

# Cambridge Advanced International Certificate of Education (AICE) Factsheet

## What is the Cambridge Advanced International Certificate of Education?

The Advanced International Certificate of Education (AICE) is an advanced academic pre-university curriculum for students who are working towards Advanced (A) and Advanced Subsidiary (AS) Level qualifications. The Cambridge AICE Diploma requires students to study at least three subjects drawn from the different curriculum areas: Mathematics and Sciences; Languages; Arts and Humanities.

An AICE Diploma is a prestigious award that is recognised and valued by colleges and universities, many of which are now offering advanced standing and academic credit for AICE examinations passed.

## What do you need to do to qualify for the AICE Diploma?

The Cambridge AICE Diploma programme requires passes in at least six credits. Each Cambridge AS Level counts as one full credit. A Cambridge A Level counts as a double credit qualification. There are also some subjects available as half credits. For example, students could offer three A Levels, or two A Levels with two AS Levels, or one A Level with three AS

Levels and two half credits. There are many more valid combinations of examinations, but at least one AS, A Level or half credit pass must come from each of the three curriculum areas (see overleaf for subjects available).

Students can also substitute two research projects – each around 3000 words in length – for a full credit course. Research projects would normally be based on topics relating to two examination subjects. Opting for the research project route encourages students to develop independent research skills, initiative, creativity and the ability to apply skills and knowledge in a topic in which they are interested.

Performance in each examination earns points towards the AICE Diploma. The points correspond to the scoring system used by the UK Universities and Colleges Admissions Service and so will be familiar to admissions officers in the UK and internationally.

The Diploma is offered at three different levels:

- Distinction is awarded if you achieve 320 points and above
- Merit is awarded if you achieve 220 to 315 points
- Pass is awarded if you achieve 120 to 215 points

## Where is AICE accepted and recognised?

The qualifications within the AICE Diploma framework have a currency with strong levels of international recognition. University applicants are able to refer to their levels of achievement both in terms of the constituent parts, and demonstrate the breadth of their studies across three subject areas. Therefore, students following an AICE programme score a double advantage – admissions tutors recognise the International A and AS Level gold standard, but also value a student's breadth of study.

Universities and other higher education institutes may have specific admission requirements for some courses and vary in the amount of credit given to AICE students so it is advisable to contact them directly for advice.

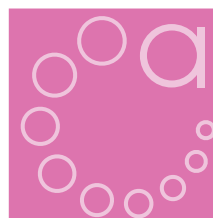
## Who can benefit from AICE?

Anyone planning to attend university or enter the world of business will benefit from studying this broad and balanced curriculum and the skills that they will gain from it.

Students who have taken IGCSEs or O Levels, will find the skills they have acquired are relevant and beneficial to A Level and AICE study.

Grade	A Level	AS Level	Half Credit	Research Project
A	120	60	30	30
B	100	50	25	25
C	80	40	20	20
D	60	30	15	15
E	40	20	10	10

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## Examination information

A Level courses take two years to complete and examinations are taken at the end of that period. AS Level examinations are taken after a year either as part of the A Level course, or as a qualification in their own right. Alternatively, the AS Level qualifications can be taken at the end of a two year course.

Examinations are held in June and November each year with results issued in August and February respectively. Students may use up to three sessions to take the examinations leading to the AICE Diploma, providing they are all taken within a 13 month period. Students are able to re-take examinations if they fail or they want to improve their AICE score.

NOTE: Students must enter for AICE through a registered CIE Centre

## Subjects on offer

### Group A: Mathematics and Sciences

Biology  
Chemistry  
Computing  
Environmental Science  
Higher Mathematics  
Mathematics (Pure Mathematics, Mathematics with Mechanics or Mathematics with Statistics)  
Physics  
Psychology  
Technology  
Thinking Skills  
Mathematics: Statistics (half credit)

### Group B: Languages

English Language  
English Language and Literature  
First Language Spanish  
First Language Portuguese  
Foreign Language Afrikaans  
Foreign Language Chinese  
Foreign Portuguese  
Foreign Language Spanish  
Foreign Language French  
Foreign Language German  
Foreign Language Urdu  
English (half credit)

### Group C: Arts and Humanities

Accounting  
Art and Design  
Business Studies  
Economics  
General Paper  
Geography  
History  
Literature in Arabic  
Literature in Chinese  
Literature in English  
Literature in French  
Literature in German  
Literature in Portuguese  
Literature in Spanish  
Music  
Psychology  
Sociology  
Thinking Skills

## About CIE

University of Cambridge International Examinations (CIE) is the world's largest provider of international qualifications for 14-19 year olds. CIE's broad range of qualifications are recognised by universities, education providers and employers across the globe.

## How to find out more

