

Media information Cambridge Pre-U

Cambridge Pre-U is an exciting post-16 qualification that equips students with the skills they need to make a success of their studies at university such as enquiry, critical thinking and independent research.

Developed in collaboration with schools and in consultation with universities and subject associations, Cambridge Pre-U has been commended for its rigorous curriculum, quality and consistency of marking.

Cambridge Pre-U at a glance

- A two-year linear course with no assessment at the end of year one, providing more teaching time and freedom for learning. Students can spend more time exploring topics that really interest them in class.
- Includes syllabuses that give students freedom to choose their own topics, so they can develop their own interests and ideas. Every syllabus has been carefully designed to inspire, challenge and reward teachers and their students.
- It is available in 25 Principal Subjects, and Global Perspectives & Research – an innovative skills-based qualification that includes an extended project. Students can study Cambridge Pre-U subjects alone or in combination with A Levels.
- Short Courses (typically one-year courses) are available in some subjects.
- Recognised by UK universities and a growing number of US universities, including all Ivy League colleges.
- Funded for state schools and regulated by Ofqual.
- Has an extended grade range at the top to recognise outstanding achievement.

Facts and figures

Over **170** state and independent schools are registered to teach Cambridge Pre-U.

Cambridge Pre-U was first examined in **2010**.

Cambridge Pre-U is available in **26** subjects, including an extended project qualification.

How is Cambridge Pre-U graded?

Cambridge Pre-U has a scale of nine grades. The top grade, Distinction 1, reports achievement above Grade A* at A Level. Distinction 3 is aligned to Grade A at A Level. The lowest pass grade, Pass 3, is aligned to Grade E.

Many universities and employers say that the high number of students achieving Grade A* at A Level makes it hard to choose between applicants. The Cambridge Pre-U grade scale addresses these concerns by reporting achievement more finely at the top end.



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