

## **AICE Diploma**



## **An Introduction**

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The AICE Diploma offers an international pre-university curriculum and examination system which emphasises the value of broad and balanced study for academically able students. It is designed to build on Cambridge International Examinations' 14-16 range of qualifications to provide a high-quality English-medium qualification that prepares students for further study or progression to employment. It offers encouragement and stimulation to the students whilst retaining the global currency and academic rigour that are keystones of the Cambridge curriculum.

It is a Group Award that requires the study of subjects drawn from three curriculum areas. These three broad areas are: Mathematics and Science; Languages; and Arts and Humanities. To allow Centres greater freedom, the AICE Diploma draws upon the full portfolio of Cambridge's post-16 provision. The individual choice of subjects within these areas is designed to provide a flexible, comprehensive and integrated curriculum programme.

## What can count towards the AICE Diploma?

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### Counting Syllabuses

The AICE Diploma is available from 2002 onwards. All CIE Advanced Subsidiary (AS) and AICE Half-Credit courses available in a session will be able to count towards the AICE Diploma. All A Level syllabuses can also count towards the AICE Diploma.

In addition to the syllabuses already mentioned, the Cambridge curriculum also allows candidates to submit Research Projects towards the AICE Diploma. Research Projects must be submitted in two subject areas and each pair will be treated as equivalent to a single AS for Group Award purposes only and will be entered under a single Syllabus code to allow easy administration.

List of counting syllabuses and the groups to which they belong:

<b>Group A: Mathematics and Science</b>	A Level	AS Level
Applied ICT	9713	√
Biology	9700	√
Chemistry	9701	√
Computing	9691	√
Design and Technology	9705	√
Environmental Management	–	8291
Further Mathematics	9231	–
Marine Science	9693	√
Mathematics	9709	√
Physical Education	–	8666
Physics	9702	√
Psychology	9698	√
Thinking Skills	9694	√

Mathematics: Statistics (half-credit) 0390

<b>Group B: Languages</b>	A Level	AS Level
Afrikaans Language	–	8679
Arabic/Arabic Language	9680	8680
Chinese/Chinese Language	9715	8681
English Language	–	8693
First Language Spanish	–	8665
French/French Language	9716	8682
German/German Language	9717	8683
Hindi/Hindi Language	9687	8687
Japanese Language	–	8281
Language and Literature in English	–	8695
Marathi/Marathi Language	9688	8688
Portuguese/Portuguese Language	9718	8684
Spanish/Spanish Language	9719	8685
Tamil/Tamil Language	9689	8689
Telugu/Telugu Language	9690	8690
Urdu/Urdu Language	9676/9686	8686

English Language (half-credit) 0396

<b>Group C: Arts and Humanities</b>	<b>A Level</b>	<b>AS Level</b>
Accounting	9706	√
Art and Design	9704	√
Business Studies	9707	√
Chinese Literature	–	8669
Classical Studies	–	8283
Design and Textiles	9631	√
Divinity	9011	8041
Dress and Textiles	9332	–
Economics	9708	√
Food Studies	9336	–
French Literature	–	8670
General Paper	–	8004
Geography	9696	√
Hindi Literature	–	8675
History	9697	√
Islamic Studies	9013	8053
Language and Literature in English	–	8695
Law	9084	√
Literature in English	9695	√
Music	9703	√
Physical Education	–	8666
Portuguese Literature	–	8672
Psychology	9698	√
Sociology	9699	√
Spanish Literature	–	8673
Thinking Skills	9694	√
Travel and Tourism	9395	√

English Literature (half-credit) 0397

<b>Group D: Research Project</b>	
Research Projects	8660

A dash (–) indicates that the subject is not available at that level, a tick (√) indicates that an AS is available under the A Level syllabus code. This is not a complete list of all syllabuses that may be available in any year. Other syllabuses may be added to CIE's provision from time to time. For the latest information see the GCE AS and A Level section of the E3 booklet.

## AICE Grading and Certificates

### Results

A candidate needs to take and pass subjects equivalent to a minimum of 6 credits to obtain the AICE Diploma. The credit rating of counting qualifications is A Level=2, AS Level=1, AICE Half Credit=0.5, and a Pair of Research Projects=1.

The following combinations are all valid.

A Level	AS Level	AICE Half-Credit
3		
2	2	
2	1	2
1	4	
1	3	2
	6	
	5	2

Subjects must be selected from 3 curriculum areas: Group A: Mathematics and Science, Group B: Languages and Group C: Arts and Humanities. At least one subject must be taken and passed at grade E or better (at A Level, AS Level or AICE Half Credit) from each curriculum area. The best total of 6 credits achieved will then be considered for the AICE Diploma irrespective of curriculum area.

The AICE Diploma is awarded on the basis of a points system, as shown in the table below.

DOUBLE-CREDIT STUDY A Level		FULL-CREDIT STUDY AS Level		HALF-CREDIT STUDY AICE Half-Credit	
Grade	Points	Grade	Points	Grade	Points
A	120	A	60	A	30
B	100	B	50	B	25
C	80	C	40	C	20
D	60	D	30	D	15
E	40	E	20	E	10

Candidates who meet the requirements of the AICE Diploma will be awarded a Pass, Merit or Distinction.

Candidates scoring 320 points and above will be awarded a Distinction.

Candidates scoring 220-315 points will be awarded a Merit.

Candidates scoring 120-215 points will be awarded a Pass.

Any score below 120 will be reported as an AICE Diploma fail.

Candidates who fail the AICE Diploma will receive a GCE certificate reporting their performance in A and AS Level syllabuses and an AICE Half-Credit certificate where applicable.

### Results Slip

The layout of the AICE Diploma results slip will show the type of pass and aggregate point score.

An aggregate point score will not be reported on results slips for candidates who fail the AICE Diploma.

### Multi-Session Candidates

Candidates may take the AICE Diploma over 3 sessions within a 13 month period. i.e. June to June, November to November, November to June and June to November.

## **Certificates**

Multi-session candidates will be certificated for the individual subjects taken at the end of each session and be certificated for the AICE Diploma at the end of the final session.

## **Retakes**

Retake of the AICE Diploma is allowed provided all the results counting towards the re-take fall within a 13 month period.

The retake of individual subjects is also allowed.

## **Exclusions**

Not more than 2 AICE School-based or Board-based Half Credit Syllabuses may count towards the AICE Diploma.

Not more than 2 Research Projects may count towards the AICE Diploma.

Candidates may **not** offer for the AICE Diploma:

- more than one subject with identical titles at A Level, AS Level or AICE Half-Credit unless they are entering for different papers in History,
- more than one of the alternatives in any subject, except where specified in the E3 booklet,
- any combination of subjects or papers forbidden by the subject Syllabuses and the E3 booklet.

## **Research Projects**

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A Research Project offers the opportunity for students to demonstrate skills of independent study and pursue areas of study or particular interest in greater depth.

Single Research Projects may be submitted solely for the purpose of comments and assessment by CIE. A single Research Project may not count towards the group award. These must be accompanied by a Proposal Form (see *The Guide to Research Projects*).

Entries for Research Projects must be accompanied by a *Proposal Form* for approval by CIE (see *The Guide to Research Projects*).

Each Research Project should be associated with a CIE syllabus counting towards the AICE Diploma for which the candidate must be also entered. Centres wishing to submit Research Projects in other subjects will need to seek the Board's approval for the proposal, submitting a detailed outline proposal and rationale in the first instance.

Research Projects associated with syllabuses in different Groups are allowed.

## **Half-credit Courses**

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Candidates for the AICE Diploma may substitute two half-credit courses for a full-credit course, but no more than two half-credits will be permitted to count towards AICE certification. Half-credit courses are expected to take half the time of a full-credit course.

Board-based half-credit courses are intended to give curricular flexibility.

## **International Recognition**

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AICE has international recognition as a university-entrance level qualification either in the form of its Diploma status or through the recognition of its composite parts, the AS and A levels.

Universities in the US, Europe and Britain accept it for admission and/or credit purposes. As with any university entrance, candidates are advised to check with admissions staff on specific course requirements prior to commencing study.

## **Further Information**

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For further information on specific aspects of the AICE Diploma, please contact:

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For more information on Research Projects please order *The Guide to Research Projects* from our Publications Department.

CIE publishes a wide range of information to support the syllabuses quoted in this booklet, including syllabus booklets, specimen papers, reports and teacher support material, available from our Publications Department.