

## Cambridge Pre-U media information

Cambridge Pre-U examination results will be published on Thursday 18 August 2011

### This year sees the second full examination session for Cambridge Pre-U

For schools looking to move away from A Levels or to increase the range of qualifications they offer, Cambridge Pre-U is rapidly becoming the preferred alternative. The second full examination series for Cambridge Pre-U was held in May and June 2011 and results will be published on Thursday 18 August 2011.

The most popular subject this year was Global Perspectives and Research (GPR), Cambridge Pre-U's extended project, which includes a seminar-based foundation year and teaches students how to plan and implement their own reasearch project.



### Key statistics

**148** schools teaching Cambridge Pre-U with candidates entered for the 2011 or 2012 examinations series.

**45%** of schools teaching Cambridge Pre-U are in the state maintained sector.

**55%** of schools teaching Cambridge Pre-U are in the independent sector.

**90** schools have made entries in the 2011 series.

Entries are up **34%** on last year.

The most **popular** Cambridge Pre-U subjects are Literature in English, History, Mathematics, and Global Perspectives and Independent Research.

### Cambridge Pre-U at a glance

- a two-year, linear course with examinations at the end
- designed specifically for students who want to go to university, develops independent study skills
- students have a free choice of subjects
- adding the Global Perspectives and Research course leads to the full Cambridge Pre-U Diploma
- can be taken in combination with A Levels
- funded for use by schools in the state maintained sector and fully accredited.

### Benefits of Cambridge Pre-U

- time to grow into a subject; assessment is at the end of the programme of study, when students are ready
- a framework that enables teachers to create coherent programmes of study that enable students to gain an overview of the subject and make connections between topics
- freedom from the interruption of modular assessments
- time to explore subjects in greater depth and read around the subject
- preparation for the type of study students will be required to undertake at university.

### Press office contact information

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## About University of Cambridge International Examinations

Alongside our sister awarding body, OCR, we are part of the Cambridge Assessment Group, a not-for-profit organisation and a department of the University of Cambridge.

We are the world's largest provider of international programmes and qualifications for 5–19 year olds. For over 150 years we have worked with ministries of education and assessment agencies around the world to deliver excellence in education.

Cambridge international programmes and qualifications are taken in 160 countries and recognised by universities and employers around the world.

### Grading scale and the UCAS tariff

Cambridge Pre-U has a nine point grading scale and is accessible to all students who would achieve a pass at A Level. A top Distinction grade is also available that is above the A\* at A Level.

Cambridge Pre-U grades are benchmarked to the A Level standard

at two key grade thresholds. This ensures students across the ability range are treated fairly. The extended grade range at the top enables Cambridge Pre-U to recognise and reward outstanding achievers. The UCAS tariff is higher for Cambridge Pre-U than A Level because Cambridge Pre-U candidates have to cover more ground in the time freed up by removing external assessment

at the end of the first year. This allows more time for learning, and the syllabus is 'bigger' to reflect this.

Additional stretch is built into the question papers and students have to take all the papers in one session, at the end of the course. There are no re-sits.

Cambridge Pre-U Grade	Cambridge Pre-U Principal Subject UCAS Tariff	A Level Grade	Equivalent A Level UCAS Tariff	Cambridge Pre-U GPR UCAS Tariff
Distinction 1	tbc	n/a	n/a	tbc
Distinction 2	145	A*	140	140
Distinction 3	130	A	120	126
Merit 1	115			112
Merit 2	101		100	98
Merit 3	87			84
Pass 1	73			70
Pass 2	59			56
Pass 3	46	E	40	42

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