

What's new about the Cambridge AICE Diploma for 2017

The Cambridge AICE Diploma recognizes the achievements of students who have experienced a broad and balanced combination of Cambridge International Advanced Subsidiary Level (AS Level) and Advanced Level (A Level) curricula. The diploma program was launched in Florida, USA in 1997, where it continues to receive strong legislative support and funding. Now used by schools around the world, the Cambridge AICE Diploma is changing to make sure it continues to prepare students for success at college and beyond.

Preparing students for college success

Alongside in-depth understanding of their subjects, students also need to master a broader range of skills critical for success in university study and employment. The Cambridge AICE Diploma is changing to place more emphasis on essential skills such as the ability to:

- think critically
- carry out independent research
- evaluate arguments
- communicate clear and well-reasoned arguments
- understand global issues from multiple perspectives.

Thinking critically, independently and globally at the core of the diploma

To achieve the all learners will need to study and pass the Cambridge International AS Level Global Perspectives curriculum. This skills-based course challenges learners to think critically, analyze evidence and compare perspectives. The curriculum is assessed through a range of options, including a written examination, team project and presentation.

The course is built around an innovative teaching and learning process called the Cambridge critical path. This supports learners to think critically and objectively, leading to a deeper understanding of their chosen topic. Cambridge International AS Level Global Perspectives is available for first teaching from August 2014.

What's new?

To ensure the diploma develops breadth as well as depth and to provide learners with a robust, rigorous and challenging advanced-level program we are introducing the following changes:

- Learners will have to achieve a minimum of seven credits, rather than six credits, to achieve the diploma
- A compulsory core of Cambridge International AS Level Global Perspectives, awarded one credit.
- A new optional subject group containing interdisciplinary and skills-based subjects (Group 4) from which up to two credits can be awarded. The group includes:
 - Research Report (additional option to the compulsory Cambridge International AS Level Global Perspectives required to achieve the full Cambridge International A Level in Global Perspectives & Research) awarded one credit
 - Thinking Skills
 - General Paper (AS Level only).
- Cambridge International AS Level Thinking Skills and General Paper will move so they are only available in Group 4.

The first award of the revised Cambridge AICE Diploma will be in June 2017.

A rigorous and stimulating program that ensures breadth and depth

The Cambridge AICE Diploma is designed to deliver breadth across the curriculum and depth in selected subjects. Learners have to achieve a minimum of seven credits from at least three subject groupings and the core (Cambridge International AS Level Global Perspectives) to be awarded the diploma. Within the a Cambridge International AS Level examination passing score is awarded one credit and a Cambridge International A Level examination passing score is awarded two credits.



The benefits of the Cambridge AICE Diploma

For students:

- Provides experiences recommended and valued by higher education institutions.
- Develops in-depth understanding of subject matter alongside skills critical to success such as the ability to:
 - understand an issue from multiple perspectives
 - evaluate the strength of different arguments
 - work in collaboration with others
 - think independently, critically, creatively and reflectively.
- The chance to stand out from the crowd with a diploma made up of curricula valued by leading universities around the world.

For schools:

- Offers a curriculum and assessment program that ensures depth and breadth.
- The opportunity to take a fresh approach to teaching – using skills to deepen students' understanding of content.
- A rigorous program to challenge, stimulate and engage learners.

For school administrators:

- Demonstrates an outstanding commitment to preparing students for success at university and beyond.
- Provides access to forward-thinking and innovative approaches to cultivating higher-order skills.
- The opportunity to work with Cambridge International Examinations, a world leader in assessment and a department of the University of Cambridge, committed to developing learners who are confident, responsible, reflective, innovative and engaged.

For higher education:

- A diploma to help identify the students prepared with the skills and research experience sought out by higher education faculties.
- A diploma designed to develop students' in-depth understanding of subject matter alongside skills critical to success at university and post-graduation.

Cambridge AICE Diploma subject groups

Group 1 Mathematics and Science	Group 2 Languages	Group 3 Arts and Humanities	Group 4 Interdisciplinary and skills-based subjects
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Applied Information and Communication Technology • Biology • Chemistry • Computing • Design & Technology • Environmental Management (AS Level only) • Further Mathematics (A Level only) • Marine Science • Mathematics • Physical Education • Physics • Psychology 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Afrikaans Language (AS Level only) • Arabic • Chinese Mandarin • English Language • First Language Spanish (AS Level only) • French • German • Hindi • Marathi • Portuguese • Spanish • Tamil • Telugu • Urdu 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Accounting • Art & Design • Business Studies • Classical Studies • Design & Textiles • Divinity • Economics • Food Studies (A Level only) • French Literature (AS Level only) • Geography • Hinduism • Hindi Literature (AS Level only) • History • Islamic Studies • Language & Literature in English (AS Level only) • Law • Literature in English • Music • Portuguese Literature (AS Level only) • Psychology • Sociology • Spanish Literature (AS Level only) • Travel & Tourism 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Research Report (additional option to the compulsory Cambridge International AS Level Global Perspectives required to achieve the full Cambridge International A Level Global Perspectives & Research) • Thinking Skills • General Paper (AS Level only)

AS Level qualifications are worth one diploma credit. A Level qualifications are worth two diploma credits. Cambridge International AS Level Global Perspectives forms the core of the diploma. It does not count as one of the two credits available from Group 4.

Support from Higher Education

“Duke University welcomes students who have taken the new curriculum from Cambridge, ‘Cambridge Global Perspectives’. Cambridge Global Perspectives puts an emphasis on a number of the skills that students need in order to be successful in their university education. We particularly value the independence of thought, critical thinking and research and inquiry skills that Global Perspectives develops.”

Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT) praises the educational values of Cambridge Global Perspectives™, saying that its values are similar to those of MIT, which are:

- deep understanding with depth and rigour
- problem solving, critical thinking, creativity, team work, independent learning and effective communication
- promoting an international outlook and cross-cultural awareness.

Timeline for Cambridge Global Perspectives in the June 2017 Cambridge AICE Diploma

Jan 2014	Official announcement of revised Cambridge AICE Diploma
Aug 2014	First teaching of revised Cambridge International AS Level Global Perspectives
June 2015	First examination of the diploma core Cambridge International AS Level Global Perspectives, which can count towards the award of the revised Cambridge AICE Diploma from 2017
June 2016	First examination of the Research Report (additional option to the compulsory Cambridge International AS Level Global Perspectives required to achieve the full Cambridge International A Level Global Perspectives & Research) which belongs to Group 4 and can count towards the award of the revised Cambridge AICE Diploma in 2017
June 2017	First award of revised Cambridge AICE Diploma

Learn more! For more information please visit www.cie.org.uk/aice or contact Customer Services on +44 (0)1223 553554 or email info@cie.org.uk