suit students who would prefer to have a mix of assessment methods. The course will combine well with Sociology and Psychology A levels.

Facts about Criminology at Heathfield

New course for September 2026 – we can't wait to welcome you to the Social Science Department.

Heathfield Sixth Form | Course Guide

Double Mathematics

Mathematics & Further Mathematics

Course Information

Please find below specific details about the course and specification followed. Read in conjunction with Mathematics Course Guide

QAN Code	60314990	**Level**	A Level	**Exam Board**	Edexcel
College Contact	Ms J Smith	jsmith@heathfieldcc.co.uk		**Course Code**	9FM0
Subject Specific Entry Requirements		Grade 7 or above in GCSE Mathematics			

Course Overview

The Double Mathematics course comprises of two A Levels: Mathematics and Further Mathematics. Students will study for A Level Mathematics in Year 1, and sit the exams for this in the summer term. In Year 2 students will study for Further Mathematics, having already gained an A Level in Mathematics. In both years students will have double the curriculum time compared to other courses to allow for the completion of a whole A Level in one year.

What you will learn

In Further Mathematics, the course begins looking at the key concepts of complex numbers and matrices. Many of the pure maths topics learnt the previous year in Mathematics, such as trigonometry, calculus and vectors are explored at a deeper level, whilst new topics include differential equations, conics, power series and elastic collisions to name a few.

How you will learn

Topics will be taught in a natural progression that will allow previous learnt skills to be applied and built upon. Much of the learning in mathematics comes through practise and rigour. Once a new topic has been learnt in class, deep understanding and mastery is developed through smart exercises and assessments.

Course Assessment

This course is assessed using terminal examination. **The assessments below are for Further Maths completed at the end of Year 13.**

Assessment 1

Assessment Title	Core Pure Mathematics 1
Type	Written Examination
Time	1 ½ Hours
% of Qualification	25%

The examination will be based around the following topics: Inductive Proof, Complex numbers, Matrices, Further calculus techniques, Series, Volumes of revolution, Polar coordinates and functions, Hyperbolic functions, Differential Equations

Assessment 2

Assessment Title	Core Pure Mathematics 2
Type	Written Examination
Time	1 ½ Hours
% of Qualification	25%

The examination will be based around the following topics: Inductive Proof, Complex numbers, Matrices, Further calculus techniques, Series, Volumes of revolution, Polar coordinates and functions, Hyperbolic functions, Differential Equations

Assessment 3

Assessment Title	Further Pure Mathematics 1
Type	Written Examination
Time	1 ½ Hours
% of Qualification	25%

The examination will be based around the following topics: Vectors, Conic sections, Inequalities, t-formulae, Taylor Series, Further calculus, Differential Equations

Assessment 4

Assessment Title	Further Mechanics 1
Type	Written Examination
Time	1 ½ Hours
% of Qualification	25%

The examination will be based around the following topics: Momentum and Impulse, Work, Energy, Power, Hookr's Law, Elastic collisions in one and two dimensions.

Course Outline

1 Year 1

During Year 1 students will complete the A Level Mathematics Specification (see Mathematics course guide for information)

2 Year 2

During Year 2 students will complete the A Level Further Mathematics Specification which includes the following topics:

Core Pure Mathematics:

- Complex Numbers
- Solving cubic and quartic equations
- Argand diagrams
- Series formuale – sum of natural numbers, squares and cubes
- Roots of polynomials
- Volumes of revolution
- Matrices
- Solving systems of equations using matrices
- Linear transformations with matrices
- Proof by induction
- Vector equations of lines and planes
- Scalar product
- De Moivre's Theorem
- nth roots of complex numbers
- Method of differences
- Maclaurin Series
- Improper integrals
- Mean Value of a function
- Further integration techniques
- Polar coordinates
- Polar functions
- Hyperbolic functions
- Calculus with hyperbolic functions
- First-order differential equations
- Second-order differential equations
- Simple harmonic motion
- Damped and forced harmonic motion
- Systems of first-order differential equations

Further Pure Mathematics 1:

- Vector product
- Scalar triple product
- Parabolas
- Ellipses
- Hyperbolas
- Eccentricity
- Solving inequalites where x is a denominator
- Modulus inequalites
- The t-formulae
- Taylor Series
- Leibnitz's Theorem
- L'Hôpitals rule
- The Weierstrauss substitution
- Simpson's Rule
- Reducible differential equations

Further Mechanics 1:

- Momentum
- Conservation
- Work done
- Kinetic/potential energy
- Power
- Hooke's Law
- Elastic energy
- Elastic collisions in one dimension
- Direct impacts
- Elastic collisions in two dimensions
- Olique impacts
- Smooth spheres

Progression & Course Combination

Where Next?

Always impressive on UCAS applications, Further Mathematics marks students out as extremely capable mathematicians. Should a student have a desire to study mathematics or engineering in higher education, Further Mathematics is often listed as a desirable or compulsory entry requirement for these courses at top universities.
In addition to specific skills and knowledge, the Further Mathematics course develops the ability to think clearly and logically through problems and as such is a widely respected qualification.

Course Combinations

The course combines well with Computer Science, Chemistry, Biology, Physics, and Business.

Course Guide

Drama

Course Information

Please find below specific details about the course and specification followed.

QAN Code	60183020	**Level**	A Level	**Exam Board**	Edexcel
College Contact	Mrs N O'Connell	noconnell@heathfieldcc.co.uk		**Course Code**	9DRO
Subject Specific Entry Requirements	Grade 5 or above in GCSE Drama or Performing Arts and GCSE English				

Course Overview

Drama is an exciting and creative course which is both practically and intellectually challenging. It will develop your knowledge and understanding of theatre practitioners, acting techniques and plays. There is also the opportunity to perform both a scripted and a devised piece which develops imagination and confidence. Working in groups on theatrical pieces helps to build essential social skills and is an incredibly satisfying and rewarding experience.

What you will learn

You will learn about different styles of theatre and how to interpret different play texts. You will explore these plays practically and through writing in the role of a performer, designer and director.You will also develop your ability to create and perform both devised and scripted pieces of theatre.

How you will learn

You will learn through discussion, practical exploration and performance. There will also be note making, evaluative writing and essay practice.

Course Assessment

This course is assessed using terminal examination and Non-Examined Assessment

Assessment 1

Assessment Title	The Devising Process
Type	Internally Assessed
Time	N/A
% of Qualification	40%

Students devise and perform a piece of theatre and record the process in a portfolio. Students are internally assessed and externally moderated.

Assessment 2

Assessment Title	Text for Performance
Type	Externally Assessed
Time	N/A
% of Qualification	20%

Group performance from a performance text. Perform a mono/duo from a different text. The performance is externally assessed by a visiting examiner.

Assessment 3

Assessment Title	Theatre Makers in Practice
Type	Externally Assessed
Time	2 ½ Hours
% of Qualification	40%

Choice of one set text from six which must be explored practically. Interpretation of a text as a director. Evaluation of a piece of live theatre they have seen.

Course Outline

1 Year 1

- Practical study of first set text: "Equus" for written exam. Interpreting it from a performer and designer's perspective.
- Live theatre evaluation for written exam
- Performance of devised piece in response to a play text, practitioner and production of a portfolio
- Practical study of second set text for exam: "Dr Faustus" - Interpreting it from a director's perspective.

2 Year 2

- Performance of group scripted piece and monologue
- Practical and written revision of both set texts for exam
- Live theatre evaluation preparation for written exam

Progression & Course Combination

Where Next?

Drama A-level is accepted for a range of University courses. It is excellent preparation for a Drama or English degree but also fits well with other subjects. Drama is an excellent foundation for a range of careers which require good social skills and people management. It is a natural choice for any degree or career in the theatre or Arts. It would also be beneficial for a career in teaching.

Course Combinations

English and History A-level
Media A-level
Pyschology, Music and Art A-level

Facts about Drama at Heathfield

45% of students in last cohort achieved A*-B
100% of students in last cohort achieved A*-C

Heathfield Community College has a fully equipped Drama studio with raked seating and an intelligent lighting system.

Students who have studied A-level Drama have gained access to prestigious Drama schools such as Goldsmiths, Trinity Laban Conservetoire, Rose Bruford and BRICTT University. They have also gone on to study other degree subjects such as English, History, Pyschology and Geography in the top red brick Universities.

A considerable number of A-level Drama students from Heathfield are now leadership positions in the teaching profession.

Course Guide

Economics

Course Information

Please find below specific details about the course and specification followed.

QAN Code	6014371X	**Level**	A Level	**Exam Board**	AQA
College Contact	Mr O Perkins	operkins@heathfieldcc.co.uk		**Course Code**	7136
Subject Specific Entry Requirements	Grade 6 or above in GCSE English and GCSE Mathematics				

Course Overview

This course is relevant to people with an interest in what is going on in the business & financial world around them. It is for people who want to understand, analyse and evaluate how the limited resources on this small planet are allocated between their competing uses. Everything you do and every choice you make is about Economics. Economics is about understanding human behaviour through the incentives that people have when making a choice. For more information: https://www.andertonpress.co.uk/alain-anderton-economics-sixth-edition/

What you will learn

It teaches you to be critical, analytical and to write extended evaluations, giving you the necessary theoretical models so that you can evaluate government economic policy for yourself. This includes the following topic areas:

1. Economic methodology and the economic problem
2. Individual economic decision making
3. Price determination in a competitive market
4. Production, costs and revenue
5. Perfect competition, imperfectly competitive markets and monopoly
6. The labour market, the distribution of income and wealth, incl' poverty and inequality
7. The market mechanism, market failure and government intervention in markets
8. The measurement of macroeconomic performance
9. How the macroeconomy works & Economic success
10. Financial markets and monetary policy
11. Fiscal policy and supply-side policies
12. The international economy

How you will learn

There will be the following teaching styles:

- Note making on basic knowledge, key terms, theoretical models and calculations
- Practice using knowledge in micro economic or macro economic contexts
- Analysing and evaluating economic issues in context
- Practising calculations, how to interpret the answers and how the answers help to anlayse and / or evaluate an economic issue.
- Practical activities
- Paired / small group work
- Whole class questioning and discussion
- Independent learning, including research, note making and problem solving
- Self assessing one's own work and action planning for revision
- Responding to advice and other feedback

Course Assessment

This course is assessed using terminal examination.

Assessment 1

Assessment Title	Paper 1
Type	Written Exam
Time	2 hours
% of Qualification	33.3%

Two sections. Section A: a choice of one from two data response contexts with questions requiring written answers, including one 25 mark evaluation essay, worth 40 marks in total. Section B: one 2-part essay question requiring extended written answers with a choice of one from three, worth 40 marks in total.

Assessment 2

Assessment Title	Paper 2
Type	Written Exam
Time	2 hours
% of Qualification	33.3%

Two sections. Section A: a choice of one from two data response contexts with questions requiring written answers, including one 25 mark evaluation essay, worth 40 marks in total. Section B: one 2-part essay question requiring extended written answers with a choice of one from three, worth 40 marks in total.

Assessment 3

Assessment Title	Paper 3
Type	Written Exam
Time	2 Hours
% of Qualification	33.3%

Two sections. Section A: 30 multiple choice questions worth 30 marks. Section B: three case study based essay questions requiring extended written answers, worth 50 marks in total.

Course Outline

1 Year 1

Markets and Market Failure; Types of Markets; The Market Mechanism; Government Intervention. The measurement of macro economic performance; How the macroeconomy works: the circular flow of income, aggregate demand/aggregate supply analysis, and related concepts; Evaluating economic performance; Macro economic policy (fiscal, monetary & supply side).

2 Year 2

Markets and Market Failure; Individual Decision Making; Behavioural Economics; Market Structure; The Labour Market; The Distribution of Income & Wealth. Financial Markets and Monetary Policy; Fiscal Policy and Supply Side Policy; The International Economy; Economic Development.

Progression & Course Combination

Where Next?

Traditional or apprenticeship degrees or the world of work. Example subjects that Business students move onto are as follows: Accounting, Business, Business Management, Business Administration, Economics, Econometrics, Human Geography, International Business, International Relations, Law, Management, Marketing, Operations Management, Politics, Psychology, Sociology.

Course Combinations

Economics is a good subject for combining with almost any other subject as it is so broad and uses expertise from other subjects. Really good combinations include the following: Business, English Language, English Literature, Geography, History, Mathematics, Politics, Psychology and Sociology.

Facts about Economics at Heathfield

Supportive, committed & knowledgable teacher with ‘real’ (non teaching) work experience

Students tend to go on to further Economics or Business related study, having studied both subjects

Strong final grades attained by students over a long period of time.

Heathfield Sixth Form | Course Guide

English Combined Language & Literature

Course Information

Please find below specific details about the course and specification followed.

QAN Code	60149127	**Level**	A Level	**Exam Board**	Edexcel
College Contact	Ms C Savage	csavage@heathfieldcc.co.uk		**Course Code**	9EL0
Subject Specific Entry Requirements	Grade 5 or above in GCSE English Language and English Literature				

Course Overview

This course offers a chance to deepen your understanding of both Language and Literature, exploring the craft of the writer through fiction, non-fiction and spoken texts. You will study a number of classic literary texts, alongside modern non-fiction and you will also produce a range of creative writing pieces, as well as both literary and linguistic analysis.

What you will learn

Studying the combined English Language and Literature course will offer you greater insight into how language functions and how skilled writers use it for both literary and practical effect. You will read a range of literary texts and a selection of modern non-fiction and spoken texts to explore how writers construct effective prose to move or manipulate their readers. You will also have the opportunity to improve your writing skills by undertaking some creative writing tasks and being taught to appreciate the art of crafting your own writing.

How you will learn

- Discussion
- Group and paired work
- Individual creative work
- Independent Reading
- Analysing texts
- Oral presentations
- Essay writing

Course Assessment

This course is assessed using terminal examination and Non-Examined Assessment

Assessment 1

Assessment Title	Voices in Speech and Writing
Type	Written Exam
Time	2 ½ Hours
% of Qualification	40%

The first section of the exam focuses on the comparison of an unseen spoken language text with a text from the taught Anthology.
The second part of the exam focuses on the set drama text.

Assessment 2

Assessment Title	Varieties in Language and Literature
Type	Written Exam
Time	2 ½ Hours
% of Qualification	40%

The first section of this paper requires an analysis of an unseen prose non-fiction text.
The second section asks the students to compare the two set literary texts. Both questions focus on the theme of Society and the Individual.

Assessment 3

Assessment Title	Investigating and creating texts
Type	Non Examined Assessment
Time	N/A
% of Qualification	20%

The NEA comprises two main parts: two creative assignments (one fiction, one non-fiction) linked to a theme of the student's choice and an analytical commentary of the student's work linking their writing to the texts they have studied for the project.

Course Outline

1 Year 1

Introduction to language and linguistic/literary analysis
Creative writing
and Spoken Language theory
Novel and narratology
Anthology

2 Year 2

Second novel and comparative analysis
Unseen text preparation
Drama text

Progression & Course Combination

Where Next?

English Language and Literature is a very versatile qualification and would be looked upon favourably by most university course leaders. Specific courses for which it is well regarded are: English Language, Literature, Linguistics, Law, humanities-based subjects, Psychology and Sociology.
As a core subject focused on effective communication, it makes a very useful contribution to any professional or career pathway.

Course Combinations

The course combines well with several A Level subjects including History, Drama, Sociology, Psychology and Modern Foreign Languages.

Facts about English Language and Literature at Heathfield

Historically high exam results

High number of students from the department continue linguistic or literary study at a range of universities including Oxford and Cambridge.

Annual trip to London EMAG conference

Course Guide

English Language

Course Information

Please find below specific details about the course and specification followed.

QAN Code	60146400	**Level**	A Level	**Exam Board**	AQA
College Contact	Ms C Savage	csavage@heathfieldcc.co.uk		**Course Code**	7702
Subject Specific Entry Requirements	Grade 6 or above in GCSE English Language and English Literature				

Course Overview

An introduction into the study of Linguistics, combining textual analysis and linguistic theory, with the opportunity for independent creative and investigative work.

What you will learn

Studying English Language will offer you a fascinating insight into how language functions and how it both shapes and reflects our society and culture. With a strong linguistic focus, the course will demand high level analytical skills when you examine a range of both spoken and written texts. Particular areas of study may include the impact gender has on language use and the impact of modern technology on language development. You will also have the opportunity to improve your writing skills by undertaking some creative writing tasks and being taught to appreciate the art of crafting your own writing.

How you will learn

- Analysing texts
- Discussion
- Group and paired work
- Oral presentations
- Essay writing
- Individual creative work
- Taught theory

Course Assessment

This course is assessed using terminal examination and Non-Examined Assessment

Assessment 1

Assessment Title	Language, the individual and society
Type	Written Exam
Time	2 ½ Hours
% of Qualification	40%

The first section of the exam focuses on the study of meanings and representations, requiring analysis of two unseen texts – one past, one present – on a similar theme.
The second part of the exam focuses on Child Language Development, with a text to inform broader analysis of the topic

Assessment 2

Assessment Title	Language diversity and change
Type	Written Exam
Time	2 ½ Hours
% of Qualification	40%

The first section of this paper requires an evaluative essay on either language diversity or language change, drawing on theoretical knowledge.
The second section focuses on attitudes to language, with two articles to compare and a further editorial writing task to complete.

Assessment 3

Assessment Title	Language investigation and original writing
Type	Non Examined Assessment
Time	N/A
% of Qualification	20%

The NEA comprises two main parts: a creative writing submission plus critical commentary, and an independent linguistic investigation into an area of the student's choice.

Course Outline

1 Year 1

Critical Discourse Analysis
Spoken Language
Language and social variation (gender, class, age)
Language and regional variation (dialect)
Creative writing
Language investigation

2 Year 2

Child Language Development
History of Language Change
The development of World Englishes
Language discourses
Editorial writing

Progression & Course Combination

Where Next?

English Language is a highly regarded A-level. It is very versatile and would be looked upon favourably by most university course leaders. Specific courses for which it is highly regarded are: English Language, Linguistics, Law, humanities-based subjects, Psychology and Sociology.
As a core subject focused on effective communication, it makes a very useful contribution to any professional or career pathway.

Course Combinations

The course combines well with several A Level subjects including English Literature, History, Drama, Sociology, Psychology and Modern Foreign Languages.

Facts about English Language at Heathfield

Consistently high exam results

High number of students continuing linguistic study at a range of universities including Cambridge.

Annual trip to London EMAG conference

Course Guide

English Literature

Course Information

Please find below specific details about the course and specification followed.

QAN Code	60153271	**Level**		**Exam Board**	AQA
College Contact	Ms C Savage	csavage@heathfieldcc.co.uk		**Course Code**	7712
Subject Specific Entry Requirements		Grade 6 or above in GCSE English Literature and English Language			

Course Overview

There are two main strands to this English Literature A Level – Love through the Ages and the Struggle for Modern Identity. You will explore a range of texts from the Renaissance through to the 21st century. The NEA, which is worth 20% of the final mark, gives huge scope for independent reading and study.

What you will learn

The English Literature course will give you an unrivalled opportunity to develop your interest in and enjoyment of English Literature through reading widely, critically and independently, across centuries, genre and gender. The specification will give you the chance to develop an informed, independent approach to reading and allow you to develop valuable analytical skills in applying key knowledge, understanding and critical techniques when approaching any new text.

How you will learn

- Reading – both independently and together in class
- Analysing texts
- Discussion
- Group and paired work
- Oral presentations
- Essay writing

Course Assessment

This course is assessed using terminal examination and Non-Examined Assessment

Assessment 1

Assessment Title	Love through the ages
Type	Written Exam
Time	3 Hours
% of Qualification	40%

This paper examines students on the set Shakespeare play, set novel text, the poetry anthology and unseen poetry, all related to the theme of love.

Assessment 2

Assessment Title	Texts in shared contexts: World War I and its aftermath
Type	Written Exam
Time	2 ½ Hours
% of Qualification	40%

Study of three texts centred around World War I: one prose, one poetry, and one drama, plus an unseen prose extract.

Assessment 3

Assessment Title	Independent Critical Study
Type	Non-Examined Assessment
Time	
% of Qualification	20%

A critical essay comparing two texts of the student's choice, one of which must be pre-1900.

Course Outline

1 Year 1

World War I novel (eg Birdsong by Sebastian Faulks)
19th century novel (eg Far from the Madding Crowd, Wuthering Heights)
Modern play (The Wipers Times)
Coursework texts (eg 1984, Frankenstein, Normal People, Much Ado about Nothing)
NEA

2 Year 2

Shakespeare play (eg Othello)
Range of poetry and prose extracts to practise critical analysis of unseen texts
World War One poetry (Wilfred Owen)
Poetry anthology

Progression & Course Combination

Where Next?

English Literature A level is a very highly regarded academic qualification. It can lead to university studies in a diverse range of subjects, particularly in the Arts and Humanities. It is an ideal grounding for careers such as journalism, law, teaching, publishing, advertising and communications.

Course Combinations

The course combines well with subjects such as History, Drama, Languages and Psychology.

Facts about English Literature at Heathfield

Consistently high exam results, with excellent value-added scores.

High number of students continuing English study at a range of universities including Oxford.

Regular theatre trips, including visits to Shakespeare's Globe.

Course Guide

Extended Project Qualification

Course Information

Please find below specific details about the course and specification followed.

QAN Code	500/2372/X	**Level**	AS Level	**Exam Board**	Pearson
College Contact	Mrs L Turner	Lturner@heathfieldcc.co.uk		**Course Code**	P301 - 304
Subject Specific Entry Requirements	The EPQ can only be studied alongside your other A Level courses, it cannot be selected as an alternative to a full A level course.				

Course Overivew

The EPQ offers a fantastic opportuity for you to delve into and expand your knowledge of any topic that fascinates you or one that is related to your planned university or career progression route. If there is a question you have always wanted to ask, a topic or subject you would like to know more about, or you would like to develop your research skills beyond those usually developed at A level then selecting to complete an EPQ alongside your other course choices might be right for you.

What you will learn

You will be supported to develop the skills needed to complete a project of this type by your teacher. In addition, the choice of topic you make will determine what you will learn. There is the possibility of completing a project on almost any topic of interest to you! The topic could reflect a passion or hobby you have outside of college, a subject you wish you could study at A Level but cannot, an area related to a subject you are studying and wish you could know more about, a topic related to a degree choice or simply something that you just want to spend time learning about!

How you will learn

This is a highly independent course. It is excellent preparation for university and allows you to demonstrate skills beyond those you will show in many taught A Levels. You will be required to make choices in the design of your project, to complete extensive independent research, manage your time effectively, problem solve and develop your critical thinking and reflective skills. You will complete a dissertation, artefact, performance or investigation/field study.
An oral presenation of your project will be given to a non-specialist audience and will form part of the submission.
You will be supported by a teacher assessor to complete your project.

Course Assessment

This course is assessed using terminal examination and Non-Examined Assessment

Assessment 1

Assessment Title	Extended Project
Type	Non examined assessment
Time	N/A
% of Qualification	100%

A01 Manage: Identify, design, plan and carry out a project, applying a range of skills, strategies and methods to achieve objectives
AO2 Use Resources: Research, critically select, organise and use information, and select and use a range of resources. Analyse data, apply relevantly and demonstrate understanding of any links, connections and complexities of the topic
AO3 Develop and Realise: Select and use a range of skills, including, where appropriate, new technologies and problem solving, to take decisions critically and achieve planned outcomes.
AO4 Review: Evaluate all aspects of the extended project, including outcomes in relation to stated objectives and own learning and performance. Select and use a range of communication skills and media to present evidenced project outcomes and conclusions in an appropriate format.

Course Outline

1 Year 1

The EPQ is completed during 1 year. During the course of the year students will have to:

- Design a suitable question or brief
- Plan and sustain a reasearch project over a peried of time.
- Investigate resources to critically select and connect to the question set.
- Analysie and review the resources to critically make decisions.
- Draw conclusions using their investigations to post answers to the questions set.
- Evaluate the success of their project.
- Present, to a group, their project explaining all areas and findings.

Progression & Course Combination

Where Next?

The EPQ is excellent preparation for university study. The research skills you will develop and your experience of the assessment process is good prepatory experience for university. If you are not planning a university application, the EPQ will allow you to develop knowledge of an area relevant to your next steps and demonstrate a wide variety of transferable skills.

Course Combinations

The flexibility of topic means that the EPQ combines well alongside any other course.

Facts about the EPQ at Heathfield

81% of students achieved an A*-B in the EPQ in 2025.

Universities are often keen for students to have completed an EPQ. Some might even provide a reduced offer if they know that a student has a good grade in their EPQ.

Course Guide

French

Course Information

Please find below specific details about the course and specification followed.

QAN Code	60187025	**Level**	A Level	**Exam Board**	AQA
College Contact	Mrs M Fox	mfox@heathfieldcc.co.uk		**Course Code**	9FR0
Subject Specific Entry Requirements		Grade 6 or over in GCSE French			

Course Overview

The French A Level course enables you to build on previous GCSE knowledge in a logical and rewarding way, applying transferable skills in critical thinking and analysis. The course will provide you with inspiring and engaging themes and content which provide clear links to some of the most fundamental and richly diverse aspects of contemporary French culture and society. Popular literary texts and films are also studied during the course offering a further dimension of study into the wider French speaking world. This course rewards creativity and assessments place an emphasis on spontaneity and grammar as well as providing plenty of opportunities for students to apply their knowledge independently and creatively.

What you will learn

- Listening: to understand spoken French that takes place in a range of different settings, listen to French news, films and Podcasts. Listen out for different accent variations and pronunciation of words.
- Reading: to understand the context of written pieces, read a wide range of authentic texts from the French media and French-speaking world. Read a novel in French and understand more traditional French vocabulary in an historical context.
- Writing: to apply grammar rules to write fluently and competently. Learn techniques to analyse characters studied in the novel and film and write about the key themes within these materials.
- Speaking: to become confident in spontaneous conversation, sustaining critical, analytical and detailed conversations about French social, political and artistic matters. To be able to verbally summarise passages that you have read and to give presentations in the target language.

How you will learn

- Speaking in the target language
- Pair/group work
- Independent work
- Listening to authentic materials (watching films, French TV, listening to music)
- Researching, reading and keeping up to date with French current affairs
- Testing yourself on core vocabluary and application of grammar in written pieces
- Having an awareness of French society and the changes that have happened in France since the second world war and the social revolution of Mai 1968.

Course Assessment

This course is assessed using terminal examination and Non-Examined Assessment

Assessment 1

Assessment Title	Listening, reading and writing
Type	Examination
Time	2.5 Hours
% of Qualification	50%

Listening (30 marks): Students will respond to comprehension questions based on a variety of contexts and sources. Students have individual control of the recording.
Reading (50 marks): A variety of text types and genres will be used to assess reading comprehension ability.
Writing: Translation (50 marks): Students will be required to translate an unseen passage from French into English, and from French to English.

Assessment 2

Assessment Title	Writing
Type	Exam
Time	2 Hours
% of Qualification	20%

Writing 2 essays (80 marks): This exam draws on the study of a French film and a French literary text. Students write a 300 word essay to a question on a literary text and to a question based on a film.

Assessment 3

Assessment Title	Speaking
qA	Exam
Time	21-23 Minutes (5mins preparation time)
% of Qualification	30%

Speaking (60 marks): First, students will discuss one theme from the specification based on a stimulus containing two different statements. (5-6mins) The second task allows students to present in details an area of interest of their own choice, starting with a summary of the key findings of the written sources they have used for their independent research project, followed by a wider discussion on their chosen area of research.(11-12mins)
Students will be assessed on their ability to communicate and interact effectively, summarise and analyse findings, manipulate language and show knowledge and understanding about the culture and society where the language is spoken.

Course Outline

1 Year 1

Social trends
- The Evolution of Family
- The Cyber-society
- The Place of Voluntary Work

Artistic Culture in the French-speaking world
- Heritage
- Contemporary Music
- Cinema

Literature and Film study
- Au Revoir les Enfants (film)- subject to change
- No et Moi (novel)- subject to change

2 Year 2

Social issues
- A Diverse Society
- Life for the Marginalised
- The treatment of Criminals
-

Aspects of Political life in the French-speaking world
- Teenagers in Politics
- Demonstrations & Strikes
- Immigration

Speaking: Independent Research Presentation
Revision strategies, application and translation

Progression & Course Combination

Where Next?

French A Level can lead to university study in modern foreign languages, either on its own or in combination with another language or subject, for example Law, Engineering, History, Geography, Art and Media.
A Level Language courses are highly respected by universities and potential employers, and may lead to overseas work and travel.

Course Combinations

The course combines well with many A Level subjects, including English Literature and Language courses, History, Geography, Art, Mathematics, Biology, Music, Drama and many more subjects.

Facts about French at Heathfield

Focus on conversational French, as well as for the purpose of the course.
Regular one to one support time with teachers to develop confidence with speaking.

Progression onto degrees in language or pursuing language related careers.

Course Guide

Geography

Course Information

Please find below specific details about the course and specification followed.

QAN Code	60185764	**Level**	A Level	**Exam Board**	OCR
College Contact	Mr J Fielding	jfielding@heathfieldcc.co.uk		**Course Code**	H481
Subject Specific Entry Requirements	Grade 5 in GCSE Geography				

Course Overview

A-Level Geography will help you to understand the big issues facing the world today. From natural hazards to global migration and from climate change to the management of diseases. This course will equip you with the skills you need to go into the world a better informed person, with more to offer and with a deeper understanding of complex issues.
This course is for anyone who wants to know why the world is the way that it is, the forces that shape it and that will continue to shape it in the future.

What you will learn

In Physical Geography you will learn about the Earth's life support systems through looking at the carbon and water cycles. You will discover how human actions can affect these finely balanced systems and how they can be better managed. You will also study landscape systems by looking at the coast and the forces that shape it. Finally you will study the debates around natural hazard management by considering the threats posed by tectonic hazards.

In human geography you will consider the nature of places and the things that make them distinct, as well as the challenges the people who live in them face. You will also study global governance through looking at migration and human rights abuses. Finally you will consider the debates around disease management as both a national and global issue.

How you will learn

As with all A Level subjects, you will find a higher expectation when it comes to independent learning. It will teach you how to make good quality notes, study effectively and to read around the subject. You will use this independent reading in your lessons to ensure that you can join in with informed discussions and debates in class.
In your lessons you will encounter academic articles about the subjects you are studying, be supported to understand complex data and debate issues such as managing climate change or resolving human rights abuses. You will learn by thinking hard about the subject and reflecting on what you have learnt.

Course Assessment

This course is assessed using terminal examination and Non-Examined Assessment

Assessment 1

Assessment Title	Physical Systems
Type	Written Exam
Time	1 ½ Hours
% of Qualification	22%

An exam on Earth's life support systems and coastal landscape systems. A mixture of short knowledge questions, data handling questions and longer questions that test your application of what you know about the topic.

Assessment 2

Assessment Title	Human Interactions
Type	Written Exam
Time	1 ½ Hours
% of Qualification	22%

An exam on changing places, making spaces and global governance. A mixture of short knowledge questions, data handling questions and longer questions that test your application of what you know about the topic.

Assessment 3

Assessment Title	Geographical Debates
Type	Written Exam
Time	2 ½ Hours
% of Qualification	36%

An exam on disease dilemas and natural hazards. A mixture of short knowledge questions, data handling questions and longer questions that test your application of what you know about the topic.This paper will also test your ability to find links between the topics you have studied.

Assessment 4

Assessment Title	Non-Examined Assessment
Type	Coursework
Time	N/A
% of Qualification	20%

You will select a topic to investigate and pose a question to be answered. You will then collect the data you need, present and analyse it and reach a conclusion. Your teachers will guide you but this will be done with a high degree of independence.

Course Outline

1 Year 1

Changing Places, Making Spaces
Global Migration
Earth's Life Support Systems
Coastal Systems

2 Year 2

Non-examined Assessment
Human Rights
Disease Dilemas
Natural Hazards

Progression & Course Combination

Where Next?

Geography graduates are some of the most employable of all graduates. Employers from all sectors including finance, business, armed forces, politics and environmental sciences all favour geographers.

A Level Geography is classed as a superb facilitiating subject as it is preferred for a huge range of degree courses. Many of our students go on to university to study all sorts of subjects so it is a fantastic choice to keep your options open due to its huge breadth and the fact it contains both arts and science components.

Course Combinations

Geography sits at the centre of many other subjects. It combines well with anything, but in particular with Biology, Chemistry, History, Maths, Sociology, Economics and Business.

Facts about Geography at Heathfield

Your independent coursework will prepare you well for university.

There will be opportunities for field work - especially to support your coursework.

We will support you with the effective study skills that will help you to become an independent learner.

Course Guide

Government & Politics

Course Information

Please find below specific details about the course and specification followed.

QAN Code	60312233	**Level**	A Level	**Exam Board**	Edexcel
College Contacts	Mr R Carter Miss E-L Smith	Rcarter@heathfieldcc.co.uk Esmith@heathfieldcc.co.uk		**Course Code**	9PLO
Subject Specific Entry Requirements	Main College entry requirements				

Course Overview

Politics is a course students enjoy studying as we give you the opportunity to debate current affairs and through studying politics you also gain a much wider understanding of the world around you. It has never been a more exciting time to study Government and Politics. The recent elections in the United Kingdom and the United States, the Referendum on European Union membership and the rise of Populism make Politics a topical and relevant subject. In Year 13 you will study the contrasts and connections between the USA and the UK by studying the fascinating and often peculiar world of American politics.

What you will learn

Over the course of the Politics A Level we will be exploring the following topic areas. During terms 1-4 in year 12, we will be examining UK Politics, considering the functions and structures of the Political institutions in this country as well as issues surrounding participation, political parties and voter behaviour. In terms 5-6, we will be examining the four ideologies of Liberalism, Conservatism, Socialism and Feminism and their impact on Politics. In year 13, we spend terms 1-4 examining US Politics and the similarities and differences with our own political system. Finally we will spend time reviewing the content of the course before the final exams.

How you will learn

Politics is taught in an engaging way throughout the course. We will be providing you with up-to-date reading and research and exploring current issues and controversies in contemporary politics. There will be opportunities to explore and debate topical issues as well as regular knowledge checking to secure your knowledge of the key details of the course. Over the course we will be developing your written skills through detailed feedback and providing you with expert advice on how to develop your essays and exam style questions.

Course Assessment

This course is assessed using terminal examination.

Assessment 1

Assessment Title	UK Politics and Core Political Ideas
Type	Written Examination
Time	2 Hours
% of Qualification	33%

This exam paper tests your knowledge of the Unit 1 topics of democracy and participation, political parties, the electoral system, voting behaviour and the role of the media in the United Kingdom.
The paper also contains questions on the core political ideologies of Conservatism, Liberalism and Socialism.

Assessment 2

Assessment Title	UK Government and Political Ideologies
Type	Written Examination
Time	2 Hours
% of Qualification	33%

This exam paper tests your knowledge of the Unit 2 topics of the constitution, Parliament, Prime Minister and the executive of the United Kingdom and the relationships between these branches of government.
The paper also contains questions on the ideology of Feminism.

Assessment 3

Assessment Title	Comparative Politics of the USA
Type	Written Examination
Time	2 Hours
% of Qualification	33%

This exam paper tests your knowledge of the Unit 3 topics of the US Constitution and federalism, the US congress, the US presidency and the US Supreme Court and explores the themes of democracy, participation and civil rights in the USA.

Course Outline

1 Year 1

UK Government and Politics including:

- Democracy and participation
- Political parties
- Electoral systems
- Voting behaviour
- The Media
- The Constitution
- Parliament
- Prime Minister
- The Executive
- The relationships between the branches of government
- Political ideologies including:
- Conservatism
- Liberalism
- Socialism
- Feminism

2 Year 2

US Comparative Politics including:

- The US Constitution and federalism
- US Congress
- US Presidency
- US Supreme Court
- Democracy and participation and Civil rights

Progression & Course Combination

Where Next?

Politics is a popular subject for universities. Students who take politics gain critical thinking and analytical skills, students develop their skills of debating and communicating. Politics helps prepare students for many different forms of employment including work in journalism, education, the legal professions and any employment that requires critical thinking and judgement.

Course Combinations

Politics is a diverse qualification and compliments other subjects such as History, Sociology and Economics.

Facts about Government & Politics at Heathfield

Each year we take our students to visit the Houses of Parliament and the UK Supreme Court which enriches our subject and provides for a really nice day out to London!

We invite a wide variety of external speakers to our College, for example in recent years we have had a member of an NGO, a Labour peer in the House of Lords and a Conservative Member of Parliament come into the College and speak to and answer questions from our students.

Students interested in debating can join the Debating Society and the Heathfield electronic newspaper, the Heathfield Vine, has a lively Politics Podium for students who wish to write articles about contemporary political issues.

Many of our students have taken the subject further into degree level, for example studying Politics at Exeter, Canterbury and Oxford.

Course Guide

Graphic Design

Course Information

Please find below specific details about the course and specification followed.

QAN Code	TBC	**Level**	A Level	**Exam Board**	Edexcel
College Contact	Ms F Strachan	fstrachan@heathfieldcc.co.uk		**Course Code**	9GC0
Subject Specific Entry Requirements	Grade 5 or above in GCSE Design Technnology, Photography or Art				

Course Overview

This course is your gateway to the dynamic and essential world of visual communication. During the course you'll embark on an exciting creative journey, learning to think visually and communicate ideas effectively through a range of design media and processes. Graphic design is more than just making things look good. It's the art and practice of planning and projecting ideas and experiences with visual and textual content. From the posters that you see every day to the layout of a magazine, the packaging of your favourite products, and the interface of a website, graphic design shapes our world and influences our decisions. You'll learn the fundamental principles behind successful design, including typography, colour theory, composition, and image-making.

Please note; in order to facilitate this course and to allow students to explore the full range of materials, media and processes available, we are requesting a £31 course fee for the first year and a £7 course fee for the second.

What you will learn

This A Level will challenge you to develop both your creative and analytical skills. You'll become proficient in various techniques, learning to develop your ideas through studying the work of others and making a series of critical and visual responses. We will encourage the use of a wide range of specialist tools including advanced digital design using industry-standard software like Adobe Photoshop, Illustrator, and InDesign and help you realise how to apply these to your creative vision. Key skills you'll cultivate include:

- Problem-Solving: Identifying a communication challenge and creating a visual solution.
- Conceptual Thinking: Generating original, meaningful, and innovative ideas.
- Technical Proficiency: Mastering the tools and techniques of the design trade.
- Critical Analysis: Evaluating and responding to the work of other designers and artists.
- Project Management: Working through the design process from brief to final outcome.

How you will learn

We strongly encourage students to take ownership of their own learning. As teachers our aim is to facilitate your learning rather than dictate it. We will help you learn the skills you need for your idea and as you progress you will take more ownership over your thematic project. We use a mixture of whole class delivery, peer assessment and collaboration combined with tutorial style teaching that is a two way constructive discussion on your work and how best to realise your intentions.

Graphic designers learn their skills through a combination of formal education, practical experience, and continuous self-teaching, which is essential in a field that constantly evolves with new technology and trends. The key to being successful is understanding that learning in graphic design never stops, requiring designers to constantly update their technical skills and stay current with evolving visual culture and industry trends.

Course Assessment

This course is assessed using terminal examination and Non-Examined Assessment

Assessment 1

Assessment Title	Personal Portfolio
Type	Non-Examined Assessment
Time	
% of Qualification	60%

This component allows students opportunities to generate and develop ideas, research primary and contextual sources, record practical and written observations, experiment with media and processes, and refine ideas towards producing personal resolved outcome(s).
Students must work within one of the following titles:

- Branding and Identity
- Editorial Design
- Poster Design and Illustration

Assessment 2

Assessment Title	Externally Set Assignment
Type	Examination
Time	Prep studies and 15 Hour Exam
% of Qualification	40%

This component allows students opportunities to generate and develop ideas, research primary and contextual sources, record practical and written observations, experiment with media and processes, and refine ideas towards producing a personal resolved outcome(s) in response to an externally set theme during a 15-hour exam.

Course Outline

1 Year 1

Initially students build on the transition work from the summer, editing and developing visual ideas through the use of a digital book, evidencing their graphic technique, critical analysis and presentation skills. During Terms 1 and 2 students students will learn visual communication basics including line, shape, form, colour theory (CMYK/RGB), texture, space. Principles: balance, hierarchy, rhythm, emphasis, unity. Software fundamentals: introduction to adobe creative suite (Photoshop, Illustrator, InDesign). The course will then focus on three areas of graphical communication. Typography and layout, anatomy of type, type classification, legibility vs. readability, choosing typefaces, typographic hierarchy. Layout: grids (column, modular). Branding and identity, contextual studies: designer research, design movement, logo design process, mood boards, colour palettes, brand guidelines. Illustration and image-making, digital painting, vector graphics, photography for graphics (composition, editing), combining traditional and digital media (mixed media).

2 Year 2

The concept for the Personal Investigation practical project and the Personal Study essay are set by the students themselves. This is a personal line of enquiry which links research and practical work directly to their critical study, exploring and investigating a chosen title question. Students will rely heavily on their experiences from year one of the tools, techniques and processes they have used in order to develop their project independently. They will work on the project through to term 3 when they will produce a final outcome.

In Term 3 of year 2, students will start their final externally set assignment which is 40% of the final grade; the theme for the project is set by the exam board. Students will work through a preparatory phase of approximately 3 months supported by their teachers. They will explore the theme in different ways and develop a sense of what they want to create for their outcome before sitting a 15 hour exam during which time they will produce their final design.

Progression & Course Combination

Where Next?

Art foundation course, graphic design or art related degree. Careers in fine art, digital media and marketing, illustration, graphic design, website and online content creation, packaging and branding design, motion graphics.

Course Combinations

The course combines well with A levels in Art, Photography, Design Technology, Creative Media, Psychology, English, Geography and History.

Facts about Graphics at Heathfield

This will be the first year delivering the course but the staff have a history of excellent grades in A Level Photography and Art and Design.

Nearly every business, industry, and organisation today requires visual communication to brand, market, and inform. This creates a high and stable demand for skilled designers across all sectors.

The department is extremely well resourced having two dedicated classrooms with access to Photoshop, Illustrator and InDesign for all students.

A large number of our students go on to study further on local Art Foundation courses and at degree level nationally.

Course Guide

History

Course Information

Please find below specific details about the course and specification followed.

QAN Code	60147015	**Level**	A Level	**Exam Board**	OCR
College Contact	Miss E-L Smith	esmith@heathfieldcc.co.uk		**Course Code**	H505
Subject Specific Entry Requirements	Grade 6 or above in GCSE History				

Course Overview

History is a popular A Level course, delivered by experienced teachers who are passionate about the subject. The course is designed to enable the study of both modern and early modern history, providing historical breadth, with a focus on British and American history. Recent events such as the overturning of Roe v Wade and the Black Lives Matter movement make this course (which explores US politics and American civil rights movement) exceptionally relevant.

What you will learn

Studying History will help you to understand key concepts and ideas in the modern world. You will learn about the challenges to British colonialism in the War of Independence in America and the subsequent creation of the US constitution. In studying the Civil Rights unit, you will develop an understanding of the barriers different groups of people (such as African Americans and women) have faced to be more equal in the society in which they live. You will also analyse the extent to which those barriers were overcome by the 21st Century. The British history unit explores a tumultuous period in the 17th Century where the people went to war against their king, challenging the power of the monarch to help the development of democracy in Britain. By the end of the course you will find yourself a well-rounded learner, able to formulate opinions, defend them using evidence and present ideas in a sophisticated manner.

How you will learn

Studying A Level History means that you will investigate the past through a range of different mediums: accessing academic journals, podcasts, videos and contemporary source material. You will be encouraged to develop your independent learning skills, preparing for some lessons beforehand so that you can take part in lively debates within lessons. You will also learn research skills in preparation for your Independent Essay.

Course Assessment

This course is assessed using terminal examination and Non-Examined Assessment

Assessment 1

Assessment Title	The Early Stuarts & the English Civil War	1x Source evaluation question, based on four sources 1x Essay question (from a choice of 2 questions)
Type	Written Examination	
Time	1 ½ Hours	
% of Qualification	25%	

Assessment 2

Assessment Title	The American Revolution	1x Essay question (similar to Assessment 1) 1x Shorter question, explaining the importance of two key events. A choice of questions is given.
Type	Written Examination	
Time	1 Hour	
% of Qualification	15%	

Assessment 3

Assessment Title	Civil Rights in the USA, 1865-1992
Type	Written Examination
Time	2 ½ Hours
% of Qualification	40%

1x Historical Interpretation Question
2x Thematic Essays (from a choice of 3 questions)

Assessment 4

Assessment Title	Independent Essay
Type	Non-Examined Assessment
Time	
% of Qualification	20%

You will choose a title from a list of questions that will extend your knowledge beyond Units 1 & 2. You will complete additional research to find primary sources and interpretations, using them to write a 3,000-4000 word essay. The essay will be completed in class & independently.

Course Outline

1 Year 1

Unit 1: The Early Stuarts and the English Civil War

- To what extent was James a good king of England?
- Was Charles I to blame for the outbreak of the Civil War?
- Why did the Parliamentarians win the Civil War?
- How successful was Cromwell's 'reign'?

Unit 2: The American Revolution:

- Why did the American Revolution take place?
- What enabled America to win the war?
- How did the early Republic look?

Introduction and Preparation for the Independent Topic Based essay

2 Year 2

Unit 3: Civil Rights in the USA, 1865-1992?

- How successfully were the civil rights of African Americans, women, native Americans and workers achieved in the time period?

Completion of the Topic Based Essay

Unit 1 and 2 Revision

Progression & Course Combination

Where Next?

Its versatility as a subject means that A Level History helps students keep their career options open. History helps to equip you with skills that you will need in a range of careers and is a well- respected qualification, highly regarded by universities and employers alike. Students who take A Level History may go on to history related careers including historical researchers, archivists and working in heritage organisations. However, the subject also supports other career paths for example, journalism, law, politics and public services. Past Heathfield History students have applied for university courses in History, Archaeology, International Relations, Law, English Language and Politics

Course Combinations

A Level History provides students with a range of skills, it compliments many other subjects including: Politics, Sociology, English Literature/Language and Geography.

Facts about History at Heathfield

Year 12 students visit the Houses of Parliament and the National Portrait Gallery to support their study of Unit 1.

Course Guide

Mathematics

Course Information

Please find below specific details about the course and specification followed.

QAN Code	6031333X	**Level** A Level		**Exam Board**	Edexcel
College Contact	Ms J Smith	jsmith@heathfieldcc.co.uk		**Course Code**	9MAO
Subject Specific Entry Requirements		Grade 6 or above in GCSE Mathematics			

Course Overview

The course starts from the end of Higher Level GCSE and opens up a whole new dimension in mathematics. The main part of the course is made up of the Core modules (Pure Mathematics), which take the algebra and trigonometry studied at GCSE on further and introduce calculus; one of the most important and powerful of all the areas of mathematics

What you will learn

Algebra will be particularly integral to your studies, and you should, by the end of the course, become as fluent with algebra as you would expect to be with arithmetic at the end of GCSE. The statistics module takes on the work done at GCSE, covering ways of analysing and displaying numerical data and of drawing conclusions from this. Probability theory is also developed beyond GCSE. The Mechanics module covers analysis of forces, acceleration, momentum and similar concepts to model real world physical situations.

How you will learn

Topics will be taught in a natural progression that will allow previous learnt skills to be applied and built upon. Much of the learning in mathematics comes through practise and rigour. Once a new topic has been learnt in class, deep understanding and mastery is developed through smart exercises and assessments.

Course Assessment

This course is assessed using terminal examination and Non-Examined Assessment

Assessment 1

Assessment Title	Pure Mathematics 1
Type	Written Examination
Time	2 Hours
% of Qualification	33.33%

The examination will be based around the following topics: Proof, Algebra and functions, Coordinate geometry in the (x,y) plane. Sequences and series, Trigonometry, Exponentials and logarithms, Differentiation, Integration and Vectors

Assessment 2

Assessment Title	Pure Mathematics 2
Type	Written Examination
Time	2 Hours
% of Qualification	33.33%

The examination will be based around the following topics: Proof, Algebra and functions, Coordinate geometry in the (x,y) plane. Sequences and series, Trigonometry, Exponentials and logarithms, Differentiation, Integration and Vectors

Assessment 3

Assessment Title	Statistics and Mechanics
Type	Written Examination
Time	2 Hours
% of Qualification	33.33%

The examination is broken down into two sections and based around the following topics:
Section A: Statistics
Statistical sampling, Data presentation and interpretation, Probability, Statistical distributions and Statistical hypothesis testing.
Section B: Mechanics
Quantities and units in mechanics, Kinematics, Forces and Newton's laws and Moments

Course Outline

1 Year 1

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

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

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

2 Year 2

Content overview
- 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

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

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

Progression & Course Combination

Where Next?

Progression in Mathematics can be in fields such as science, commerce, engineering and computing. In addition to specific skills, the Mathematics course develops the ability to think clearly and logically through problems and as such is a widely respected qualification with universities and employers.

Course Combinations

The course combines well with several A Level subjects including Further Mathematics, Chemistry, Biology, Physics, Psychology, Sociology, Business and Economics.

Facts about Mathematics at Heathfield

Mathematics is a very popular ALevel subject at Heathfield Community College with a high number of students studying Mathematics beyond KS5

We have a large, passionate Key Stage 5 teaching team, many of whom continue to study Mathematics in their own time

In 2023 almost 40% of our students achieved A or A*.

Course Guide

Music

Course Information

Please find below specific details about the course and specification followed.

QAN Code	60179284	**Level**	A Level	**Exam Board**	Edexcel
College Contact	Mr J Marrows	jmarrows@heathfieldcc.co.uk		**Course Code**	9MU0
Subject Specific Entry Requirements	Grade 6 or above in GCSE Music and Grade 5 Music Theory				

Course Overview

The course is for anyone who plays an instrument at least to a grade 6 standard. It is ideal for people who are wanting to go into music and other creative industries. The course lends itself to students who are inquisitive about music and enjoy listening to a wide range of different musical genres. A student who can use their understanding in a practical way, as well as a written way, will really enjoy studying Music A Level.

Please note for 2027 our initial offer includes to Music courses. Following the application deadline a decision will be made regarding our approach for September 2027.

What you will learn

You will have opportunities to develop your performing, composing and listening skills in a class of like-minded musicians. The course is designed to accommodate both classical and pop musicians and covers a wide range of genres.

How you will learn

You will learn through listening, analysing scores, performing on different instruments and using Music software to compose.

Course Assessment

This course is assessed using terminal examination and Non-Examined Assessment

Assessment 1

Assessment Title	Extended Performance	Final Recital: a minimum of 8 minutes in length
Type	Recital	
Time	Perform for over 8 minutes	
% of Qualification	30%	

Assessment 2

Assessment Title	Composition and Technical Study	Students compose 2 pieces, combined time minimum of 6-8 Minutes. The first composition is either a free composition or is from a list of free choice briefs and must be at least four minutes in duration. The second composition must be from a list of briefs assessing technique, of at least two minutes in duration. The four briefs assessing technique will always include: Bach chorale, two-part counterpoint, an arrangement and a remix that must be at least one minute in duration. Total time across both submissions must be a minimum of 6 minutes.
Type	Non-examined Assessment	
Time	6 minutes	
% of Qualification	30%	

Assessment 3

Assessment Title	Further Musical Understanding
Type	Written Examination
Time	2 Hours
% of Qualification	40%

Knowledge and understanding of musical elements, contexts and language. Application of knowledge through the context of six areas of study, each with three set works.

- Vocal Music
- Instrumental Music
- Music for Film
- Popular Music and Jazz
- Fusions
- New Directions

Application of knowledge to unfamiliar works.
The areas of study are: Vocal Music, Instrumental Music, Music for Film, Popular Music and Jazz, Fusion, New Directions.

Course Outline

1 Year 1

Recital 6 minutes
2 composition which are 4 ½ minutes combined
Knowledge and understanding of musical elements, contexts and language.

- Vocal Music
- Instrumental Music
- Music for Film
- Popular Music and Jazz
- Fusions
- New Directions

2 Year 2

Recital 8 minutes
2 compositions which are 6 minutes combined. To include 1 free composition (5 minutes long) and 1 Compositional Technique.
Knowledge and understanding of musical elements, contexts and language. Application of knowledge through the context of six areas of study, each with three set works.

- Vocal Music
- Instrumental Music
- Music for Film
- Popular Music and Jazz
- Fusions
- New Directions

Development of application of knowledge to unfamiliar works. Development of aural perception

Progression & Course Combination

Where Next?

A Level Music is a highly respected course which can lead to further study in Music or Performing Arts at university. It is also considered useful if you are hoping to study Music Technology at university. The confidence and presentation skills which you will gain from the performance aspect of this course will appeal to potential employers as well as university admissions tutors.

Course Combinations

The course combines well with several A Level and BTEC subjects including; Media, Physics, English Literature, Drama and Art

Facts about Music at Heathfield

The College supports the running of A Level Music and values its importance as part of our KS5 offer.

Trips to see live music performance each year as well as regular opportunities to perform to an audience.

The music department is well equipped with Apple Macs to support student study and has specalised Mac Suites as well as purpose built rehearsal and recording spaces. We run Ableton, Sibelius and Garageband.

Course Guide

Music Performance

Course Information

Please find below specific details about the course and specification followed.

QAN Code	601/7090/6	**Level**	BTEC	**Exam Board**	Pearson
College Contact	Mr J Marrows	jmarrows@heathfieldcc.co.uk		**Course Code**	601/7090/6
Subject Specific Entry Requirements	Performing an instrument/voice at Grade 4 standard or above. Basic music reading skills (grade 1-3 Music theory)				

Course Overview

The course is for anyone who plays an instrument to at least grade 4 standard and is ideal for people who are wanting to go into music and other creative industries. The course lends itself to students who are looking for a blend of technical and academic skills as this course will provide students with the vocational knowledge and skills to succeed in the music industry.

Please note for 2027 our initial offer includes to Music courses. Following the application deadline a decision will be made regarding our approach for September 2027.

What you will learn

You will have opportunities to develop your performing, composing and musicianship skills in a class of like-minded musicians. The course is designed to accommodate both classical and pop musicians and has a focus on performance including musical skills development.

How you will learn

You will learn through a mix of practical workshops, rehearsal as a solo artist or ensemble as well as performance and coursework.

Course Assessment

This course is assessed using a combination of 3 mandatory and 1 optional unit. There are 2 internal assessments and 2 external assessments.

Assessment 1

Assessment Title	Practical Music Theory and Harmony
Type	Internal
Time	90 GLH
% of Qualification	25%

Assessment 2

Assessment Title	Professional Practice in the Music Industry
Type	External
Time	90 GLH
% of Qualification	25%

Assessment 3

Assessment Title	Ensemble Music Performance
Type	External
Time	120 GLH Hours
% of Qualification	33%

Assessment 4

Assessment Title	Optional Unit
Type	Internal
Time	60 GLH Hours
% of Qualification	47%

Optional Units Include:

- Composing Music
- Music Performance Session Styles
- Solo Performance

- Improvising Music

Course Outline

1 Year 1

Practical Music theory and Harmony

- Examine the signs and symbols used in musical notation
- Explore the application of melodic composition based on musical elements
- Explore the application of chords and cadences for composition or arrangement
- Produce correct musical notation for performance

Internal Assessment

Professional Practice in the Music Industry

- Understand the importance of professional practice in the music industry
- Understand operational requirements relevant to specific music industry organisations and practices
- Demonstrate the ability to apply the skills required for working in the music industry
- Demonstrate the requirements for professional presentation of ideas
- Evaluate the skills and knowledge needed for professional roles in the music industry

External Assessment

2 Year 2

Optional Unit

Specific outline will depend on unit chosen

Internal Assessment

Ensemble Music Performance

- Demonstrate knowledge and understanding of the skills needed for rehearsals and ensemble performance
- Demonstrate knowledge and understanding of how to interpret an original musical piece
- Apply skills and techniques when contributing to an ensemble during rehearsal and performance
- Be able to contribute towards a performance as part of an ensemble
- Be able to reflect and make connections between responding, planning, rehearsal and performance

External Assessment

Progression & Course Combination

Where Next?

Designed to support progression to higher education. It gives a broad overview of the music sector and develops musical skills and professional practice to allow for progression into the industry.

Course Combinations

The course combines well with several A Level and BTEC subjects including; Media, Business, English Literature, Drama and Art

Facts about Music at Heathfield

The College supports the running of BTEC music performance and values its importance as part of our KS5 offer.

The music department is well equipped with Apple Macs to support student study and has specalised Mac Suites as well as purpose built rehearsal and recording spaces. We run Ableton, Sibelius and Garageband.

We run trips to see live music performance each year as well as regular opportunities to perform to an audience.

Course Guide

Photography

Course Information

Please find below specific details about the course and specification followed.

QAN Code	60149589	**Level**	A Level	**Exam Board**	Edexcel
College Contact	Ms F Strachan	fstrachan@heathfieldcc.co.uk		**Course Code**	9PYO
Subject Specific Entry Requirements	Grade 5 or above in GCSE Photography or Art				

Course Overview

Photography will develop your ability to see the world in a different light and from a different angle; identifying the unusual in the mundane; developing your technical and creative skills through personal investigation; delving into the work and ethos of other photographers, artists and designers to enhance your creative growth. This is an exciting and creative course that uses Adobe Photoshop software to its maximum capability.

Please note; in order to facilitate this course and to allow students to explore the full range of materials, media and processes available, we are requesting a £31 course fee for the first year and a £7 course fee for the second.

What you will learn

You will learn different ways to set up your camera to develop your photographic skills and to achieve the specific effects you want. You will learn to develop your ideas through studying the work of others and making a series of critical and visual responses. Learning to create your own digital book will enable you to develop presentation skills and you will learn to organise your work to evidence and convey your creative journey.You will learn to use wet processing methods and how to make enlargements on the enlargers. There will be an introduction to different lighting techniques and you will quickly master the basics and be able to book the lights for use in your own time. You should expect your editing skills to develop throughout the course.
We will encourage the use of a wide range of specialist tools, techniques and processes and help you realise how to apply these to your creative vision.

How you will learn

We strongly encourage students to take ownership of their own learning. As teachers our aim is to facilitate your learning rather than dictate it. We will help you learn the skills you need for your idea and as you progress you will take more ownership over your thematic project. We use a mixture of whole class delivery, peer assessment and collaboration combined with tutorial style teaching that is a two way constructive discussion on your work and how best to realise your intentions.

Course Assessment

This course is assessed using terminal examination and Non-Examined Assessment

Assessment 1

Assessment Title	Personal Portfolio
Type	Non-Examined Assessment
Time	
% of Qualification	60%

This component allows students opportunities to generate and develop ideas, research primary and contextual sources, record practical and written observations, experiment with media and processes, and refine ideas towards producing personal resolved outcome(s).
Students must work within one of the following titles:

- Film-based photography
- Digital photography
- Film and video.

Assessment 2

Assessment Title	Externally Set Assignment
Type	Examination
Time	Prep studies and 15 Hour Exam
% of Qualification	40%

This component allows students opportunities to generate and develop ideas, research primary and contextual sources, record practical and written observations, experiment with media and processes, and refine ideas towards producing a personal resolved outcome(s) in response to an externally set theme during a 15-hour exam.

Course Outline

1 Year 1

Initially students build on the transition work from the summer, editing preliminary photographic studies, developing the use of a digital book evidencing their photographic skills, critical analysis and presentation skills. During Terms 1 and 2 students will explore key camera skills including composition, viewpoint, depth of field and shutterspeed. The thematic Personal Investigation project (coursework 60%) runs throughout year 1 and the majority of year 2, up until January of the second year. Students choose their own individual theme and will develop three different concepts on that theme during the course. Students will explore lighting set ups and experiment with wet processing techniques in the darkroom including chemigrams, photograms and using enlargers. The first outcome is a narrative journal which is the culmination of both digital experimentation and physical manipulation of photographs. From this students will take a successful aspect of their work and independently develop the concept further to lead to their Concept 2 outcome. The third concept which contributes much of the work for the Personal Investigation practical submisssion and the Personal Study essay is begun in term 6.

2 Year 2

The concept for the Personal Investigation practical project and the Personal Study essay are set by the students themselves. This is a personal line of enquiry which links research and practical work directly to their critical study, exploring and investigating a chosen title question. Students will rely heavily on their experiences from year one of the tools, techniques and processes they have used in order to develop their project independently. They will work on the project through to term 3 when they will produce a final outcome.

In Term 3 of year 2, students will start their final externally set assignment which is 40% of the final grade; the theme for the project is set by the exam board. Students will work through a preparatory phase of approximately 3 months supported by their teachers. They will explore the theme in different ways and develop a sense of what they want to create for their outcome before sitting a 15 hour exam during which time they will produce their final design.

Progression & Course Combination

Where Next?

Art foundation course, photography or art related degree. Careers in fine art, commercial photography, fashion photography, graphic design, marine photography, fashion journalism and promotion, reportage, studio and documentary photography.

Course Combinations

The course combines well with A levels in Art, Design Technology, Creative Media, Psychology, English, Geography and History.

Facts about Photography at Heathfield

We have a history of outstanding results.

The department is extremely well resourced and we have a darkroom and studio lighting facilities.

Students not only learn Photography but many digital editorial skills too including creating a book or magazine on Adobe Indesign software.

A large number of our students go on to study further on local Art Foundation courses and at degree level nationally.

Course Guide

Physics

Course Information

Please find below specific details about the course and specification followed.

QAN Code	60147477	**Level**	A Level	**Exam Board**	AQA
College Contact	Mr N Cook	ncook@heathfieldcc.co.uk		**Course Code**	7408
Subject Specific Entry Requirements	Grade 6 or above in Physics and 1 other science (or Grade 6,6 or above in combined science) plus Grade 6 in Maths				

Course Overview

We are all born with the urge to understand the world around us. One of the first words we learn to say is 'Why?' and then, a little later 'How?' So you have probably asked in your time 'Why is the sky blue?', 'How does a mobile phone work?', 'How does the Sun keep on shining?', 'What is dark matter?' amongst other questions. If you find that the more answers you are given, the more questions you want to ask, then you could well be a physicist in the making and you should certainly consider studying Physics at A Level. Physics opens doors to a wider range of careers than almost any other subject. So if you are ambitious, if you enjoy a challenge and solving problems, Physics could be the right choice for you.

What you will learn

How to take an inquisitive look at the world and apply the scientific method to fundamentally explain how things work. Physics is both theoretical and experimental and we use both processes to make sense of observations we make.

How you will learn

Through a series of taught lessons and investigative practicals we look to explore and explain the world around you. Taking as much of a practical approach as possible we aim to allow pupils to experience the physics that we teach. Pupils are asked to question findings and understand scientific principals and working. When not in lessons pupils will be asked to undertake reading and research to build upon their knowledge and put this into practice through answering questions.

Course Assessment

This course is assessed using terminal examination and Non-Examined Assessment

Assessment 1

Assessment Title	Paper 1
Type	Written Examination
Time	2 Hours
% of Qualification	34%

60 mark question from Chapter 1-5 and 25 multiple choice questions based around: Measurements and their errors, particles and radiation, waves, mechanics and materials and electricity

Assessment 2

Assessment Title	Paper 2
Type	Written Examination
Time	2 Hours
% of Qualification	34%

60 mark questions from chapter 6-8 and 25 multiple choice questions based around: Further mechanics and thermal physics, fields and their consequences and nuclear physics

Assessment 3

Assessment Title	Paper 3
Type	Written Examination
Time	2 Hours
% of Qualification	32%

45 marks on practical experiments and data analysis and 35 marks on option topic
Options topic : Astrophysics

Assessment 4

Assessment Title	Practical Endorsement in Physics
Type	Non-Examined Assessment
Time	-
% of Qualification	-

Performance in this component is reported separately to the performance in the A level as measured through externally assessed components. This non exam assessment component rewards the development of practical competency for physics and is teacher assessed. Learners complete a minimum of 12 assessed practical activities covering the specified technical skills.
Learners may work in groups but must be able to demonstrate and record independent evidence of their competency. Teachers who award a pass to their learners need to be confident that the learner consistently and routinely exhibits the competencies required before completion of the A level course.
This is awarded on a pass or fail basis and is reported seperately to the A Level grade.

Course Outline

1 Year 1

- Mechanics : Forces in equilibrium, Projectile motion, Newtons laws of Motion, Momentum and Forces, Energy, Materials
- Waves : Wave properties, Optics
- Electricity : Electrical current, DC circuits
- Particle physics : Matter and Radiation, Quarks and leptons, Quantum phenomena

2 Year 2

- Further Mechanics: Circular motion, SHM.
- Fields: Magnetic, electrical, gravitational, Capacitors, Electro magnetic induction
- Thermal Physics : kinetic theory, Gas Laws
- Nuclear physics: Radioactivity, Nuclear energy,
- Astrophysics (option Unit)
- Astrophysics

Progression & Course Combination

Where Next?

Physics provides a route into many careers and university courses. A level Physics is required to study physics, engineering, aeronautics and astronomy and is highly valued by most other courses. Physics provides an entry into a wide range of industries: IT, manufacturing, agriculture, energy production, communications, medicine, broadcasting, sport, finance, marketing, robotics and business. Few other subjects offer such a wealth of employment possibilities. Indeed, Physics is relevant to almost every job

Course Combinations

The course combines well with several A Level subjects including Mathematics, Further Mathematics, Chemistry, Biology, Geography, Psychology, PE and Design Technology.

Facts about Physics at Heathfield

100% pass rate and placed in the top 25% for progress over the past three years.

Course Guide

Product Design

Course Information

Please find below specific details about the course and specification followed.

QAN Code	60311319	**Level**	A Level	**Exam Board**	OCR
College Contact	Mrs S Connelley	sconnelley@heathfieldcc.co.uk		**Course Code**	H406
Subject Specific Entry Requirements	Grade 5 or above in GCSE Design and Technology				

Course Overview

This course is for creative people with a passion for solving real world problems in a sustainable way using design and technology. It is particularly aimed at those who may want to go onto to study design, engineering or architecture after the Sixth Form.

What you will learn

You will learn critical thinking and problem solving skills within a creative environment, enabling you to develop and make prototypes/products that solve real world problems. During the course you will develop the technical knowledge of how materials are formed, how they can be worked with along with how products are made in industry.

How you will learn

You will learn designing, modelling and making skills through a series of mini projects and the theory content will be taught using flipped learning where the content is studied at home prior to a lesson where your understanding of the topic is explored through tasks, discussion and testing.

Course Assessment

This course is assessed using terminal examination and Non-Examined Assessment

Assessment 1

Assessment Title	Principles of Design
Type	Written Examination
Time	1 ½ Hours
% of Qualification	26.7%

Learners will be required to: analyse existing products, demonstrate applied mathematical skills, demonstrate their technical knowledge of materials, product functionality, manufacturing processes and techniques and demonstrate their understanding of wider social, moral and environmental issues that impact on the design and manufacturing industries.

Assessment 2

Assessment Title	Problem solving in Product Design
Type	Written Examination
Time	1 ¾ Hours
% of Qualification	23.3%

Learners will be required to read and respond to the resource booklet provided. Apply knowledge, understanding and skills of designing and manufacturing prototypes and products. Demonstrate thinking skills to solve problems and critically evaluate situations and suitability of design solutions.

Assessment 3

Assessment Title	Iterative Design Project
Type	Non-examined Assessment
Time	65 Hours approx.
% of Qualification	50%

The ‘Iterative Design Project’ requires learners to undertake a substantial design, make and evaluate a project centred on the iterative processes of explore, create and evaluate. Learners identify a design opportunity or problem from a context of their own choice, and create a portfolio of evidence in real time through the project to demonstrate their competence.

Course Outline

1 Year 1

Technical knowledge of materials, product functionality, manufacturing processes and techniques.
Presentation and modelling skills, CAD/CAM, practical skills.
Wider social, moral and environmental issues that impact on the design and manufacturing industries

2 Year 2

Apply knowledge, understanding and skills of designing and manufacturing prototypes and products in the Iterative Design Project and examined units.

Progression & Course Combination

Where Next?

Design Technology A level can lead on to numerous design related degree courses including Product Design, Engineering and Architecture as well as HNDs and advanced apprenticeships.

Course Combinations

The course combines well with Maths, Physics or other creative subjects like Art and Photography.

Facts about Product Design at Heathfield

Good success in progression to degree level courses including product design, engineering and architectural design

Well equipped workshops, computer access and CAM facilities including a 3D printer, CNC milling machine, vinyl cutter and laser cutter

Course Guide

Psychology

Course Information

Please find below specific details about the course and specification followed.

QAN Code	6014838X	**Level**	A Level	**Exam Board**	AQA
College Contact	Mrs L Turner	Lturner@heathfieldcc.co.uk		**Course Code**	7182
Subject Specific Entry Requirements	Grade 6 or above in GCSE English and GCSE Science				

Course Overview

Psychology is a fascinating science concerned with the study of the human mind and behaviour. Anyone who has an interest in analysing human behaviour from a scientific perspective will enjoy psychology. You should be interested in the wide range of influences on behaviour, from the biological (e.g. neurotransmitters, hormones and genes), to the social (e.g. peer groups or those in authority), and be prepared to learn about theories of human behaviour and the research studies that underpin our current understanding.

What you will learn

The A level course content provides students with the opportunity to study a wide range of psychological approaches to explaining behaviour including, biological, cognitive, psychodynamic and social approaches. The course also includes the opportunity to consider the explanations of specific behaviours, such as aggression and psychopathologies, including depression and OCD. Throughout the course there is a strong focus on developing an understanding of the nature of science and conducting valid and reliable psychological research.
Studying Psychology will enable you to consider questions such as: What is schizophrenia? Why is eyewitness testimony often wrong? Do we have free will? Why can jealousy cause aggression?

How you will learn

We encourage you to be independent and proactive in your learning. You will need a detailed and accurate knowledge of the content we cover and much of this will be delivered through lectures that you will access both in and outside of the classroom. Classroom activities focus on discussion, extension and application of your knowledge, in addition to developing your precision in answering both short questions and longer extended essays.

Psychology can be a practical subject. Psychological understanding is primarily developed through research studies and you will get the opportunity to act as a participant in these studies, in addition to developing your knowledge through practical application tasks, where you will get the opportunity to design and conduct your own small scale research.

Course Assessment

This course is assessed using terminal examination and Non-Examined Assessment

Assessment 1

Assessment Title	Introductory Topics in Psychology
Type	Written Examination
Time	2 Hours
% of Qualification	33.3%

This exam covers the content from year one, including memory, attachment, social influence and psychopathology.

Assessment 2

Assessment Title	Psychology in Context
Type	Written Examination
Time	2 Hours
% of Qualification	33.3%

This exam covers the psychological approaches, biopsychology and research methods content from year one and two.

Assessment 3

Assessment Title	Issues and Options in Psychology
Type	Written Examination
Time	2 Hours
% of Qualification	33.3%

This exam covers issues and debates in psychology. A detailed analysis of aggression, gender and schizophrenia is also conducted. This is content taught in year two.

Course Outline

1 Year 1

Research Methods.
Psychopathology: definitions of abnormality, phobias, depression and obsessive compulsive disorder, behavioural, cognitive and biological approaches to explaining psychopathology.
Memory: models of memory, explanations for forgetting, eyewitness testimony.
Attachment: types of attachment, explanations for attachment, maternal deprivation and the influences of early attachment on adult relationships.
Approaches to psychology: origins of psychology, the learning, biological, psychodynamic and humanistic approaches.
Social Influence: conformity and obedience, resistance to social influence, minority influence and social change.
Biopsychology: the nervous system, the structure and function of neurons, endocrine system, fight or flight response, localisation of function in the brain, ways of studying the brain, biological rhythms.

2 Year 2

Research Methods.
Issues and debates in psychology: gender and culture in psychology, free will and determinism, the nature-nurture debate, holism and reductionism, idiographic and nomothetic approaches, ethical implications of research studies and theories.
Gender: sex and gender, sex-role stereotypes, androgyny, the role of chromosomes and hormones, cognitive, psychodynamic and social learning theory, explanations for gender development and atypical gender development.
Schizophrenia: classification of schizophrenia, positive and negative symptoms of schizophrenia, reliability and validity in classification and diagnosis, biological explanations, psychological explanations, drug therapies, cognitive behavioural therapy, family therapy, token economies, interactionist approach in explaining and treating, the diathesis-stress model.
Aggression: neural and hormonal mechanisms in aggression, the ethological explanations of aggression, social psychological explanations of aggression, institutional aggression in the context of prisons, media influences on aggression.

Progression & Course Combination

Where Next?

Psychology has a broad range of real world applications in everyday life, ranging from stress, health, mental illness, artificial intelligence and human-machine interaction, to personal development, social interaction and the environment, to name but a few. Psychology also offers good career prospects. There are a large number of careers available in psychology such as Educational Psychologist, Criminal Psychologist or Health Psychologist and many psychology students will go on to pursue other career paths, in which the skills and knowledge they have gained will be readily transferable.

Course Combinations

Psychology requires diverse skills and has links with a variety of disciplines such as the biological, computer and forensic sciences, as well as with the humanities such as history and sociology. Psychology combines particularly well with Sociology, Biology, History, Politics and English courses. The research methods content facilitates a good combination with the Sciences and Mathematics.

Facts about Psychology at Heathfield

89% of psychology students achieved an A*-C in 2025.

Our students go onto study psychology at degree level as well as lots of other subjects, biology, physics, paramedic sciences, photography, marketing, art foundation, criminology, teaching and many many more – you will have a wide range of transferable skills.

Course Guide

Sociology

Course Information

Please find below specific details about the course and specification followed.

QAN Code	60139948	**Level**	A Level	**Exam Board**	AQA
College Contact	Ms A Sugden	asugden@heathfieldcc.co.uk		**Course Code**	7192
Subject Specific Entry Requirements	College entry requirements				

Course Overview

Sociology is for those of you interested in the full story behind the important issues in our society. From race and poverty, to the internet and globalisation – our society is out there and sociology can help you understand your place in it. This is a subject for anyone fascinated about the study of people, communities and places, with an interest on how the external social world affects our everyday lives – and not always for the better. Successful sociology students are inquisitive, open to looking at issues and events from multiple perspectives and can apply what they have learnt to events and issues as they occur. You will need to be able to use your knowledge to construct arguments in the essays that you write and come to informed conclusions and judgements.

What you will learn

Sociology A-level focuses on four main topic areas: crime and deviance, the media, education and culture and identity. Underpinning all units is sociological theory which will encourage critical thinking and debate on the multitude of perspectives on social life. There is also a clear focus on the role of globalisation and students will study a range of sociological case studies from around the globe. Students will also examine sociological research methods.
The study of sociology will develop a range of skills: communication, interpersonal, analytical, statistical, cross-cultural understanding and leadership skills.

How you will learn

Sociology A-level is delivered through a range of strategies including:
Conventional class based learning
Flipped learning online lectures
Project work
Researching, reading and watching a range of articles and digital resources.
Students will be taught how to take good notes, how to revise effectively and how to respond to the various exam questions.

Course Assessment

This course is assessed using terminal examination and Non-Examined Assessment

Assessment 1

Assessment Title	Education with theory and methods
Type	Written Assessment
Time	2 Hours
% of Qualification	33.3%

Assessed through a mixture of short answer questions, short essays and extended essay questions on the topics of the sociology of education, research methods in the context of education and sociological theory.

Assessment 2

Assessment Title	Topics in Sociology
Type	Written Assessment
Time	2 Hours
% of Qualification	33.3%

Assessed through a mixture of short essays and extended essay questions. Section A of this paper is Culture and Identity Topic. Section B is the Media topic.

Assessment 3

Assessment Title	Crime and Deviance with theory and methods
Type	Written Assessment
Time	2 Hours
% of Qualification	33.3%

Assessed through a mixture of short answer questions, short essays and extended essay questions on the topics of the sociology of crime and deviance, sociological theory and research methods.

Course Outline

1 Year 1

Education with Methods in Context: The role and functions of the education system, differential educational achievement of social groups, relationships and processes within schools, the significance of educational policies, the impact of globalisation on educational policy, application of sociological research methods to the study of education and identification of the various issues in investigating this area.
Culture and Identity with Research Methods: Different conceptions of culture, the socialisation process and the role of the agencies of socialisation, the self, identity and difference as socially constructed, the relationship of identity to age, disability, ethnicity, gender, nationality, sexuality and social class in contemporary society, the relationship of identity to production, consumption and globalisation.
Sociological Research Methods.

2 Year 2

The Theoretical Basis for Sociology: Consensus, conflict, structural & social action theories, concepts of modernity and post-modernity, the nature of science and the extent to which Sociology can be regarded as scientific, the relationship between theory and methods, debates on subjectivity, objectivity and value freedom, the relationship between Sociology and social policy
The Media: The new media and their significance for an understanding of the role of the media in contemporary society, the relationship between ownership and control of the media, the media, globalisation and popular culture, the processes of selection and presentation of the content of the news, media representations of age, social class, ethnicity, gender, sexuality and disability, the relationship between the media, their content and presentation and audiences.
Crime and Deviance: The nature and role of crime, deviance, social order and social control, the social distribution of crime and deviance by ethnicity, gender and social class, recent patterns and trends in crime, globalisation and crime in contemporary society; the media and crime; green crime; human rights and state crimes, crime control, surveillance, prevention and punishment, victims, and the role of the criminal justice system and other agencies

Progression & Course Combination

Where Next?

Sociology can lead to work in journalism, publishing, marketing, PR, management, economics, politics, social work / research, police and criminal justice work and education.

Course Combinations

Sociology combines particularly well with Economics, Psychology, Media, History, Government & Politics and English courses.

Facts about Sociology at Heathfield

Sociology is one of best performing A-level subjects at the college with results often in the top 25% of the country.

93% of students achieved an A*-C in 2025.

Sociology is a contemporary subject. We will discuss and use current events throughout the course. So our students are well aware of what is going on in the world and their place in it.

Many of our students enjoy the subject so much they go on to study sociology, or similar, at university.

Course Guide

Spanish

Course Information

Please find below specific details about the course and specification followed.

QAN Code	60187062	**Level**	A Level	**Exam Board**	Edexcel
College Contact	Mrs K Ridgwell	kridgwell@heathfieldcc.co.uk		**Course Code**	9SP0
Subject Specific Entry Requirements	Grade 6 or above in GCSE Spanish				

Course Overview

The Spanish A Level course enables you to build on previous GCSE knowledge in a logical and rewarding way, applying transferable skills in critical thinking and analysis. The course will provide you with inspiring and engaging themes and content which provide clear links to some of the most fundamental and richly diverse aspects of contemporary Spanish culture and society. Popular literary texts and films are also studied during the course offering a further dimension of study into the wider Spanish-speaking world. This course rewards creativity and assessments place an emphasis on spontaneity and grammar as well as providing plenty of opportunities for students to apply their knowledge independently and creatively.

What you will learn

Listening: to understand spoken Spanish that takes place in a range of different settings, listen to Spanish news, films and Podcasts. Listen out for different accent variations and pronunciation of words.
Reading: to understand the context of written pieces, read a wide range of authentic texts from the Spanish media and Hispanic Speaking world. Read a play in Spanish and understand more traditional Spanish vocabulary in an historical context.
Writing: to apply grammar rules to write fluently and competently. Learn techniques to analyse characters studied in the play and film and write about the key themes within these materials.
Speaking: to become confident, sustaining long and detailed conversations about Spanish traditions and customs. To be able to verbally summarise written texts and to give presentations in the target language.

How you will learn

- Speaking in the target language
- Pair/group work
- Independent work
- Listening to authentic materials (watching films, Spanish TV, listening to music)
- Researching, reading and keeping up to date with Spanish current affairs
- Testing yourself on core vocabluary and application of grammar in written pieces
- Having an awareness of Spanish society and the changes that have happened in Spain since the Civil War and the dictatorship of Franco

Course Assessment

This course is assessed using terminal examination and Non-Examined Assessment

Assessment 1

Assessment Title	Listening, reading and translation
Type	Exam
Time	2 Hours
% of Qualification	40%

Listening exam: Students will respond to comprehension questions based on a variety of contexts and sources.
Reading: A variety of text types and genres will be used to assess reading comprehension ability.
Translation: Students will be required to translate an unseen passage from Spanish into English.

Assessment 2

Assessment Title	Written response to works and translation
Type	Exam
Time	2 hours 40 minutes
% of Qualification	30%

Written: This exam draws on the study of a Spanish film and a literary text. Students write a 350 word essay to a question on a literary text and to a question based on a film.
Translation: Students will be required to translate an unseen passage from English into Spanish.

Assessment 3

Assessment Title	Speaking
Type	Exam
Time	21-23 Minutes
% of Qualification	30%

Speaking: Students have two tasks to complete within 21-23 minutes with 5 minutes preparation time. Students will discuss one theme from the specification based on a stimulus containing two different statements. The second task allows students to present a summary of the key findings of the written sources they have used for their independent research and answer questions on this followed by a wider discussion on their chosen area of research.

Course Outline

1 Year 1

The evolution of Spanish society
- The modern family
- The world of work
- The impact of tourism in Spain

Political and artistic culture in the Spanish speaking World
- Music
- Media
- The role of festivals and traditions

Literature and Film study
- El Laberinto del Fauno/ Pan's Labyrinth (film)
- La Casa de Bernarda Alba (play)

2 Year 2

Immigration and the multicultural Spanish society
- Historic and contemporary immigration
- Integration and multiculturalism

The Franco Dictatorship and the transition to democracy
- The Franco Dictatorship
- The role of the monarchy and government in the transition to democracy

Speaking: Independent Research Presentation
Revision Strategies, application and translation

Progression & Course Combination

Where Next?

Spanish A Level can lead to university study in modern foreign languages, either on its own or in combination with another language or subject, for example Law, Engineering, History, Geography, Psychology, Art and Media.
A Level Language courses are highly respected by university admission tutors and potential employers, and may lead to overseas work and travel amongst other things.

Course Combinations

The course combines well with many A Level subjects, including English Literature and Language courses, History, Geography, Art, Mathematics, Biology, Music, Drama, Psychology and many more subjects.

Facts about Spanish at Heathfield

Spanish is taught regularly at A level with small class sizes. This gives students regular one to one support time with teachers enabling them to develop confidence with speaking.

In preparation for their written exam, students meet with actors form Teatro Cervantes who perform the play studied.

It is not unusual for students to study Spanish at Higher education and the Department has seen numerous students achieve a BA Hons in a Modern Language who then continued to pursue language related careers.

Heathfield Sixth Form | Course Guide

Sport & Physical Activity Extended Certificate

Course Information

Please find below specific details about the course and specification followed.

QAN Code	TBC	**Level 3**		**Exam Board**	OCR
College Contact	Mr P Pedley	ppedley@heathfieldcc.co.uk		**Course Code**	05826 to 05829
Subject Specific Entry Requirements	Baseline College Requirements. Competitive Sport required and Level 2 PE preferred				

Course Overview

What you will learn

Level 3 Cambridge Technical in Sport and Physical Activity qualifications help students to achieve their potential and progress to the next stage of their lives, whether that's higher education, an apprenticeship or employment.
The course is designed to include exciting content that's up to date, engaging, fit for purpose and suitable.

How you will learn

A wide range of centre assessed units with practical and wider project-based assessment opportunities, as well as examined units on the body systems and the long and short term impacts of sport and physical activity; how sport is organised and the purpose of sports development; health and safety requirements in sport and physical activity; the purpose of, and how to conduct research in sport and physical activity; and how businesses in sport are organised and what success looks like to them.

Course Assessment

This course is assessed through the following methods

Assessment 1

Assessment Title	Body Systems & the effects of physical activity
Type	Written exam (external)
Time	1 hour 30 mins
% of Qualification	90GLH or 70 marks

Learners should study the different body systems and the impacts of physical activity and lifestyle on them within the taught content in the context of a range of sport and physical activity situations.

Assessment 2

Assessment Title	Sports Coaching & activity leadership
Type	Internally set assignments
Time	
% of Qualification	90GLH

This unit will give you an understanding behind the theory of what makes good sports coaches and activity leaders and methods that can be employed to improve the performance of participants. You will explore the roles and responsibilities of coaches and leaders and how these differ from each other and others involved in delivering and teaching sport and physical activity.

Assessment 3

Assessment Title	Sports Organisation & Development
Type	Internally set assignments
Time	
% of Qualification	60GLH

Learners should study the organisation of sport and sports development in the UK within the taught content in the context of a range of real organisations, interactions, initiatives and campaigns. Exam papers for this unit will use real sports development campaigns, initiatives and statistics

Assessment 4 & 5

Assessment Title	2 x Optional units
Type	Internally set assignments
Time	
% of Qualification	60GLH

These will be decided when staffing and students are known.

Course Outline

1 Year 1

Unit 1 Body systems and the effects of physical activity.
In this unit you will gain an understanding of the structures and functions of the key body systems, how these support and impact performance in sport and physical activity and the effects that physical activity, training and lifestyle can have on them.

Unit 2 Sports coaching and activity leadership
The main part of the unit is related to you developing the skills and understanding necessary to effectively plan and deliver a series of sports or activity sessions reflecting on your own practice and using this feedback to improve your performance as a sports coach or activity leader.

Unit 3 Sports organisation and development
In this unit you will gain an understanding of the organisations involved in sport in the UK, their roles and responsibilities and how they work together. You will also gain an understanding of sports development, including the organisations involved, who sports development is targeted at and why, how sports development is carried out and how the success of sports development initiatives can be measured.

2 Year 2 (example of optional units)

Unit 17 Sports injuries and rehabilitation
This unit will teach you how to recognise and treat common sports injuries both immediately and through long-term rehabilitation programmes, the possible psychological impacts of sports injuries and how to minimise the risk of sports injuries occurring in the first instance.

Unit 18 Practical skills in sport and physical activities
This unit gives you the opportunity to participate in a number of different sports and outdoor and adventurous activities which allows you to experience first-hand situations that participants you may later be coaching or leading will come across. In this unit you will learn how to apply skills, tactics, techniques and knowledge in individual sports, team sports and outdoor and adventurous activities which will allow you to participate effectively, safely and enjoyably.

Progression & Course Combination

Where Next?

On completion of the Level 3 Cambridge Technical course, students can use tariff points to help gain access to higher education, continue on the job training, or work in the sports industry.

Course Combinations

The course combines well with a wide range of A level and vocational subjects in the humanities and sciences, including Geography, Psychology and Biology.

Subject Facts

Further sports facilities include, gymnasium, MUGA including six tennis courts, hockey pitch, two basketball courts, seven netball courts, football and rugby pitch and space for an Athletics track in the summer.

Trip to Brighton University to use Sports Science labs.

The college has access to Heathfield Leisure Centre including use of its sports hall, dance studio, spin / cardio room and fitness suite.

This Guide is correct at the time of publishing
The final decisions regarding the curriculum for September 2027 will be confirmed after Application.

Heathfield Sixth Form
Course Guide September 2027