



Sharnbrook Sixth Form

CURRICULUM OFFER 2026-2027



Sharnbrook
Sixth Form





Sharnbrook Sixth Form

A MESSAGE FROM THE HEAD OF SIXTH FORM

Welcome to Sharnbrook Sixth Form. As an institution, we take immense pride in our commitment to fostering an aspirational journey that extends beyond the classroom. Our mission is to ensure that every student has the opportunity to reach their full potential, not solely in academic terms but across a spectrum of essential life skills.

At Sharnbrook, we understand that the path to success involves more than just academic achievement. We are dedicated to preparing our students for life beyond the sixth form by equipping them with vital personal and study skills. Furthermore, we offer comprehensive destination advice to guide them as they make critical decisions about their futures.

Sharnbrook Sixth Form has been rated as outstanding by Ofsted, and this recognition underscores our commitment to excellence in education. We strive to create a supportive and engaging environment where your child can thrive both academically and personally.

It is important to remember that the two years spent in sixth form are represent a significant journey of growth and discovery.

We look forward to meeting you and sharing our vision for our sixth form and our students, and we encourage you to join us on our mutual journey together.

Jackie Hankins

Head of Sixth Form



Sharnbrook Sixth Form

SUBJECTS ON OFFER

The following subjects will be offered:

- Accounting
- Biology
- Business Studies
- Chemistry
- Computing
- Dance
- Digital Games Production
- Drama
- Economics
- English Language
- English Literature
- Film Studies
- Fine Art
- Further maths
- Geography
- Government & Politics
- Graphics
- Health and Social Care AAQ
- History
- Law
- Maths
- Media BTEC Diploma (2 A level)
- Media BTEC Extended Certificate (1 A level)
- Modern Foreign Languages
- Music
- Philosophy
- Photography
- Physical Education
- Cambridge Technical Sport and Physical Activity
- Physics
- Product Design
- Psychology
- Religious Studies
- Sociology

Entry Requirements

6 GCSE's (including English and Maths)

NOTE: Some subjects will have specific entry requirements – please refer to individual course sheets for this information

We cannot guarantee that all subjects will be running at the 2026 entry point. This will depend on the number of applicants.



Head of Dept:
Contact Details:
Exam Board:

Ms Michelle Withers
Mwithers@sharnbrook.academy
AQA

Entry Requirements

In addition to the general entrance requirements, given the numeric nature of this course, it is essential that students have a grade 5 at GCSE level in maths (foundation or higher) and a grade 5 in English language. You can take accounting with either business or economics but not both.

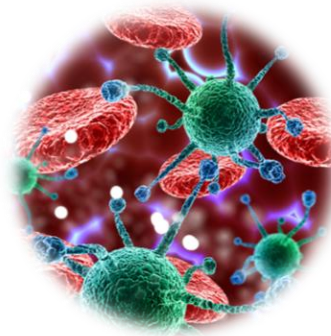
Course content

You will learn the fundamentals of record keeping, and the purposes, techniques and consequences of effective financial accounting. You will also consider how financial accounting helps in successful business operations and decision making. You will study business ownership, control, profitability, performance and budgeting. The course develops your understanding of financial accounting techniques, and how they aid business management and decision making. You will look at costing, capital investment, budgeting, partnership accounts, and sources of finance, as well as considering social accounting issues.

It also encourages the acquisition of a range of transferable skills. These include data skills, presenting arguments, making judgments and recommendations, problem solving and planning work. These are important skills and can be applied to all further career paths. The main teaching methods used in accounting are through methodical calculations, industry accepted financial recording and statements, discussions on investment issues etc. Note taking - students **MUST** provide themselves with A4 lined paper, an A4 folder to keep their notes, a 30cm ruler and a simple calculator. Specialist accountancy paper would be useful.

Assessment

The new specification is a full A Level course with two three-hour exams at the end of the second year. The course will have regular assessments to ensure full and thorough knowledge of each new topic. In addition, class work and homework assignments will be marked, and feedback given



Head of Dept: Mrs S Redmond
Contact Details: SRedmond@sharnbrook.academy
Exam Board: Edexcel Specification A

Entry Requirements

In addition to the general entrance requirements, a minimum of 6/6 (higher paper) in Combined science or, if taking Separate Sciences, two grade 6s (one of which must be biology) are required together with a minimum of grade 5 (higher tier) in mathematics. A minimum of 4 for English language. **Students taking foundation science and maths will not be accepted on to this programme.**

Course content

topic 1: lifestyle, health and risk
topic 2: genes and health
topic 3: voice of the genome
topic 4: biodiversity and natural resources
topic 5: on the wild side
topic 6: immunity, infection and forensics
topic 7: run for your life
topic 8: grey matter

Final Assessment

There are 3 exams in the summer of year 13. Each is worth 100 marks and takes 2 hours.

- Paper 1 - the natural environment and species survival (topics 1-6)
- Paper 2 - energy, exercise and coordination (topics 1-4, 7 and 8)
- Paper 3 - general and practical applications in biology (all 8 topics) and also includes questions based on a pre-release article.

NB 10% of the marks available in the exams are awarded from maths and statistics based questions.

Students have internal assessments every half term, including mock exams to help prepare for the final exams.

Over the two years, students work towards the practical competency (CPAC) award. This demonstrates that they have planned, carried out and analysed the 18 core practicals, one of which is assessed during our residential field trip, to a good standard. Most universities require students to have passed the CPAC as part of the entry requirements for many science-based degrees. The CPAC does not count towards the grade earned from the exams but is reported as a Pass or Not met on their exam certification in the non-examined assessment section.



Head of Dept:
Contact Details:
Exam Board:

Mrs T LLOYD
Tlloyd@sharnbrook.academy
AQA

Entry Requirements

In addition to the general entrance requirements, the requirement to have taken GCSE or BTEC business studies is not a prerequisite for this course. However, if you have taken a GCSE or BTEC related course a grade 4 or level 2 merit is required. Business studies can be taken with either economics or accounting but not both.

Course content

First year: An introduction to key business areas: marketing, operations, finance and human resource management. This includes a special focus on decision making – particularly how decisions made in one area can affect the rest of the business.

Topic 1. What is business?

Topic 2. Managers, leadership and decision making

Topic 3. Decision making to improve marketing performance

Topic 4. Decision making to improve operational performance

Topic 5. Decision making to improve financial performance

Topic 6. Decision making to improve human resource performance

Second year: An investigation of the strategic decisions that all businesses must make.

Topic 7. Analysing the strategic position of a business

Topic 8. Choosing strategic direction

Topic 9. Strategic methods: how to pursue strategies

Topic 10. Managing strategic change

The course studies business in a variety of contexts large/small, UK focussed/global, service/manufacturing. Approximately five hours of classwork plus weekly homework. Students are encouraged to watch news programmes, visit websites such as www.bbc.co.uk and keep up to date with the business news so they can apply it to their studies. Tutor2u is an excellent resource for theory, practice tests, news articles and revision.

Assessment

Students are entered for 3 external exams at the end Year 13 – each paper is worth 100 marks and makes up 33.33% of the overall exam. However, students will be regularly assessed during the course in the lead up to the external exams.

- **Paper 1** - Written examination: 2 hours. 15 multiple choice questions, short answer questions and 2 essay questions worth 25 marks each.
- **Paper 2** - Written examination: 2 hours. Three data response compulsory questions worth approximately 33 marks each and made up of three- or four-part questions.
- **Paper 3** - Written examination: 2 hours. One compulsory case study followed by approximately six questions



Head of Dept: Miss M Thomas
Contact Details: MThomas@sharnbrook.academy
Exam Board: AQA

Entry Requirements

In addition to the general entrance requirements, a minimum of two grade 6s (higher paper, one of which must be chemistry) in either double or triple science is required together with a minimum of grade 5 (higher tier) in mathematics. A minimum of 4 for English language. **Students taking foundation science and maths will not be accepted on to this programme.**

Course content

Chemistry is a context-led course placing your learning in the environment and in situations in which chemistry is utilised in real life.

• 3.1 Physical Chemistry.

Atomic structure, Amount of substance, Bonding, Energetics, Kinetics, Chemical equilibria, Oxidation, Thermodynamics, Rate equations, Equilibrium Constant, Electrode potentials, Acids and bases

• 3.2 Inorganic Chemistry

Periodicity, Group 2 the alkaline earth metals, Group 7 the halogens, Properties of period 3 elements, Transition metals, Reactions

• 3.3 Organic Chemistry

Introduction to, Alkanes, Halogenoalkanes, Alkenes, Alcohols, Organic analysis, Optical isomerism, Aldehydes and ketones, Carboxylic acids, aromatic chemistry, Amines, Polymers, Amino Acids, Organic synthesis, Nuclear magnetic resonance spectroscopy, Chromatography

Assessment

There are three exams:

Paper 1 - 105 Marks - 35% of A level

Relevant Physical Chemistry topics, Inorganic Chemistry, relevant practical skills

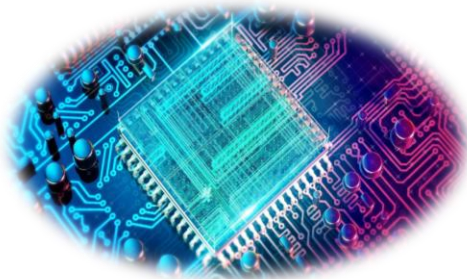
Paper 2 - 105 Marks - 35% of A Level

Relevant Physical Chemistry topics, Organic Chemistry, relevant practical skills

Paper 3 - 90 Marks - 30% of A level

From any content, From any practical skills

Students may also be awarded the practical competency (CPAC) which demonstrates their ability to carry out certain practical techniques to a good standard over time. Many universities require the CPAC as part of the entry requirements to many science and engineering courses. The CPAC does not contribute to the overall grade but is reported separately as a PASS or a BLANK on their certificate.



Head of Dept:
Contact Details:
Exam Board:

Mr M Dunn
MDunn@sharnbrook.academy
OCR

Entry Requirements

In addition to the general entrance requirements, a grade 5 in mathematics is required. If GCSE IT/Computing was studied, a grade 5 or L2 Merit or above will be required.

Course content

You will have approximately 10 periods per fortnight teaching time. You will also be expected to do approximately 5 hours per week on coursework or research for examination pre-prepared work, either in private study periods or at home. Computing Science A-Level is NOT an easy option – it is 20% coursework and 80% written external exams. Students should be aware that they will be expected to cope with this.

Assessment

Paper 1 - Component 01 (External Exam 40% of A-Level). This paper contains the majority of the content of the specification and is assessed in a written paper recalling knowledge and understanding. Theoretical sections examined in Paper 1.

- The characteristics of contemporary processors, input, output and storage devices
- Software and software development
- Exchanging data
- Data types, data structures and algorithms
- Legal, moral, cultural and ethical issues

Paper 2 - Component 02 (External Exam 40% of A-Level). This paper relates principally to problem solving skills needed by learners to apply the knowledge and understanding encountered in Component 01.

- Elements of computational thinking
- Problem solving and programming
- Algorithms to solve problems and standard algorithms

Systematic approach to problem solving Programming project (Portfolio - Coursework – 20% of A-level).

The learner will choose a computing problem to work through according to the guidance in the specification. Learners will be expected to analyse, design, develop, test, evaluate and document a program written in a suitable programming language. The underlying approach to the project is to apply the principles of computational thinking to a practical coding problem. Learners are expected to apply appropriate principles from an agile development approach to the project development. While the project assessment criteria are organised into specific categories, it is anticipated the final report will document the agile development process and elements for each of the assessment categories will appear throughout the report.

Head of Dept:
Contact Details:
Exam Board:

Ms Falkner
TFalkner@sharnbrook.academy
AQA



Entry Requirements

In addition to the general entrance requirements, the department specifically requires grade 4 in dance (or relevant experience outside of school such as video evidence or portfolio will be required).

Course content

The A Level dance course at Sharnbrook focuses on contemporary technique and performance, the craft of choreography, and analysis of a variety of dance styles and professional repertoire.

Component 1 – Performance and Choreography (50% of A Level)

Non-examination assessment (NEA) marked by an external assessor from AQA during a visit to your centre. Visits will normally take place between March and May. The externally set task for group choreography is distributed by mid-September in the academic year of certification.

What's assessed

- Solo performance linked to a specified practitioner within an area of study (20 marks)
- Performance in a quartet (20 marks)
- Group choreography (40 marks)

Component 2 – Critical Engagement (50% of A Level)

Written exam: 2 hours 30 minutes

Two sections:

- Section A: short answer questions (25 marks) and one essay question (25 marks) on the compulsory set work/area of study.
- Section B: two essay questions on the second set work/area of study (25 marks for each essay)

Assessment

Knowledge, understanding and critical appreciation of two set works and related area of study.

- **One compulsory** set work within the compulsory area of study
- **One optional** set work within the corresponding area of study, from a choice of four

Uniform

Compulsory: black leotard or fitted t-shirt/tank/vest top. Black footless dance leggings/tights or narrow legged tracksuit trousers or appropriate dance trousers. Optional: T-shirt/hoody/warm layers, which are easy to move in and appropriate for dance activity.

Additional Costs

Visits to the theatre to see live dance. Workshops from dance professionals (cost approximately £100 over each academic year).



Head of Dept:
Contact Details:
Exam Board:

Mr M Dunn
MDunn@sharnbrook.academy
Edexcel Pearson

Entry Requirements

In addition to the general 6th form entrance requirements, a Level 2 merit or above in an equivalent Level 2 IT or Media qualification is required. Alternatively, a Grade 5 or above in GCSE Computer Science would also be acceptable. **This course can not be taken alongside Creative Digital Media Production (Extended Certificate or Diploma)**

Course content

The course involves creating 2D and 3D games using industry-standard software like Unreal Engine, Maya, Unity, and Adobe products, and includes a mix of practical and theoretical learning to build skills in concept art, animation, scripting, and programming. The qualification is equivalent to one A-level and can be taken along other level 3 qualifications.

What you will learn

Game design and concept: Develop game ideas, write proposals, and create story and concept art.

2D and 3D development: Gain skills in 3D modelling, texturing, animation, and creating both 2D and 3D environments.

Programming and scripting: Learn to script and program games using languages like C# and C++ in industry-standard game engines.

Industry-standard software: Use professional tools such as Unreal Engine, Maya, Unity, and Adobe Illustrator/Photoshop.

Industry knowledge: Understand the creative digital media sector and the different roles within it and learn about career progression.

There are two mandatory units, which cover the following aspects of digital games production:

- Unit 13 - Digital Games Production
- Unit 3 - Digital Media Skills

In addition to the mandatory content, learners take three optional units.

The optional units cover areas such as:

- Unit 32 - Concept Art for Computer Games
- Unit 33 - 2D Digital Graphics
- Unit 41 - 3D Environments

Assessment

Unit 3 is externally assessed through a 20-hour project at the end of the course. All other units are assessed internally through coursework projects.

Head of Dept: Mr M Walker
Contact Details: MWalker@sharnbrook.academy
Exam Board: EDUQAS



Entry Requirements

In addition to the general entrance requirements, the department specifically requires a minimum of grade 5 in English literature and language, and a grade 5 if drama is taken. If not taken, evidence of relevant experience/interest outside of school will be required.

Course content

Performance, devising, analysing texts, evaluating live performance and an understanding of the design elements of bringing theatre to life: costume, set, lighting & sound.

Assessment

Component 1: Theatre Workshop – Non-exam assessment: internally assessed, externally moderated (20% of A Level). Assessed on either acting or design, Learners participate in the creation, development and performance of a piece of theatre based on a reinterpretation of an extract from a text chosen from a list supplied by EDUQAS. The piece must be developed using the techniques and working methods of either an influential theatre practitioner or a recognised theatre company. Learners will produce:

- a realisation of the performance or design
- a creative log

Styles of performance previously studied: farce/slapstick, gothic horror, tension and suspense & naturalism.

Component 2: Text in Action - Non-exam assessment: externally assessed by a visiting examiner (40% of A Level) Learners will be assessed on either acting or design. Learners participate in the creation, development and performance of two pieces of theatre based on a stimulus supplied by EDUQAS:

1. A devised piece using the techniques and working methods of either an influential theatre practitioner or a recognised theatre company (a different practitioner or company to that chosen for Component 1)
2. An extract from a text in a different style chosen by the learner. Learners will realise their performance live for the visiting examiner. Learners choosing design must also give a 5–10-minute presentation of their design to the examiner. They will produce a process and evaluation report within one week of completion of the practical work.

Component 3: Text in Performance Written examination: 2 hours 30 minutes 40% of qualification Sections A and B Open book: Clean copies (no annotation) of the two complete texts chosen must be taken into the examination. Two questions, based on two different texts, one written pre- 1956 (HEDDA GABLER) and one written post-1956 (ACCIDENTAL DEATH OF AN ANARCHIST). **Section C** Closed book: The extract of text required for answering the questions will be printed on the examination paper. A question based on a specified extract from *The Curious Incident of the Dog in the Night-Time*, Mark Haddon, adapted by Simon Stephens Details of the 10–15-minute extract will be released during the first week of March, in the year in which the examination is to be taken.



Head of Dept:
Contact Details:
Exam Board:

Mrs T Lloyd
TLloyd@sharnbrook.academy
Edexcel

Entry Requirements

In addition to the general entrance requirements, the department expects that these will include a minimum of grade 5 Mathematics and in English language. Theories and concepts covered in the subject require strong analytical ability. You can take economics with either business or accounting but not both.

Course content

The course is divided into 4 units which study the following areas:

- Unit 1 – Introduction to Markets and Market Failure
- Unit 2 – The UK Economy – Performance and Policies
- Unit 3 – Business Behaviour and the Labour Market
- Unit 4 – A Global Perspective

Class time plus private study. There is also the need for wider reading to re-enforce, and develop, knowledge and understanding of the subject; this will include newspapers, magazines, internet, radio and television news. There is also an expectation to use the many varied and useful economics websites such as: www.tutor2u.net and www.economicsonline.co.uk

Assessment

Three examinations at the end of the course, which include a mixture of multiple choice, data response and essay questions.

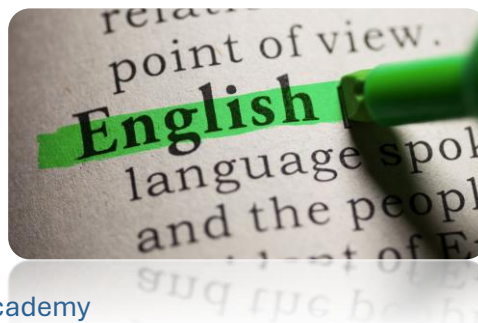
- **Paper 1** (Paper code: 9EC0/01) Micro - Written examination: 2 hours, 35% of the qualification

Short-answer, data response and essay questions on markets and business behaviour – this is the content you study in Theme 1 and Theme 3.

- **Paper 2** (Paper code: 9EC0/02) Macro - Written examination: 2 hours, 35% of the qualification

Short-answer, data response and essay questions on the national and global economy – this is the content you study in Theme 2 and Theme 4

- **Paper 3** (Paper code: 9EC0/03) Micro & Macro - Written examination: 2 hours, 30% of the qualification. Data response and essay questions covering concepts and theories from the whole course.



Head of Dept: Mrs S Keenan
Contact Details: SKeenan@sharnbrook.academy
Exam Board: Pearson Edexcel

Entry Requirements

In addition to the general entrance requirements, at least a grade 5 in English language, and grade 5 in English literature at GCSE is required.

Course content

This course offers a rich and rigorous exploration of how language works in real-world contexts, blending theoretical knowledge with practical application. This course focuses on how language is used, how it varies across time, place, and social groups, and how it constructs identity and meaning. Students will study a wide range of spoken, written, and multimodal texts.

The course is structured around four key components:

- **Language Variation** – exploring how language reflects identity and how it has changed over time.
- **Child Language Acquisition** – analysing how children learn to speak and write.
- **Investigating Language** – conducting independent research into a chosen area such as gender.
- **Crafting Language (Coursework)** – producing original writing in a chosen genre and reflecting critically on the writing process.

Assessment

Component 1: Language Variation

Assessment: Written exam (2 hours 15 minutes)

- Study of how language varies according to identity (gender, age, occupation, etc.)
- Exploration of how language has changed over time
- Analysis of texts from different time periods and genres

Component 2: Child Language

Assessment: Written exam (1 hour)

Weighting: 20% of A Level

- How children acquire spoken and written language
- Theories of language development
- Analysis of real-life data (e.g. transcripts, writing samples)

Component 3: Investigating Language

Assessment: Written exam (1 hour 45 minutes)

- Independent research into a chosen topic (e.g. gender)
- Response to unseen data related to the chosen topic

Component 4: Crafting Language (Non-Exam Assessment)

Assessment: Internally assessed, externally moderated

- Original writing in two different genres (e.g. article, short story, speech)
- A reflective commentary on the writing process



Head of Dept:
Contact Details:
Exam Board:

Mrs S Keenan & Mrs N Horne
SKeenan@sharnbrook.academy
AQA

Entry Requirements

In addition to the general entrance requirements, at least a grade 5 in English language, and grade 5 in English literature at GCSE is required.

Course content

This course invites students to explore the rich and diverse world of English Literature across time, cultures, genres, and perspectives. Through the thematic lens of *Love Through the Ages* and the dynamic voices of *Modern Times* (1945–present), students will develop both wide-ranging and close reading skills, while cultivating independent, critical arguments.

This course centres on the study of literary texts within their historical, cultural, and social contexts. Students will explore two key areas of study:

- **Paper 2 Modern Times: Literature from 1945 to the Present Day (Year 12)**

A Streetcar Named Desire by Tennessee Williams, *One Flew Over the Cuckoo's Nest* by Ken Kesey *Feminine Gospels* by Carol Ann Duffy, plus a selection of unseen prose extracts.

- **Paper 1 Love Through the Ages (Year 13)**

The Great Gatsby by F Scott Fitzgerald, *Othello* by William Shakespeare and a collection of pre 20th Century Love Poetry, plus a selection of unseen love poetry.

Assessment

There are two exams, the first of which is a closed book exam, and coursework (Non -Exam Assessment).

- **Paper 1** Love through the Ages
- **Paper 2** Modern Times

A distinctive feature of the course is the **non-exam assessment**, where students select two texts of their own choosing and write a comparative coursework essay. This element fosters independent thinking, research skills, and personal engagement with literature.

The non-exam assessment focuses on comparing two texts, one of which must be pre-1900. Students compare the presentation of the writers' methods in both texts, applying different critical readings and their understanding of the significance of context.



Head of Dept: Mrs E Gauntlett
Contact Details: egauntlett@sharnbrook.academy
Exam Board: Eduqas

Entry Requirements

In addition to the general entrance requirements, GCSE Media Studies or Film Studies is a preference but not a necessity. Grade 5 or above in English Language and Literature.

Course content & assessment

Studying film provides a deeper understanding of cinema's cultural and historical significance, enhances critical thinking, and develops transferable skills for various careers. It teaches you to analyse visual storytelling, deconstruct how films use techniques like cinematography and editing, and understand a film's reflection of society and history. This combination of analytical and practical skills is valuable for careers in media, creative industries, and other fields.

Unit 1 – Varieties of film & film making

WRITTEN EXAM 35%

- Hollywood 1930-19990
- American Film (2 film study)
- British film (2 film study)

Unit 3 – Production non-exam assessment

PRACTICAL PROJECT 30%

EITHER:

- Short film 4-5 minutes
- Screenplay 1600-1800 words

PLUS, and evaluative analysis

Unit 2 – Varieties of film making and film making

WRITTEN EXAM 35%

- Global Cinema
- Documentary
- Silent Cinema
- Experimental Cinema



Film studies develops a range of transferable academic skills:

- ✓ You will develop your skills of analysis through detailed deconstruction of film texts.
- ✓ You will gain a knowledge of film concepts and theories.
- ✓ You will explore mature themes and demanding film texts with in-depth analysis.
- ✓ You will have the opportunity to develop your debating and discussion skills.
- ✓ You will think independently and share your opinions.
- ✓ You will have the opportunity to put theory into practice and apply your learning in the Production coursework.
- ✓ You will explore film in context, as a product of society and as a modern art form that is often used to explore some of our darkest and primal hopes, dreams, and fears.



Head of Dept:
Contact Details:
Exam Board:

Mr C Webb
Cwebb@sharnbrook.academy
OCR

Entry Requirements

In addition to the general entrance requirements, the department requires grade 4 or above from a visual art or design-based subject. If students have not completed a visual art or design-based subject, a portfolio of work will be required. Fine art can be combined with either graphics or photography but not both.

Course content

Year one of the fine art A level acts as a foundation course with an emphasis on technical skills, alongside risk taking and creativity. We cover drawing, painting, printing skills, mixed media, and 3D skills. Alongside this, students complete a critical research of relevant artists, starting with their induction, which is embedded into coursework. The introduction of critical research at A level is about placing the students' own ideas within a broader cultural and historical context, supporting the practical project themes. By the end of Year one, students start preparations for their Personal Investigation of contextual and personal research. A short course of critical and contextual studies plus exhibitions visits aims to support the selection of specialisms and foci in Y13. Students begin in September, having completed an essay draft presenting the area of art they wish to follow. In consultation with staff, students are then expected to complete a practical series of art works that relate to their written investigation. The emphasis is very much on students' ability to develop independence and make connections with critical and personal influences. What we pride ourselves on at Sharnbrook is the quality and variety in our students' work. This can be seen at the end of year show held in the sixth form gallery, where a private view evening, including food, drink and music, celebrates the Y13 achievements within a professional style exhibition. Our department has excellent facilities including a computer suite, kilns with ceramic facilities and a purpose-built gallery, which acts as the Y13 studio. The art rooms all have open access to all Y12 and Y13 students. **For a gallery showing the range of work and examples of A-level work please see the GALLERY on the Sharnbrook Academy website.**

Assessment

Year one is not assessed, but each project is internally marked to create a profile of student achievement. There will be an opportunity for a mock exam in the summer term as a test of learning strengths, ready for selecting areas of study in Year two.

Year two is assessed in 2 parts; Personal Investigation: students produce a portfolio of work that evolves from their own interests, critical influences and skills. It includes a 2000 - 3000 word illustrated essay and gallery notebook to support their coursework, worth 60%. An externally set task is 15 hours and worth 40% of the final grade.



Head of Dept: Mrs M Anderton
Contact Details: MAnderton@sharnbrook.academy
Exam Board: Edexcel

Entry Requirements

In addition to the general entrance requirements, the department requires a minimum of grade 5 in geography if taken, and a minimum of grade 5 in English language. It is not compulsory to have taken GCSE geography and acceptance onto the course is, ultimately, at the discretion of the Geography Department.

Course content

- Area of study 1: Dynamic Landscapes: Tectonic Processes and Hazards, Landscape Systems, Processes and Change
- Area of study 2: Dynamic Places: Globalisation, Shaping Places
- Area of study 3: Physical Systems and Sustainability: The Water Cycle and Water Insecurity, The Carbon Cycle and Energy Security
- Area of study 4: Human Systems and Geopolitics: Superpowers, Global Development and Connections

Assessment

Examinations are taken and assessed at the end of year 13 and comprise the following papers:

- **Paper 1** (Paper code: 9GE0/01) - Written examination: 2 hours and 15 minutes, 30% of the qualification
- **Paper 2** (Paper code: 9GE0/02) - Written examination: 2 hours and 15 minutes, 30% of the qualification
- **Paper 3** (*Paper code: 9GE0/03) - Written examination: 2 hours and 15 minutes, 20% of the qualification

The synoptic investigation will be based on a geographical issue within a place-based context that links to the three synoptic themes and is rooted in two or more of the compulsory content areas.

- **Coursework:** Independent Investigation (9GE0/04), 20% of the qualification.

The purpose of this coursework is to test students' skills in independent investigation. Students are required to undertake an independent investigation that involves (but which need not be restricted to) fieldwork. The focus of the investigation must be derived from the specification the student is studying. The guidance for word length is 3000-4000 words. Student will define a question or issue relating to the compulsory or optional content. The student's investigation will incorporate fieldwork data (collected individually or as part of a group) and own research and/or secondary data. The student's report will evidence independent analysis and evaluation of data, presentation of data findings and extended writing.



Head of Dept:
Contact Details:
Exam Board:

Dr. D Bennett
Dbennett@sharnbrook.academy
AQA

Entry Requirements

In addition to the general entrance requirements, you need a grade 5 in English literature and a grade 5 in religious studies if taken. If RS not taken, a 5 in any comparable humanities subject.

Course content

The course is divided into three core units: the Government and Politics of the UK, the Government and Politics of the USA (comparative politics), and Political Ideas. These units cover topics such as the UK's political institutions (e.g., Parliament, Prime Minister, and the monarchy), electoral systems, political parties, and key policies. For the Government and Politics of the USA (comparative politics), students study the political system of the United States, including its federal structure, Congress, the President, the judiciary, elections, interest groups, and the Constitution. In Political Ideas, students explore various political ideologies, such as liberalism, conservatism, socialism, and nationalism. They analyse the historical development, principles, and contemporary relevance of these ideologies to understand their impact on political thought and policy.

Unit 1: Government and Politics of the UK

Unit 2: Government and Politics of the USA

Unit 3: Political Ideas

Assessment

There are three written exams, all following an identical format. All contain a mixture of medium length 'explain' and essay style questions. Each exam is 2 hours long and is marked out of 77 representing 33% of the A-level. These exams include questions that allow students to demonstrate their ability to:

- recall information

- draw together information from different areas of the specification
- apply their knowledge and understanding in practical and theoretical contexts.

There is no coursework.

- Paper 1 (Government and Politics of the UK)
- Paper 2 (Government and Politics of the USA)
- Paper 3 (Political Ideas)

Head of Dept: Mr C Webb
Contact Details: CWebb@sharnbrook.academy
Exam Board: OCR



Entry Requirements

In addition to the general entrance requirements, the department requires grade 4 or above from a visual art or design-based subject. If students have not completed a visual art or design-based subject, a portfolio of work will be required. Graphics can be combined with either fine art or photography but not both.

Course content

In year 12, teaching staff set assignments that aim to build creative and technical skills in a variety of commercial-style design contexts. The emphasis throughout is on successful visual communication of ideas and messages using images and text. Risk taking and creativity is encouraged within the briefs set, and students should increase their capacity to generate original ideas and to make sound visual judgements. Students will become proficient in Adobe Illustrator, Photoshop and InDesign and hand-drawn design sketching. In addition, students are encouraged to build up practical skills in photography and image manipulation, collage, typography, layout design, and the production of 'print-ready' artwork. In addition, there will be some written essays on the contextual and critical history of graphic design throughout the first 2 terms.

In term 3, students choose a topic for extended personal research and analysis. This culminates in a 2000 word illustrated essay called the related study.

In year 13, students are expected to become more independent in their choice of inspiration and are encouraged to specialise in a style of graphic design practice that links to the related study. At the end of the course, students should have produced a high-quality portfolio of practical work

Assessment

Year 12

The practical work is internally assessed throughout the year. This work produced can form part of the portfolio presented at the end of year 13.

Year 13

Coursework portfolio: a selection of the strongest work from the two years of the course is externally assessed - 60% of total grade (of which 20% is for the related study).

Controlled Test: Like GCSE Art courses with 15 hours exam time - 40% of total grade.



Head of Dept:
Contact Details:
Exam Board:

Mrs D Lasslett
DLasslett@sharnbrook.academy
OCR

Entry Requirements

The general entrance requirements apply, a grade 4 in English language is desirable for coursework. However, it is not necessary to have studied GCSE health & social care, and students will not be disadvantaged if this is the case.

Course content

The Cambridge OCR Level 3 Alternative Academic Qualification Cambridge Advanced National in Health and Social Care (Extended Certificate). The qualification has four mandatory units and two optional units to complete the qualification.

F090: Principles of health and social care. In this unit you will learn about the key topics that are important to develop underpinning knowledge and understanding relevant to health and social care.

F091: Anatomy and physiology for health and social care This unit is assessed by an exam. In this unit you will learn about the arrangement of body systems and the structure and function of the component parts. You will learn about key processes within each body system, that enable them to function properly. You will then explore conditions affecting these systems, specifically learning about the biological basis, monitoring, treatment and impact on lifestyle and independence.

F092: Person-centred approach to care. In this unit you will learn the principles and values that underpin a person-centred approach to care and the practical tools that can be used to develop care plans for individuals. You will explore how to communicate in health and social care, how to build relationships and the barriers that need to be overcome to achieve person-centred care. You will learn to write outline care plans to suit individuals, using person-centred approaches and develop your reflective practice skills.

F093: Supporting people with mental health conditions. In this unit you will learn about how individuals with mental health conditions can be cared for and supported in a way which is suitable for their needs. You will do this through exploring the meaning of mental health and mental health needs and considering the main types of mental health conditions and how these may affect the life of individuals. You will explore the different ways that individuals may be supported to promote their mental wellbeing, manage their condition, and different forms of treatment and support that may be available.

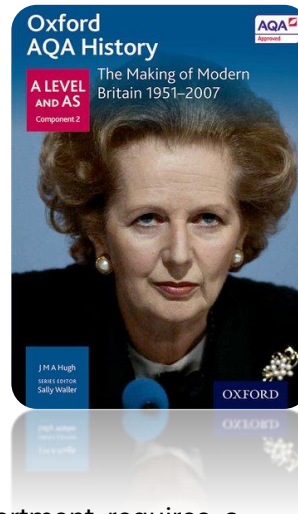
In addition, 2 optional units:

F096: Supporting people in relation to sexual health, pregnancy and postnatal health
In this unit you will learn about and research the most important aspects of sexual health including relationships, the law, consent, sexual health, sexually transmitted infections, contraception, pre-conceptual care, birth, and the immediate care of the baby, and how to obtain support for these. You will also learn to produce advice and guidance that is personalised for specific individuals with issues related to sexual health and pregnancy, birth and postnatal health. You will develop skills needed to deliver advice and guidance in a sensitive and professional way and review the process of doing this.

F097: Supporting healthy nutrition and lifestyles

In this unit you will learn about the healthy eating guidelines, physical activity guidelines, nutritional labelling and the sources of nutrients. You will learn how to use this information to plan healthy and balanced meals for service users with different nutritional needs. You will investigate some of the barriers facing service users to eat healthy meals and the support that individuals may require to eat healthy meals.

Head of Dept: Mr S Seaman
Contact Details: SSeaman@sharnbrook.academy
Exam Board: AQA



Entry Requirements

In addition to the general entrance requirements, the department requires a minimum of grade 5 in history if taken, and a minimum of grade 5 in an English subject (ideally a grade 5 in English Literature). It is not compulsory to have taken GCSE history and acceptance onto the course is, ultimately, at the discretion of the History Department.

Course content

Unit 1: 1K The making of a Superpower: USA, 1865–1975

Part one: from Civil War to World War, 1865–1920

- The Era of Reconstruction and the Gilded Age, 1865–1890
- Populism, progressivism and imperialism, 1890–1920

Part two: crises and the rise to World Power, 1920–1975 (A-level only)

- Crisis of identity, 1920–1945 (A-level only)
- The Superpower, 1945–1975 (A-level only)

Unit 2: - 2S The Making of Modern Britain, 1951–2007

Part one: building a new Britain, 1951–1979

- The Affluent Society, 1951–1964
- The Sixties, 1964–1970
- The end of Post-War Consensus, 1970–1979

Part two: Modern Britain, 1979–2007 (A-level only)

- The impact of Thatcherism, 1979–1987 (A-level only)
- Towards a new Consensus, 1987–1997 (A-level only)
- The Era of New Labour, 1997–2007 (A-level only)

Assessment

Unit 1 – Examination One compulsory extract-based question, choice of 2 from 3 essay questions – 2hour 30 mins

Unit 2 – Examination One compulsory source-based question, choice of 2 from 3 essay questions – 2hour 30 mins

Unit 3 – Historical Investigation An independently researched piece of work bases on a 100-year period.

Coursework Questions are based around the following theme: Religion, rebellion, intolerance and the political nation – how serious was the threat to the state in the years 1558 – 1660?



Head of Dept:
Contact Details:
Exam Board:

Mrs J Hankins
JHankins@sharnbrook.academy
OCR

Entry Requirements

In addition to the general entrance requirements, the department expects that this must include a minimum of grade 5 in English language and /or grade 5 in history.

Why Law?

A Level in Law fosters students' interest in law and helps them develop knowledge and skills relevant to further study of law and other subjects. Students will develop their knowledge of the law in England, and the interaction between law, morals, justice and society.

Course content

H418/01 – Legal Systems and Criminal Law

- Civil Courts and ADR, Criminal Courts and lay people (Juries and Magistrates), Sentencing – aims and factors, Legal Personnel – Solicitors, ILEX and Barristers, Access to Justice
- Elements of a crime, Non-fatal offences against the person – Assault, Battery, Sec 47, Sec 20 and Sec 18, Fatal offences – Murder / Manslaughter (Unlawful act and Gross Negligent), Defences: Self-defence, consent, insanity, automatism, Duress, Offences against the Property – Theft, Robbery and Burglary, Preliminary Offences (Attempts)

H418/02 – Law Making and Tort

- Parliamentary law making, Delegated Legislation, Statutory Interpretation, Judicial Precedent, Law reform, European Union Law
- Law of Tort Both Negligence and Occupiers Liability 1957 and 1984 Acts, Torts connected with Land: Private Nuisance and Rylands v Fletcher. Vicarious Liability – tort connected to employment.

H418/03 – Human Rights and The Nature of Law

- Nature of Law, Law and Justice, Law and Morals, Law and Society
- Human Rights, History of Human Rights, Impact of Human Rights, Article 5 : Right to liberty and security, Article 6: right to a fair trial, Article 8: right to respect for family and private life, Article 10: right to freedom of expression, Article 11: Freedom of assembly, Restriction permitted by the European Convention, Enforcement of Rights

Assessment

3 papers. 2 hours each paper. Split into part A (20 marks) and part B (60 marks). There is no coursework for A level law

Head of Dept: Mrs H Morgan
Contact Details: HMorgan@sharnbrook.academy
Exam Board: AQA



Entry Requirements

In addition to the sixth form's general entry requirements, we require **grade 6 in GCSE maths** to study **A-level maths**.

Studying AQA maths is valuable because it develops critical problem-solving skills, supports other academic subjects, and prepares you for future careers and university. It provides essential life skills for financial literacy and decision-making, offers a strong foundation for STEM fields, and can be a desirable qualification for many different career paths. Specific courses like core maths focus on real-world applications, while further maths can provide an advantage for high-achieving students aiming for A-Levels.

Develops valuable skills:

Problem-solving: You will learn to approach and solve complex problems in a structured and creative way.

Logical and analytical thinking: The subject trains your brain to think logically, analyse information, and formulate reasoned arguments.

Data interpretation: A-Level Maths improves your ability to process, interpret, and work with data, a crucial skill in the modern world.

Course content

2/3 pure content: furthering studies of algebra, trigonometry and graph sketching along with bringing in new topics such as calculus and logarithms.

1/6 mechanics: studying the way objects move, how forces act on objects and moving on to look at projectile motion, friction and levers.

1/6 statistics: investigating how we can interpret real life data using the large data set (currently a set of data on cars used in the UK), studying how we model probability and how we can decide if an event is biased or not.

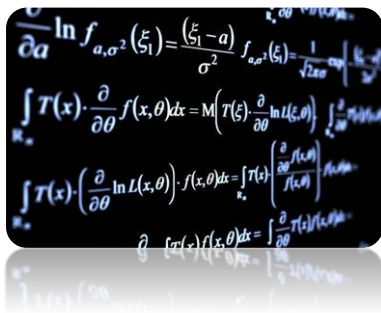
Assessment

3 exams at the end of year 13 all calculator permitted each 2 hours long.

Paper 1: pure content only

Paper 2: 50% pure 50% mechanics

Paper 3: 50% pure 50% statistics



Head of Dept:
Contact Details:
Exam Board:

Mrs H Morgan
HMorgan@sharnbrook.academy
AQA

Entry Requirements

To study A-level **further maths**, we require a **grade 7 or higher at GCSE maths**. You can only do A-level further maths if you are also doing A-level maths. There is no requirement that you have studied GCSE further maths though this will certainly help you.

Studying A-Level Further Maths is beneficial for university and career progression in STEM, economics, and finance by preparing you for degree-level mathematics and developing highly valued skills like logical reasoning and problem-solving. It makes university degrees, particularly in subjects like physics, engineering, and mathematics, more manageable and can give you a competitive edge in applications and future job markets.

Course content

The course builds on content covered in GCSE and the A-level maths course. Further maths is run in parallel with the A-level course.

2/3 pure content: furthering studies of algebra, trigonometry graph sketching calculus and functions, along with bringing in new topics such as matrices, complex numbers and hyperbolic functions.

1/6 mechanics: building on the work done in the main A-level maths and bringing in ideas of work, energy and power, springs, momentum, and circular motion.

1/6 Discrete: investigating how algorithms can apply to the real world, looking at things like project management, network flows and graph theory.

Assessment

All students are automatically entered for AS-level further maths

For AS further maths there are 2 exams 1 hour 30 minutes each worth 50% of the AS

Paper 1: pure content only

Paper 2: Discrete and mechanics content

For the full A-level 3 exams at the end of year 13 all calculator permitted each 2 hours long each worth 1/3 of the course.

Paper 1: pure content only

Paper 2: pure content only Paper 3: 50% discrete 50% mechanics



Head of Dept: Mrs E Gauntlett
Contact Details: EGauntlett@sharnbrook.academy
Exam Board: Edexcel

The BTEC national diploma in Creative Digital Media Production is a course that offers future media and film creators the opportunity to specialise at a post 16 level, starting their vocational journey into the world of TV and Film. The course is a double option A-Level that gives students a comprehensive experience with a range of TV and film disciplines. BTEC media is a highly successful course, utilizing the benefits of vocational learning to develop a keen interest in the creative industries. The course features a high level of hands on, creative learning and offers a wide range of extra-curricular opportunities as well as excellent resources.

Entry Requirements

Standard sixth form entry requirements. GCSE Media Studies or Film Studies is a preference but not a necessity.

Course content and assessment

10 Units which will include 2 externally assessed** units and 2 mandatory units*

Units Studied

Unit 3 Digital media skills
 Unit 7 Media enterprise
 Unit 8 Responding to a commission
 Unit 10 Fiction film production
 Unit 19 Scriptwriting
 Unit 20 Single camera techniques
 Unit 21 Film editing
 Unit 25 Sound editing
 Unit 35 Multi camera production
 Unit 36 Lighting techniques

Methods of

assessment

Essays and reports
 Audio/video
 commentaries
 Video production tasks
 Research folders
 Pre-production planning
 PowerPoint
 presentations

EXTRA-CURRICULAR OPPORTUNITIES

Broadcast - Crewed by students, a 15-minute weekly programme that is aired across the school. All BTEC students have mandatory training and attendance.

Film Competitions You can enter competitions. Into Film, Media Magazine and exam boards have competitions we can enter.

Loaning equipment - Want to make your own film or group production? You can borrow the media equipment overnight/weekend to support this.

Cross Curricular - Opportunities for students to get involved in school productions including dance, drama, music and performing arts, and live events.

Careers and Alumni - We have a wide Alumni project at SA, Visits from former students are invaluable offering advice on how to make it in the media sector.

Trips - We aim to run trips during your BTEC journey, previous trips have included the Media Live! conference at Disneyland Paris.

Resources - We have a fully equipped TV studio with 4K cameras that can stream live around the school. We have brand new computers for visual and audio editing.



Head of Dept:
Contact Details:
Exam Board:

Mrs E Gauntlett
EGauntlett@sharnbrook.academy
Edexcel

The BTEC extended certificate in Creative Digital Media Production is a course that offers future media and film creators the opportunity to specialise at a post 16 level, starting their vocational journey into the world of TV and Film. The course is a single option A-Level that gives students a comprehensive experience with a range of TV and film disciplines. BTEC media is a highly successful course, utilizing the benefits of vocational learning to develop a keen interest in the creative industries. The course features a high level of hands on, creative learning and offers a wide range of extra-curricular opportunities as well as excellent resources.

Entry Requirements

Standard sixth form entry requirements. GCSE Media Studies or Film Studies is a preference but not a necessity.

Course content and assessment

5 Units which will include 1 externally assessed** units and 1 mandatory units*

Units Studied

Unit 3 Digital media skills**
Unit 10 Fiction film production*
Unit 21 Film editing
Unit 25 Sound editing
Unit 35 Multi camera production

Methods of assessment

Essays and reports
Audio/video commentaries
Video production tasks
Research folders
Pre-production planning
PowerPoint presentations

Extra-curricular opportunities

Broadcast - Crewed by students, a 15-minute weekly programme that is aired across the school. All BTEC students have mandatory training and attendance.

Film Competitions You can enter competitions. Into Film, Media Magazine and exam boards have competitions we can enter.

Loaning equipment - Want to make your own film or group production? You can borrow the media equipment overnight/weekend to support this.

Cross Curricular - Opportunities for students to get involved in school productions including dance, drama, music and performing arts, and live events.

Careers and Alumni - We have a wide Alumni project at SA, Visits from former students are invaluable offering advice on how to make it in the media sector.

Trips - We aim to run trips during your BTEC journey, previous trips have included the Media Live! conference at Disneyland Paris.

Resources - We have a fully equipped TV studio with 4K cameras that can stream live around the school. We have brand new computers for visual and audio editing.





Head of Dept: Mr G Draper
Contact Details: GDraper@sharnbrook.academy
Exam Board: AQA

Entry Requirements

In addition to the general entrance requirements, it is essential that students have Grade 6 (Higher Tier) in their chosen language. Students who achieve a lower grade at GCSE will need to discuss their application to study the particular language at A level with their languages teacher, or, for students joining the sixth form from other schools, with the Head of Department.

Course content

Fluency in a foreign language is undoubtedly a tremendous asset and one which employers from all sectors highly value in prospective employees. As a result, the A Level course places a great emphasis on oral work and there is plenty of opportunity to talk about all aspects of life and culture of the target language country or countries. You will be introduced to a wide range of topics taken from authentic materials and you will learn about the issues which concern young people today – for example: the family, cyber-society, contemporary music, cinema, cultural heritage, art, history and political life. In addition, you will also study films (AS and A2) and literary texts (A2 only). You will also follow an advanced grammar course to improve accuracy and fluency. An active approach is key to success in A Level. Students are encouraged to take part in our exchanges or trips as well as participate in many extracurricular opportunities.

Assessment

AS Level: Paper 1: Listening Reading Writing 45% of AS level - 1hr 45 mins Includes response in English and the target language to recordings and written texts and translation into English. Paper2: Writing 25% of AS level - 1hr 30 mins Translation into the target language and one essay on a book OR a film studied. Paper 3: Speaking 30% of AS level – around 15 mins 2 discussions of 5-6 min of two of the A-level sub themes based on stimulus cards

A2 level: Paper 1: Listening, Reading, Writing: 50% of A-level -2hr 30 min exam Includes translation into English and translation into the target language of approximately 100 words. Paper 2: Writing: 20 % of A-level – 2hr exam Essay on either one text + one film, or two questions on texts. Choice of 2 questions for each book / film. Approximately 300 words per essay Paper 3: Speaking exam: 30% of A-level 5-6 min discussion of one of the A-level sub themes based on a stimulus card Individual research project: presentation (2 mins) & discussion (9-10 mins)



Head of Dept:
Contact Details:
Exam Board:

Mr Ryan Wainwright-Meekins
RWainwright-meekins@sharnbrook.academy
Eduqas

Entry Requirements

In addition to the general entrance requirements, ideally students should have a grade 5 in GCSE music (or vocational equivalent). However, students who have not followed formal music qualifications will be considered on an individual basis.

Course content

There are three components: Appraising music 40% This is the academic study of music and is assessed through listening analysing and contextual understanding.

Assessment

1. Examination (40%)

Duration: 2 hours 15 minutes

Students will study three areas of study:

Area of Study A: The Western Classical Tradition (The Development of the Symphony 1750–1900)

Includes two set works:

Symphony No. 104 in D major, “London” – Haydn

Symphony No. 4 in A major, “Italian” – Mendelssohn

Students will choose one set work for detailed analysis and study the other for general context. Plus one additional area of study from the following:

Area of Study B: Rock and Pop

Area of Study C: Musical Theatre

Area of Study D: Jazz

And:

Area of Study E: Into the Twentieth Century, including two set works:

Trio for Oboe, Bassoon and Piano, Movement II – Poulenc

Three Nocturnes, No. 1 “Nuages” – Debussy

2. Coursework (60%)

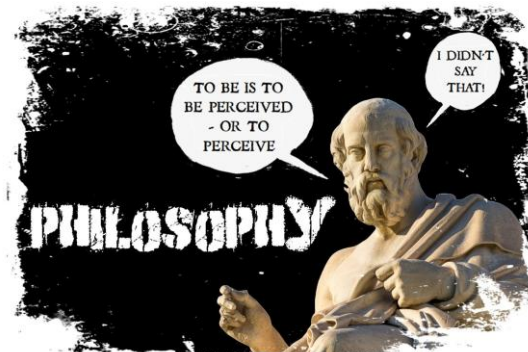
The coursework component is divided into Performance and Composition. Students will complete two pieces of each.

Depending on your chosen specialism:

Performance Specialism: Performance = 35%, Composition = 25%

Composition Specialism: Composition = 35%, Performance = 25%

Each route involves extended time and focus in your chosen discipline.



Head of Dept: Dr. D Bennett
Contact Details: DBennett@sharnbrook.academy
Exam Board: AQA

Entry Requirements

In addition to the general entrance requirements, you will need to include a grade 5 in English literature and a grade 5 in religious studies if taken. If RS not taken, then a 5 in any comparable humanities subject.

Course content

The course is divided into four core units: epistemology, moral philosophy, the metaphysics of mind and the metaphysics of God. Epistemology looks at the nature knowledge and asks the student to consider whether perception or reason is the best way to comprehend the nature of reality. Moral philosophy explores the predominant strands of normative ethical discourse as well as the possible origins of morality through metaethics. In year 13 students will learn about the coherence of God as a concept and compare the proofs for God's existence investigating the validity of atheism in its claim that God does not exist. Students will also delve into the complex relationship between self, consciousness, and the physical brain.

Unit 1: Epistemology - Perception - The definition of knowledge - The origin of concepts and the nature of knowledge

Unit 2: Ethics - Normative ethical theories (utilitarianism; deontology; virtue ethics) - Application of the above-mentioned theories to stealing, simulated killing, eating animals, deception - Metaethics (source of morality)

Unit 3: Philosophy of Religion - The coherence of God - Proofs for the existence of God - Religious Language

Unit 4: Philosophy of Mind - Dualism - Behaviourism - Identity theory - Functionalism - Eliminative materialism

Assessment

There are two exams, and both are identical in format. All the questions must be answered (there is no choice) and the student must bear in mind that due to the analytical nature of the subject it is marked negatively (effectively a student will lose marks for including irrelevant material in their answers).

Paper 1 (Epistemology and moral philosophy)

Paper 2 (The metaphysics of God and the metaphysics of mind)

Each paper lasts 3 hours and is marked out of 100. It includes a number of short response questions which require only explanation and description of ideas, as well as two essays (which combined represent 50% of the total mark for each exam). The essays are analytic, discursive compositions.



Head of Dept:
Contact Details:
Exam Board:

Mr C Webb
CWebb@sharnbrook.academy
OCR

Entry Requirements

In addition to the general entrance requirements, the department requires grade 4 or above from a visual art or design-based subject. If students have not completed a visual art or design-based subject, a portfolio of work will be required. Photography can be combined with either fine art or photography but not both.

Course content

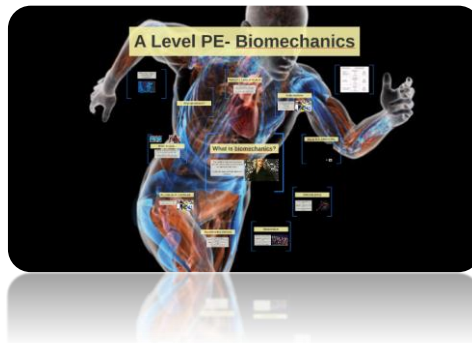
In year 12, teaching staff set assignments that aim to build creative and technical skills in a variety of photographic practices. Students learn how to use cameras and become proficient in Adobe Photoshop and related software; they learn studio lighting techniques, and towards the end of year 12, students will have the opportunity to learn some traditional darkroom-based processes. Students are given a wide range of practical assignments, including photojournalism, landscape, fashion, portraiture and still life, and are expected to take photographs on location as well as in the studio. In addition, there will be several written essays on the contextual and critical history of photography throughout the first 2 terms. In term 3, students choose a topic for extended personal research and analysis. This culminates in a 2000 word illustrated essay called the related study.

In year 13, students are expected to become more independent in their choice of projects and are encouraged to specialise in a particular field of photographic practice that links to the related study. At the end of the course, students should have produced a high-quality portfolio of practical work.

Assessment

Year 12 The practical work is internally assessed throughout the year. This work produced can form part of the portfolio presented at the end of year 13.

Year 13 Coursework portfolio: a selection of the strongest work from the two years of the course is externally assessed - 60% of total grade (of which 20% is for the related study). Controlled Test: Similar to GCSE Art courses with 15 hours exam time - 40% of total grade.



Head of Dept: Mrs L Reynolds
Contact Details: LReynolds@sharnbrook.academy
Exam Board: AQA

Entry Requirements

In addition to the general entrance requirements, there is a requirement to have taken GCSE PE or Cambridge National Sport Studies for this course. If you have taken a GCSE or CNAT related course a grade 5 or level 2 merit is required. Students will also need to be actively participating in one sport competitively.

Course content

- 1. Applied anatomy and physiology:** you will develop knowledge and understanding of the changes within the body systems prior to exercise, during exercise of differing intensities and during recovery.
- 2. Skill acquisition :** you will explore how skill is acquired and the impact of psychological factors on performance. You develop knowledge and understanding of the principles required to optimise learning of new, and the development of existing, skills in a range of physical activities.
- 3. Sport and society:** you will develop knowledge and understanding of the interaction between, and the evolution of, sport and society.
- 4. Exercise physiology :** you explore the adaptations to the body systems through training or lifestyle, and how these changes affect the efficiency of those systems.
- 5. Biomechanical movement:** You develop knowledge and understanding of motion and forces, and their relevance to performance in physical activity and sport.
- 6. Sport psychology :** you develop knowledge and understanding of the role of sport psychology in optimising performance in physical activity and sport.
- 7. Sport and society and the role of technology in physical activity and sport:** you develop knowledge and understanding of the interaction between, and the evolution of, sport and society and the technological developments in physical activity and sport

Assessment

PE is a 2-year course, so no AS exam at the end of Y12, but there will be internal exams where you must achieve a D grade minimum, to progress to Y13

• **Paper 1:** Written Paper, 2 hour written paper, 105 marks in total, 35% of overall grade
 Section A: Applied anatomy and physiology, Section B: Skill acquisition, Section C: Sport and society
 Combination of multiple choice, short answer and extended writing questions, Including use of data

• **Paper 2:** Written Paper, 2 hour written paper, 105 marks in total, 35% of overall grade
 Section A: Exercise physiology and biomechanics, Section B: Sport psychology, Section C: Sport and society and technology in sport
 Combination of multiple choice, short answer and extended writing questions, Including use of data

• **Coursework :** NEA, 90 marks in total, 30% of overall grade
 Practical performance in physical activity and sport – 15%
 Written analysis and evaluation of performance – 15%
 One activity (45 marks) plus written analysis and evaluation (45 marks)
 Internal assessment, external moderation



Head of Dept:
Contact Details:
Exam Board:

Mrs L Reynolds
LReynolds@sharnbrook.academy
OCR Cambridge Technical

Entry Requirements

In addition to the general entrance requirements, there is a requirement to have taken GCSE PE or Cambridge National Sport Studies or related sports course. If you have taken a GCSE or CNAT related course a grade 5 or level 2 merit is required. Students will also be expected to be involved in participating in 2 sports practically.

Course content

Unit 1: Body Systems and the Effects of Physical Activity: Develop 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: Develop 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.

Unit 3 Sports Organisation and Development: Develop 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.

Unit 17 Sports Injuries and Rehabilitation: Learn 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: 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.

Assessment

360 GLH Equivalent in size to one A Level. 5 units of which 3 are mandatory and 2 are external.

- Unit 1: Body Systems and the Effects of Physical Activity - assessed through an externally set, written examination paper, worth a maximum of 70 marks and 1 hour 30 minutes in duration
- Unit 2: Sports Coaching and Activity Leadership – assessed through internal coursework-based tasks
- Unit 3: Sports Organisation and Development – assessed through an externally set, written examination paper, worth a maximum of 60 marks and 1 hour in duration
- Unit 17 Sports Injuries and Rehabilitation – assessed through internal coursework-based tasks
- Unit 18 Practical Skills in Sport and Physical Activities – assessed through internal coursework-based tasks



Head of Dept:
Contact Details:
Exam Board:

Ms S Rafiee
SRafiee@sharnbrook.academy
OCR-A

Entry Requirements

In addition to the general entrance requirements, a minimum of 6/6 (higher paper) in Combined science or, if taking Separate Sciences, two grade 6s (one of which must be for physics) are required together with a minimum of grade 5 (higher tier) in mathematics. A minimum of 4 for English language. **Students taking foundation science and maths will not be accepted on to this programme.**

Course content

Edexcel advanced physics is a context-led course placing your learning in the environment and in situations in which physics is met in real life. The topics studied are :

- Mechanics, Electric Circuits, Materials, Waves and the Particle Nature of Light
- Further mechanics, Electric and magnetic fields, Nuclear and particle physics, Radioactive decay
- Thermodynamics, Space, Gravitational Fields, Oscillations

Assessment

There are three exams:

Paper 1 (30%) Mechanics, Further mechanics, Electric Circuits, Electric and magnetic fields, Nuclear and particle physics

Paper 3 (40%) Synoptic (all topics may be examined), Practical techniques

Paper 2 (30%) Materials, Waves and the Particle Nature of Light, Radioactive decay, Thermodynamics, Space, Gravitational Fields, Oscillations

Students may also be awarded the practical competency (CPAC) which demonstrates their ability to carry out certain practical techniques to a good standard over time. Many universities require the CPAC as part of the entry requirements to many science and engineering courses. The CPAC does not contribute to the overall grade but is reported separately as a PASS or a BLANK on their certificate.



Head of Dept:
Contact Details:
Exam Board:

Miss R Keen
rkeen@sharnbrook.academy
AQA

Entry Requirements

In addition to the general entrance requirements, the department requires a grade 4 or better in a design related GCSE.

Studying A-Level Product Design is valuable because it blends creativity with technical skills, fostering problem-solving, and preparing you for a wide range of careers in fields like engineering, design, and architecture. The course teaches you to combine theoretical knowledge with practical application, including using modern manufacturing techniques and computer-aided design (CAD) software, and developing your ability to see a project from an initial idea to a finished prototype

Course content

Throughout years twelve and thirteen, lessons are divided up into theory; in preparation for the two written examinations, and Non-Examined Assessment (NEA); where time is dedicated to developing a portfolio and manufacturing. NEA lessons are often less teacher-led and require students to take ownership of their projects by coming in with a plan of action and making sure they have any relevant resources. For the NEA, students will research a range of starting points from which they will formulate a design brief. They will then develop a range of design proposals through sketching and prototyping. Trialling and testing with different materials and processes will follow before manufacturing the final product. CAD (computer aided design) and CAM (computer aided manufacture) is used extensively in modern product development. Therefore, students are expected to utilize both within their projects. Within school we have Solidworks and Adobe, as the CAM we have a laser cutter and 3-D printer for prototyping/ manufacturing

Weekly commitment

Students can expect to have five hours class time per week with three to five hours homework. They will also be expected to do private study, additional reading and research.

Assessment

AQA's assessment will be in the form of two external written exams, which collectively is worth 50% of the overall grade. The other 50% will come from the completion of the NEA.

Additional Costs

Students will be expected to provide their own basic equipment and are expected to pay for material costs for their NEA work.



Head of Dept: Miss S Champion
Contact Details: schampion@sharnbrook.academy
Exam Board: AQA

Entry Requirements

In addition to the general entry requirements, students should have:

- English Language – Grade 5 due to essay writing, critical thinking, and analysing theories/studies.
- Maths – Grade 5 due to research methods, data interpretation & analysis
- Science – Grade 5 in Biology or 5/5 in combined science – as a science subject it heavily includes biological content and scientific approaches.

Studying A-level Psychology is valuable for developing strong critical thinking, analytical, and research skills that are useful in many university courses and careers, such as psychology, marketing, and social work. It also provides a deeper understanding of human behaviour, self-awareness, and mental health issues, which can be beneficial in personal life as well as professional settings.

Course content

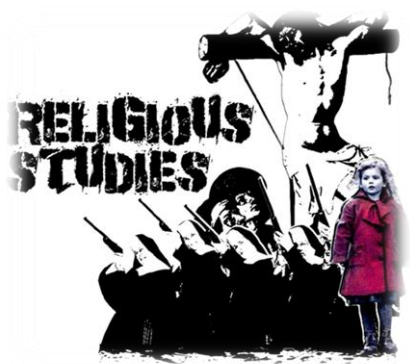
The first year of the course covers topics that include:

- Psychological approaches: Investigating whether behaviour is due to genetics, the way we think, the role of the unconscious, or if behaviour is learnt.
- Clinical psychology & mental health: Causes of abnormality, depression, OCD and phobias and how to effectively treat abnormalities.
- Memory: We investigate how and what we remember, factors affecting memory, and how memory is influenced in eyewitness testimony when convicting criminals.
- Attachment: Why parent-child attachment is important for healthy psychologically developed adulthood and the effects of breaking this attachment at the wrong times.
- Research Methods: Understanding *how* psychologists complete research.
- Social influence: Why people obey authority or conform with group norms when this may be inhumane or callous activity.
- Biopsychology: the study of how the brain and body, including the nervous and endocrine systems, influence our behaviors, thoughts, and feelings

In the second year, students learn about the issues and debates in psychology, further research methods, and will be looking into three further specialist areas of psychology as option topics: schizophrenia, forensic psychology, and relationships.

Assessment

Examinations are taken and assessed at the end of year 13 and consist of three two hour written examinations.



Head of Dept:
Contact Details:
Exam Board:

Dr. D Bennett
DBennett@sharnbrook.academy
OCR

Entry Requirements

In addition to the general entry requirements, you need to include a grade 5 in English literature and a grade 5 in religious studies. If RS not taken, a 5 in any comparable humanities subject.

Studying A-level Religious Studies (RS) is beneficial because it develops transferable skills like critical thinking, logical reasoning, and clear communication through exploring philosophical and ethical questions. This academic rigor is highly valued by universities and employers, making RS a great complement to both humanities and science subjects. It also provides a deep understanding of different cultures and belief systems, preparing you for careers in fields like law, medicine, social work, journalism, and education.

Course content

The course is divided into three areas: philosophy of religion, religion and ethics, and developments in Christian thought. In the philosophy of religion, we will explore ancient philosophical influences on the nature of the soul, mind and body, arguments about the existence or non-existence of God, the nature and impact of religious experience, ideas about the nature of God and issues involved in simply talking about God. In religion and ethics, the students will investigate normative ethical theories and their application to contemporary issues. We will debate the significant idea of conscience and discuss the influence on ethical thought of developments in religious beliefs. Digging into Christian thought, students will learn about Christian beliefs, values and teachings, their interconnections and how they vary historically within the contemporary world. They will encounter sources of religious wisdom, authority and practices which shape and express religious identity, as well as becoming cognisant of the historical developments in theology and key themes related to the relationship between religion and society.

Assessment

There are three exams, one for each component mentioned above - all with identical formats. The exam for each component will be worth 120 marks and represents 33.3% of the total marks for A Level. These exams will take the form of an externally assessed written papers lasting 2 hours each and testing both AO1 and AO2. There is no coursework. Each paper will contain four essay questions, with the learner choosing three out of the four to answer.

A LEVEL SOCIOLOGY

OCR

Studying Sociology is beneficial because it develops critical thinking, analytical, and essay-writing skills vital for higher education and many careers, while also providing a deep understanding of how societies function, their complexities, and the forces of social change. The subject offers insight into real-world issues like global inequality and helps foster empathy and an appreciation for diverse cultures. It's an excellent choice for those curious about the social world and passionate about making a difference.

This updated A Level in Sociology offers students a challenging and stimulating course that is widely recognised and highly respected by universities as well as employers.

The course covers a range of relevant subjects with an emphasis on contemporary society, ranging from youth culture to the exploration of inequalities in society. Whilst there is a strong emphasis on many traditional topics in sociology that continue to be relevant, there is also a range of topics which are the latest and most exciting developments in the discipline.

Studying sociology will develop your essay skills allowing you to consider different views on social issues in a critical and evaluative way. Being able to draw on a range of academic perspectives, evidence and contemporary issues is excellent preparation for university and employment. Sociology provides a strong understanding of social and political issues, past and present.

There are a range of forms of assessment, all exam based. These range from short answer to longer essay questions. There is no coursework. Assessment will take place at the end of the two-year course.

- **Component 1:** a) Socialisation, Culture and Identity; b) Youth Subcultures.
- **Component 2:** a) Researching Social Inequalities; b) Understanding Social Inequalities (Class, Gender, Ethnicity,).
- **Component 3:** Debates in Contemporary Society (a Crime and Deviance b) Globalisation and the digital world).

NOTES

NOTES





Sharnbrook
Sixth Form