

# A Brief Overview of Cambridge International Examinations (CIE) and A-Level credit

## CCAS Adviser's Staff Meeting

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# UR-sponsored in England

- Advanced Studies in England (Bath)
- IES London Direct and Study London
- University of York Exchange
- University of Bristol Exchange
- University of Sussex Exchange



# What are Cambridge International Exams (CIE)?

- World's largest provider of international education programs and qualifications for 5 to 19 year olds.
  - Examination board is a part of Cambridge Assessment, University of Cambridge; qualifications monitored
  - Pre-determined curricula and assessments for university preparation
  - Recognized for admission by universities across the globe
  - Connections with Ministries of Education and examination boards worldwide
  - Includes UK, Ireland, USA, Canada, Australia, New Zealand, India, Singapore, Egypt, Jordan, South Africa, the Netherlands, Germany and Spain.
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- Source: <http://www.cie.org.uk/about-us/what-we-do/>



# Which institutions accept CIE in US?

- Over 475 universities in US (all Ivy League and Ivy Plus)
  - Brown University, Columbia University, Cornell University, Dartmouth College, Harvard University, Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT), Princeton University, Stanford University, the University of Pennsylvania and Yale University.
- Can lead up to one year of university study
- Findings from research studies suggest CIE are predictors of college readiness and continued academic success
- Compare favorably with similar acceleration programs such as AP or IB
- Let's find [UR](#)
- EdExcel (formerly Pearson EdExcel-London Examinations) international UK examination board.
- Source: <http://www.cie.org.uk/programmes-and-qualifications/cambridge-advanced/cambridge-international-as-and-a-levels/recognition/>



# CIE Syllabi



- [List of subjects](#) (55 total)
- Most popular for incoming UR international students: mathematics, further mathematics, economics, chemistry, and physics
- Further mathematics: The content of the syllabus covers the areas of Pure Mathematics, Mechanics and Statistics
- Most recently accounting and psychology



# A-Level Learning Outcomes

- In-depth subject content
  - Independent thinking
  - Applying knowledge and understanding to new as well as familiar situations
  - Handling and evaluating different types of information source
  - Thinking logically and presenting ordered and coherent arguments
  - Making judgements, recommendations and decisions
  - Presenting reasoned explanations, understanding implications and communicating them logically and clearly
  - Working and communicating in English
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- Source: <http://www.cie.org.uk/programmes-and-qualifications/cambridge-advanced/cambridge-international-as-and-a-levels/curriculum/>



# What is our policy on A-Level?

- Students earning high marks on “A-” level (Advanced) examinations may request credit by consulting the appropriate department adviser.
- The original University of Cambridge GCE transcript and a Statement of Results should both be provided to Academic Records in Lattimore 312.
- Academic Records will scan a copy of the student's documentation and place it in the student's file; the original documents will then be returned to the student.
- The amount of credit awarded is determined by the department giving approval, normally on a Course Approval Form or in a memo to Advising Services. SEE HANDOUT
- “O-” level (Ordinary) courses-or Subsidiary examinations are not comparable to college courses and no credit can be awarded.
- Students with questions should consult the Study Abroad Office.  
[Admissions Office](#)
- Source: CCAS Adviser’s Handbook



# Education in the UK: GCSE

- Secondary School
  - Year 10 and 11 (14-16 years old)
  - Students take around 8-12 GCSEs
  - Must take Science, Maths and English
  - Can choose to take Arts, Languages etc.
- [Guide to Education in the United Kingdom](#)





# Education in the UK: A-Level

- Generally everyone that goes to Uni takes A-Levels (may take different routes for the Arts)
- 6<sup>th</sup> Form (2 Years: Year 12 and 13)
- 4 AS Levels (1<sup>st</sup> year)
- 3 A Levels (2<sup>nd</sup> Year)
- Choose from a variety of subjects that are offered at your school.
- Determines what you choose to major in at University



# Education in the UK: Gap year

- Many students in the UK take a gap year after completing A Levels and before Uni
- Gap year is predominantly used to work to save up to then be able to travel
- There are many travel companies that cater to the Gap year experience (it's a big business!)
- My Gap year experience

