

Cambridge CIE Option Talks

Current Year 12 going in to Year 13.

Have I done my homework?

- **You need a goal!** A goal acts like a magnet that you can aim for.
- Go to the school web page and booklet and look at your options.
- Ask your teachers, parents, counsellors, past students about career choices.

What subjects should I choose?

- **Do your homework!**
- I want to be an Engineer...what subjects and at what level are needed?
- I want to be a teacher...do I need maths?
- Why are Doctors advised to have a Humanities subject?
- Does my extra-curricular involvement matter?

What do I need to get in to University? (University Entrance)

***Literacy + Numeracy + UCAS points =
University Entrance***

Literacy:

An **E** grade at AS English Language or Literacy for most NZ Universities (Auckland University require a **D** grade 50-59%)

Numeracy:

A **D** grade at IGCSE is the minimum Maths score required.

120 UCAS points over 6 approved subjects. A Level subjects count as 2 units, AS Level count as 1 unit. At least 3 x D grades at AS.

| Grade | % Marks | UCAS Tariff Score | |
|-------|----------|-------------------|---------|
| | | AS | A Level |
| A* | 90 – 100 | - | 140 |
| A | 80 – 100 | 60 | 120 |
| B | 70 – 79 | 50 | 100 |
| C | 60 – 69 | 40 | 80 |
| D | 50 – 59 | 30 | 60 |
| E | 40 – 49 | 20 | 40 |

Moving from AS to A Level or staying at AS?

- Minimum C grade to advance to A Level.
- If you wish to study more than 1 x A Level you must have already gained UE in year 12.
- To continue with AS you need $3 \times 30 = 90$ UCAS points ie: min. 3 x D's.

Can I mix CIE and NCEA?

- This is not ideal but can be done on a very small scale.
- To gain Literacy students can study NCEA Level English plus CIE subjects – as long as the UCAS requirements can be met.
- You will need permission to study a mixed pathway.

4 or 5 subjects?

- **The rule is that students study 4 CIE subjects.** This allows students time to study and excel in their subjects. It also allows time to study some Scholarship subjects.
- A Levels are very hard work.
- You will need permission to study 5 subjects or more than 3 x A Levels in 2018.

What about specialist courses?

- Engineering, Medicine, Architecture, and many other subjects have strict requirements. **YOU** must check what these requirements are:
- eg: (Univeristy of Auckland)
 - *Health Science* = 300 UCAS points and one subject from Table A and one A-Level from Table B.
 - *Engineering* = 310 UCAS including A-Level Maths and Physics
 - *Commerce* = 190 UCAS points from Table A and/or Table B subjects

Auckland University:

| Table A subjects | Table B subjects |
|-------------------|------------------|
| Classical Studies | Accounting |
| English | Biology |
| Geography | Business Studies |
| History | Chemistry |
| History of Art | Economics |
| | Mathematics |
| | Physics |

Pre –U Maths

- Are higher level than A level and worth more UCAS points (approx 145 points for top grade)
- The exam is in June – the class then becomes a Scholarship maths class...yes, you have to sit Scholarship 😊

Course confirmation

- **All students** are required to come in on the CIE course confirmation day:
Monday 22nd January, 2018.
- No timetable will be printed until your course has been confirmed.
- Bring your official results with you.
- Classes start Thursday 25th January.

What happens if I don't 'like' my subjects?

- It is pointless from Term 2 onwards.
- You can not drop to 3 subjects, EVERYONE is expected to study as a full time student.
- Ego driven dramas with your teachers is not a reason to drop a subject.
- Collapsing under the pressure of 5 subjects is not a reason either...do 4!

What if I bomb at Nov exams?

Mid Year re-sits?

- Course confirmation dates are for EVERY student.
- History shows that very few students gain more than a grade in re-sits...ie: it is unlikely that you will jump from a C to an A.
- Think carefully about the cost in money, time and effort in your re-sit choices.
- Permission is needed to re-sit. No more than 2 subjects can be re-sat in June.
- Students would be required to be sitting the A Level concurrently to do a resit – you will also be in an AS class until the resit.

What do I do now?

- Option sheets are due in **29th September – last day of term.**
- Go and do some research for next year.
- Be honest and realistic about your choices!
- Remember...permission for mixing pathways, taking 5 subjects, taking 3 x A Levels, if you haven't met the required level to advance to A Level, switching pathways.
- **FILL IN THE SHEET , then FILL IN THE PORTAL, then hand your sheet in to reception.**