

Syllabus Outline

Cambridge Pre-U
ART AND DESIGN

Cambridge
Pre-U

For examination in 2010, 2011, 2012



UNIVERSITY *of* CAMBRIDGE
International Examinations

Cambridge Pre-U Overview

Cambridge Pre-U is an exciting qualification for 16-19 year olds who want to go to university. It equips students with the skills they need to make a success of their undergraduate studies:

- a solid and coherent grounding in specialist subjects at an appropriate level;
- the ability to undertake independent and self directed learning;
- the ability to think laterally, critically and creatively and communicate effectively.

The Cambridge Pre-U Principal Subject in Art and Design is a stand-alone qualification, with all components assessed at the full Cambridge Pre-U standard at the end of a two-year programme of study. There are no unit retakes. Cambridge Pre-U Principal Subjects are certificated separately. They are fully compatible with A Levels and may be taken in combination with them.

Reporting of Achievement

Achievement is reported on a scale of nine grades: Distinction 1, 2 and 3, Merit 1, 2 and 3 and Pass 1, 2 and 3. The Distinction 3 standard is aligned to that of Grade A and the Pass 3 is aligned to that of Grade E at A Level. Distinction 1 reports achievement above the new A* grade. The intention is to differentiate more finely and extend reporting at the top end, while keeping the grading scale accessible to the full range of ability currently achieving passes at A Level.

UCAS Tariff Points

The table shows the UCAS tariff awarded to each Cambridge Pre-U Principal Subject Grade and how this compares with the tariff for A Level.

The tariff reflects the additional content within each syllabus and the linear assessment (terminal examinations at full Pre-U standard).

Universities that normally ask for three A grades at A Level might therefore consider Cambridge Pre-U offers involving a combination of Distinction 3 and Merit 1. Other offers may include asking for a Merit 2 in place of a B, Merit 3 or Pass 1 for a C, Pass 2 for a D and Pass 3 for an E.

Cambridge Pre-U Band	Cambridge Pre-U Grade	Cambridge Pre-U Principal Subject Tariff	Equivalent A Level Tariff
Distinction	1	tbc	n/a
	2	145	(A*) 140
	3	130	(A) 120
Merit	1	115	
	2	101	(B) 100
	3	87	
Pass	1	73	
	2	59	
	3	46	(E) 40

For more details, please go to www.cie.org.uk/qualifications/recognition.

Common characteristics of Cambridge Pre-U syllabuses

- **Design:** focused on the development of high level knowledge, understanding and skills to prepare for university and beyond, through extensive consultation with teachers/students and universities.
- **Stretch:** built into syllabus content (380 guided learning hours and challenging concepts), assessment (open ended questions) and grading outcomes (finer differentiation at the top end).
- **Innovation:** new approaches to subjects, greater freedom in subject combination, new topics, new methods of delivery and new forms of assessment.
- **Progression in learning:** Cambridge Pre-U builds on prior knowledge gained at 14-16, where appropriate and develops broad generic skills (independent study and research skills). Students are better prepared for undergraduate study.
- **Linearity:** assessment at the end of the course makes for greater coherence in teaching and learning.

Feedback from Schools

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Increased focus and motivation in year 12 pupils

Richer, more coherent educational experience

Encourages wider reading

More independent inquiry and learning

Opportunity to develop and pursue own academic interests

Greater scope for upper ability pupils to distinguish themselves

More time and support available for lower ability pupils

Greater maturity at examination time”

Cambridge Pre-U Art and Design Scheme of Assessment

Four compulsory components

- Paper 1. Portfolio: candidates experiment with ideas, concepts, materials, techniques and processes through a series of personal explorations showing recording, analysis, organisation and collation of observations.
- Paper 2. Evaluative study: candidates conduct research and analyse a wide range of references, viewing key works related to their study with trips to galleries.
- Paper 3. The Project: The development of a sustained piece of studio/ workshop practice based on an externally set theme. The candidate is required through research, evaluative and developmental work to create a final piece/pieces of work which is assessed externally at the Centre.

Curriculum content

Cambridge Pre-U Art and Design is the exploration and construction of visual language that can express and communicate feelings, ideas and concepts.

Meaning can be generated on personal and cultural levels. Achievement is attained through exploration, reflection and evaluation of processes from which the in-depth development of skills, knowledge and understanding are advanced.

Art and Design encompasses a broad range of approaches and activities with varied and diverse approaches to study. Teachers are encouraged to adopt a flexible and broad approach that allows them to play to their strengths in terms of facilities and experience within the available specialist teaching staff. Teachers are enabled to design their own course within the requirements of the syllabus. They have the time within the course to broaden student's minds with drawing trips and visits to galleries and artists' workshops.

The two-year linear programme allows students time to develop greater maturity before producing final pieces. All candidates are assessed against the same assessment criteria regardless of the area of study explored.

Areas of Study

Fine Art

Painting and Drawing
Printmaking
Sculpture
Fine Art Textiles
Alternative Media

Graphics

Advertising
Animation
Illustration
Multimedia
Packaging
Printmaking

3D Design

Ceramics
Theatre Design
Product Design
Environmental/Architectural
Design

Textiles

Constructed Textiles
Printed Textiles
Dyed Textiles
Fashion Textiles

Lens and Time Based Imagery

Lens-Based Photography
Digital Photography
Experimental Photography
Film and Video
Multimedia

Support and Resources

CIE offers a programme of Cambridge Pre-U INSET training for teachers accompanied by support materials on a dedicated Cambridge Pre-U website.

Full syllabus details are at www.cie.org.uk/cambridgepreu

Specimen assessment materials are available from: international@cie.org.uk



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