

## The Cambridge AICE Diploma is evolving

The Cambridge AICE Diploma is a group award that recognizes the achievements of students who have experienced the balanced and stimulating curriculum of [Cambridge International Advanced Subsidiary Level \(AS Level\) and Advanced Level \(A Level\)](#). 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 evolving 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.

This evolution will help higher education institutions identify students with the type of cohesive academic experience and higher-order thinking and communication skills that are associated with distinguished achievement at university.

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

To achieve the diploma 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.

### **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 diploma 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.



### 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"> <li>Applied Information and Communication Technology</li> <li>Biology</li> <li>Chemistry</li> <li>Computing</li> <li>Design &amp; Technology</li> <li>Environmental Management (AS Level only)</li> <li>Further Mathematics (A Level only)</li> <li>Marine Science</li> <li>Mathematics</li> <li>Physical Education</li> <li>Physics</li> <li>Psychology</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Afrikaans Language (AS Level only)</li> <li>Arabic</li> <li>Chinese Mandarin</li> <li>English Language</li> <li>First Language Spanish (AS Level only)</li> <li>French</li> <li>German</li> <li>Hindi</li> <li>Marathi</li> <li>Portuguese</li> <li>Spanish</li> <li>Tamil</li> <li>Telugu</li> <li>Urdu</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Accounting</li> <li>Art &amp; Design</li> <li>Business Studies</li> <li>Classical Studies</li> <li>Design &amp; Textiles</li> <li>Divinity</li> <li>Economics</li> <li>Food Studies (A Level only)</li> <li>French Literature (AS Level only)</li> <li>Geography</li> <li>Hinduism</li> <li>Hindi Literature (AS Level only)</li> <li>History</li> <li>Islamic Studies</li> <li>Language &amp; Literature in English (AS Level only)</li> <li>Law</li> <li>Literature in English</li> <li>Music</li> <li>Portuguese Literature (AS Level only)</li> <li>Psychology</li> <li>Sociology</li> <li>Spanish Literature (AS Level only)</li> <li>Travel &amp; Tourism</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Thinking Skills</li> <li>General Paper (AS Level only)</li> <li>Global Perspectives Independent Research Report (an optional extension of Global Perspectives, awarded one credit)</li> </ul>

Note: AS Level qualifications are worth one diploma credit. A Level qualifications are worth two diploma 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 comprised of qualifications 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 curriculum and assessment program that develops learners poised to distinguish themselves at university.
- A diploma to help identify the students prepared with the skills and research experience sought out by higher education faculty.

## Timeline for June 2017 Cambridge AICE Diploma candidates

<b>January 2014</b>	Announcement of revised Cambridge AICE Diploma
<b>August 2014</b>	First teaching of revised Cambridge Global Perspectives
<b>June 2015</b>	First examination of the diploma core: Cambridge International AS Level Global Perspectives which can count towards the award of the revised Cambridge AICE Diploma in June 2017 onwards
<b>June 2016</b>	First examination of optional Cambridge International A Level Global Perspectives and Research which can count towards the award of the revised Cambridge AICE Diploma in 2017
<b>June 2017</b>	First award of revised Cambridge AICE Diploma

## Support from Higher Education

### From Duke University

“**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 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.

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