

Course Information (A Level)

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| Course Title | Preparatory Course for Cambridge International (Advanced Level) (Intensive) | | | | |
| Course Objectives | To prepare for the Cambridge International AS and A Level examinations in the same year | | | | |
| Subjects | A Level subjects: Mathematics, Physics, Accounting, Chinese; AS Level subjects: English GP, Economics | | | | |
| Teacher-Student Ratio | Maximum 1 : 16 (subject to classroom size limit) | | | | |
| Duration | 12 months | | | | |
| Days | Mondays to Fridays | | | | |
| Course schedule | 15 Jan to 31 May 2024 (Semester 1 school term) 01 Jun to 09 Jun 2024 (Semester 1 school holidays) 10 Jun to 04 Oct 2024 (Semester 2 school term) 05 Oct to 31 Dec 2024 (Exams / Semester 2 school holidays) | | | | |
| Days without lessons | Public Holidays; Exam days; School outings; School holidays (please refer to School Calendar for most current dates) | | | | |
| Time | See timetable below | | | | |
| Timetable | 15 Jan 2024 to 04 Oct 2024 | | | | |
| | Mon | Tue | Wed | Thu | Fri |
| 0900 - 1030 | Physics | Mathematics | Accounting | Accounting | Physics |
| 1030 - 1200 | Physics | Mathematics | Accounting | Accounting | Physics |
| 1300 - 1430 | Physics | Chinese | GP | GP | Chinese |
| 1430 - 1600 | GP | Chinese | GP | GP | Economics |
| 1630-1800 | | Accounting | Economics | Accounting | |
| 1845-2015 | | | | | |
| Notes | ¹ Student Development Activities. ² Blanks denote self-study periods, or white space that teachers can use for additional coaching, to conduct tests, or to run extra lessons (at students' own costs) | | | | |
| Remarks | You are joining classes of the 18-month course which have begun six months earlier. Content coverage for the six months was based on the Singapore-Cambridge GCE O Level and Cambridge International IGCSE syllabuses. You will be taught AS and A Level syllabuses for this course. | | | | |
| <i>The above timetables are subject to change without prior notice Please check with the School for the most current timetable</i> | | | | | |

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| Lesson Venue Contact info. | Zhicheng Private School 865 Mountbatten Road, #07-03 Singapore 437844 Tel: 67600590 Email: school@zhicheng.edu.sg Website: www.zhicheng.edu.sg |
| Resources used | Well-lit and air-conditioned classrooms equipped with whiteboards, tables and chairs, laboratory, apparatus for physics experiments. Projectors, laptops, storybooks, internet access, print and non-print media. Course materials include past year papers and course books. Please refer to booklist for list of course books that students need to purchase at their own expense for this course. |
| Key External Exam Dates | Oct to Nov: Cambridge International (AS & A Level) Examinations Exam dates are subject to change. Please visit the following link for the latest updates: cambridgeinternational.org |
| Course Delivery | Face-to-face classroom lessons. Online learning where applicable e.g. during a circuit breaker, or when following safe management protocols. Supervised self-study hours. Physics practicals: conducted in school. |
| Student Development Activities (SDA) | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Information sessions on university degree programmes available in Singapore and overseas; • Academic counselling for students on the suitability of undergraduate studies based on their personal and educational profiles; • Workshops on writing of personal statements, personal grooming and presentation, and interview skills; • Interview professionals and experts from different professions, to expose students to various career pathways; • Support and help students in their application to local and overseas universities and colleges (additional costs apply for university applications on students' behalf); • Community service programme to foster students' engagement with the community and their sense of responsibility towards others; • Sports and physical conditioning programme to foster a healthy lifestyle, e.g. table-tennis, badminton or gym workouts (coached sessions are conducted at students' own expense); • Hikes and outdoor activities such as canoeing, team-building games, to encourage bonding among students and staff through physical exercise; • Special interest groups, such as science research projects, coding, public speaking, finance etc, to develop their interests beyond the classroom. The School will liaise with external interest groups and seek memberships for students. Membership costs, if any, shall be borne by students. |

Admission Criteria

Applicable to all admissions including late admissions:

- 1) Student is at least 17 years of age on 1 January in the year of admission;
- 2a) Student has attained the Singapore-Cambridge GCE (O Level) or equivalent, with a grade of E8 or higher in English Language, and a grade of C6 or higher in Mathematics and Physics; or
- 2b) Student has attained a score of 40% or higher in English Language, and 50% or higher in Mathematics and Physics in the school's entry tests that are pegged to the IGCSE standard.

Attendance Requirements

Course attendance is an important component of the academic standards in this course. Students are required to attend ALL lessons. Any absences have to be supported by a Medical Certificate.

Course Description

ENGLISH GENERAL PAPER (AS Level)

This module enables students to develop:

- understanding and use of English language to appraise a broad range of contemporary topics,
- a wider awareness and knowledge of contemporary issues through reading,
- independent reasoning skills,
- the skills of interpretation, analysis, evaluation and persuasion,
- skills in writing structured and developed arguments, and present reasoned explanations, and
- the ability to present a point of view clearly, and consider and reflect upon those of others.

MATHEMATICS (A Level)

This module enables students to:

- develop their mathematical knowledge and skills in a way which encourages confidence and provides satisfaction and enjoyment,
- develop an understanding of mathematical principles and an appreciation of mathematics as a logical and coherent subject,
- acquire a range of mathematical skills, particularly those which will enable them to use applications of mathematics in the context of everyday situations and of other subjects they may be studying,
- develop the ability to analyse problems logically,
- recognise when and how a situation may be represented mathematically, identify and interpret relevant factors and select an appropriate mathematical method to solve the problem,
- use mathematics as a means of communication with emphasis on the use of clear expression, and
- acquire the mathematical background necessary for further study in mathematics or related subjects.

PHYSICS (A Level)

This module enables students to:

- acquire knowledge and understanding and develop practical skills, including efficient, accurate and safe scientific practices,
- learn to apply the scientific method, while developing an awareness of the limitations of scientific theories and models,
- develop skills in data analysis, evaluation and drawing conclusions, cultivating attitudes relevant to science such as objectivity, integrity, enquiry, initiative and inventiveness,
- develop effective scientific communication skills, using appropriate terminology and scientific conventions,
- understand their responsibility to others/society and to care for the environment, and
- enjoy science and develop an informed interest in the subject that may lead to further study.

CHINESE (A Level)

This module enables students to:

- develop the ability to understand Chinese from a variety of registers,
- develop the ability to communicate confidently and clearly in Chinese,
- form a sound base of skills, language and attitudes required for further study, work and leisure,
- develop insights into the culture and civilisation of the countries where Chinese is spoken, including the study of literary texts where appropriate,
- encourage positive attitudes to language learning and a sympathetic approach to other cultures and civilisations, and
- support intellectual and personal development by promoting learning and social skills.

ACCOUNTING (A Level)

This module enables students to:

- understand the role of accounting as an information system for monitoring, problem-solving and decision-making,
- appreciate the ethical issues that underpin the practice of accounting and their impact on the behaviour of the accountant and of businesses,
- appreciate the place of accounting in managing business change in response to economic, social and technological developments,
- develop the ability to apply and evaluate accounting concepts, principles, policies and practices,
- develop skills of communication, analysis, interpretation and presentation of both qualitative and quantitative accounting information, and
- develop skills and knowledge needed for further study or employment in accounting or business.

Note: Students will be taught up to A Level topics, to allow students who are very competent in the subject to take the examinations at A Level. Other students will take the examinations at AS Level.

ECONOMICS (AS Level)

This module enables students to:

- know and understand the terminology, concepts, theories and principles of economics,
- express ideas in writing and using statistics and diagrams, or other methods, where appropriate,
- develop the habit of using works of reference as sources of information specific to economics,
- read critically to gain information about the changes in the wider economic and social environment,
- appreciate the methods of study that economists use, and the most effective ways economic information may be analysed, correlated, discussed, evaluated and presented, and
- develop an interest in and enthusiasm for economics that could lead to further study.

Course Assessments & Assignments

Students are expected to do their assignments and hand them up on time. Test dates are subject to change. Students are to check with their teacher during the course.

| Month | Description | Remarks |
|-------|-------------|--------------|
| Feb | Test 4 | All subjects |
| Apr | Test 5 | All subjects |
| Jun | Test 6 | All subjects |
| Aug | Test 7 | All subjects |
| Oct | Test 8 | All subjects |

Notes: Test 1 to 3 are assigned to the 18-month course, which is merged with this course from Jan onwards.

Students' learning is continuously assessed through their daily assignments, quizzes and project work if any. The scheduled tests are formative in nature, i.e. they indicate a student's progress in learning. The course does not conduct any tests or exams that lead to the award of any certification. Tests are modeled after the external exam test format and mark scheme. Test scores have no bearing on actual A Level examination scores. Students may refer to the following grade bands as a general guideline.

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|---------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|--------------|
| A*: ≥ 90 | | | | | |
| A: 80 to 89.9 | B: 70 to 79.9 | C: 60 to 69.9 | D: 50 to 59.9 | E: 40 to 49.9 | U: ≤ 39 |