



# Cambridge O Level Factsheet

## What are Cambridge O Levels?

The Cambridge GCE Ordinary (O) Level is one of the most recognised qualifications around the world. Cambridge O Level courses are renowned for developing vital educational skills, including the recall of knowledge, problem solving, decision making, evaluation and investigative skills. The resulting qualification provides a foundation for higher level courses, such as A and AS Levels, the Advanced International Certificate of Education, the North American Advanced Placement programme and the International Baccalaureate.

CIE has offered O Levels in many different countries for about 50 years. During that time, the Cambridge O Level has continually evolved to ensure that syllabuses are kept up-to-date and reflect good educational practice. They offer a flexible course of study that gives candidates the freedom to choose subjects that are right for them, whilst providing them with a broad knowledge base and lifelong skills.

## Where are O Levels accepted and recognised?

O Level is a high profile qualification. It has exactly the same value in admitting students to institutes of further education and employment as the UK equivalent – GCSE.

- O Level is comparable with IGCSE and the UK GCSE
- O Level has an excellent reputation amongst many international schools and Ministries of Education
- O Levels are recognised as a reliable record of attainment which counts towards entry to universities and colleges around the world, including all British universities

## Who can take O Levels?

Cambridge O Levels are usually taught as a two year course for students aged 14 to 16 years, but can be taken at any age.

## How are Cambridge O Levels taught?

Many schools allocate a total of about 170 hours for each O Level subject, but how much time a school devotes to each subject will depend on a variety of factors. The syllabus is set by Cambridge, but how it is taught will depend on the school or college. Students must enter for O Levels through a registered CIE Centre. Your Centre will be able to give you more details about how students work towards these assessments.

At school, more able students may study six or seven subjects at O Level, but less able students may have a much more modest programme. In order to follow a broad and balanced curriculum, most students take courses from each of the O Level groups (see subjects listed overleaf). However, it is also possible to study individual O Level subjects if this better suits the student's needs.

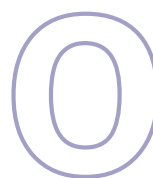
## Examination Information

O Level courses take two years to complete and exams are taken at the end of that period.

Examinations are held in June and November each year with results issued in August and February respectively.



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## Subjects on offer

### Languages

Arabic	Nepali
Bengali	Punjabi
English Language	Sinhali
French	Spanish
German	Swahili
Gujarati	Tamil
Hindi	Thai
Latin	Urdu

### Mathematics

Mathematics  
Additional Mathematics  
Statistics

### Sciences

Additional Combined Science  
Agriculture  
Biology  
Chemistry  
Combined Science  
Environmental Management  
Human and Social Biology  
Physics  
Science (Chemistry and Biology)  
Science (Physics and Biology)  
Science (Physics and Chemistry)

### Humanities and Social Sciences

Economics  
Geography  
History  
Islamiyat  
Literature in English  
Pakistan Studies  
Religious Studies  
Sociology

### Business, Creative, Technical and Vocational

Art  
Business Studies  
Commerce  
Commercial Studies  
Computer Studies  
Design and Technology  
Fashion and Fabrics  
Food and Nutrition  
Geometrical and Mechanical Drawing  
Home Management  
Metalwork  
Music  
Principles of Accounts  
Woodwork

## 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.

## Learn more!