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a message from the head of year

Welcome to Year 10. If you are currently a Year 9 student here at Shrewsbury International School, we are pleased that you will be continuing your studies with us. If you are a prospective student, we are delighted that you are considering joining us. Life in Year 10 is full of challenges, but we can guarantee that you will have an interesting and rewarding time. Obviously, over the next two years preparing for your IGCSE examinations will be very important, but you will also have the opportunity to play in sports teams, perform music and drama, participate in new activities, such as the International Award, make new friends and have fun.

academic studies

All IGCSE subjects are taught by highly qualified members of staff who will be able to help and guide you throughout the course. In each of your IGCSE subjects you will take external examinations in May and June of Year 11. In many subjects, your final grade is determined not just by your performance in this examination, but also by the quality of coursework that you have produced over the two year course. It is therefore vital that you work with commitment and motivation right from the start of Year 10. You can expect to be given up to 3 hours of homework per night. Homework is an extremely important part of the IGCSE course. It enables you to practise what you have learned in class and to apply the concepts covered in different contexts. Failure to hand in homework or handing in homework of a consistently poor quality is taken very seriously.

your form tutor

Your Form Tutor is the teacher directly responsible for your pastoral care and will also help to monitor your academic progress. This is the person that you should speak to if you are having any problems, either in school or at home. Your Form Tutor is there to make sure that you fulfil your potential, that you are happy, and that you benefit as much as possible from your time in Year 10. You can rely on your Form Tutor to offer you support and guidance whenever you need it.

learning for life

(the personal, social and health education programme)

The aim of the Learning for Life programme in Year 10 is to help you to develop moral, social and cultural awareness; helping you to make informed choices, form effective relationships and develop into a more responsible and thoughtful citizen. Through discussion, role play and group work activities, the programme will tackle topics that are important to young adults of your age in Thailand.

We hope you are looking forward to your time in Years 10 and 11. Please contact me if you have any questions or need further information. Email – christopher.s@shrewsbury.ac.th

Christopher Simcox
Head of Year 10.

the curriculum

Year 10 heralds the beginning of the two year IGCSE and GCSE courses which will normally be examined at the end of Year 11 and will provide the basis for any further study, either at A level, the IB diploma, or other higher level courses. The two-year course is known as Key Stage 4 in the English National Curriculum. Key Stage 3 is from Years 7-9 and Key Stage 5 is the Sixth Form period

what are GCSE and IGCSE?

GCSE stands for General Certificate of Secondary Education. GCSE examinations are taken by the vast majority of students in England and Wales.

IGCSE stands for the International General Certificate of Secondary Education. It is at least of the same standard as, and in many cases is higher than, the GCSE. For many subjects it is more suited to students in International Schools where the courses and examinations will have an international flavour rather than being grounded in British situations and settings.

examination boards

There are many examination boards to choose from. Shrewsbury currently uses: CIE, EDEXCE and OCR, three of the biggest and most respected boards, based in England.

grades available

The grade range for IGCSE and GCSE examinations is A* - G, with a grade U for an ungradeable performance. In some subjects this range of grades may be split into two, A*-D for the extended level course and C-G for the core level course. The grade that students can obtain will therefore depend on what course they follow and what examination they sit. This may well be decided late on in the course.

the subjects

The timetable in 2010-2011 will be made up of 60 x 55 minute lessons over a two week period.

compulsory subjects

English	10 periods
Mathematics	7 periods
Science	13 periods
Physical Education	3 periods
Learning for Life	1 period (non examined)

Students also choose five subjects from those on the following page, one from each option block. Each option choice is allocated five periods on the timetable. Thai students must choose First Language Thai. Students should read this booklet carefully and only make choices after careful consideration and discussion with their parents, teachers and other knowledgeable parties.

poor reasons for choosing an option

"my friend is doing it"

"the teacher is nice and does not make me work too hard"

good reasons for choosing an option

" I am good at it"

" I am interested in it"

"I need to study it for future career plans"

"it complements my other subjects"

The table below is an example of how the option blocks may look. The final blocks may be adjusted once all students have made their choices. If a particular subject is oversubscribed it may be possible to add it to a second block although this will not always be possible.

Option 1	Option 2	Option 3	Option 4	Option 5
Thai 1 st Language	Thai 1 st Language	Art	Art	DT- Resistant M
French	Business Studies	Business Studies	Business Studies	Economics
Spanish	DT- Resistant M	Geography	DT- Graphic P	History
Mandarin	Drama	History	Drama	Psychology
Japanese	ICT	Music	Geography	
Support	Psychology	ICT		
	Religious Studies			

Please contact Simon Mower, Assistant Principal (Academic), for more information on the curriculum, at simon.m@shrewsbury.ac.th

compulsory subjects

english first language

is this a suitable option for me?

This subject is suitable for those whose first language is English, or those who have spent time living and studying in an English-speaking country, or those who have been educated in International Schools for several years and have the ability to read and write to a fluent standard in English.

English First Language is studied alongside English Literature and complements any subject where students are asked to analyse difficult texts and present cogent arguments, particularly in Arts subjects such as History, Geography, Drama and Business Studies.

course outline

You will need to read some challenging texts and understand how language is used in a variety of different contexts to create meaning and effect. You will be asked to write essays where you argue and persuade, along with writing creatively in terms of style and content. You will also need to be able to understand and discuss some relatively complex concepts. If you enjoy reading, writing and discussing ideas and concepts with others, then you should enjoy this subject.

assessment

Examination Board: Cambridge International Examinations.

Half of the final grade is based on coursework where students prepare a folder of material over five terms, designed to show a wide range of writing. Three pieces of the candidate's work (around 800 – 1000 words each) are finally sent off for appraisal on three different writing styles: informative, descriptive and argumentative.

Half of the students' work is tested by an examination consisting of reading, writing and summary questions.

50% Three pieces of the candidate's work (around 800 words) are finally sent off for appraisal in April.

50% Examination - 2 hours (3 questions on 2 unseen texts).

who do I contact for further details?

Ms Katherine Wallace, the Head of English, - katherine.w@shrewsbury.ac.th

is this a suitable option for me?

This subject is suitable for students whose first language is not English, but who have been studying English as a second or additional language for several years, preferably alongside other school subjects studied through the medium of English.

English as a Second Language is an essential subject, since progress in it will assist progress in all other subjects that are studied through the medium of English. It is also an indication to universities in many countries of the world that a student's level of English is sufficient for further study in English.

course outline

You will need to show your comprehension of passages in English that cover a wide range of topics (such as education, the world of work, current affairs, health, travel etc.) as well as read an amount of literature (novels, poetry and plays). You will be required to take guided notes on and write concise summaries of short texts, and to express your thoughts, feelings and opinions in a number of different styles of writing of your own. Preparedness to speak at reasonable length in a variety of situations is expected. Technical accuracy in expression is also important, and study of relatively sophisticated English grammar and syntax is undertaken.

assessment

Examination Board: Cambridge International Examinations.

70% of the final grade is based on a 2 hour examination where students prepare to answer on a number of reading writing and summary questions.

30% of the students' work is tested by a listening examination (45 minutes) where questions are asked based on conversations heard on a tape in various regional and international accents.

There is also a compulsory Speaking examination (10 – 15 minutes) for which a separate grade is awarded.

who do I contact for further details?

Ms Katherine Wallace, the Head of English, - katherine.w@shrewsbury.ac.th

Mr Martin Kindness, the EAL Co-ordinator (Senior School),- martin.k@shrewsbury.ac.th

is this a suitable option for me?

This subject is suitable for those whose first language is English, or those who have spent time living and studying in an English-speaking country, or those who have been educated in International Schools for several years and have the ability to read and write to a fluent standard in English.

English Literature complements English First Language and any subject where students are asked to analyse writing and present cogent arguments, particularly subjects such as History, Geography, Drama and Business Studies.

course outline

You will need to read some interesting and complex literary texts - novels, poetry and plays, (mostly from the Twentieth Century), a Shakespeare text, and write essays exploring some relatively complex concepts. If you currently enjoy reading, then discussing and analysing what you have read, you should enjoy this subject.

assessment

Examination Board: Cambridge International Examinations.

Coursework: The students prepare a folder of material over five terms, designed to show a wide reading of, and a personal response to, novels, poetry and plays. Two pieces of the candidate's work (approx. 800 – 1 000 words) are finally sent off for appraisal.

Examination work: students' work is tested by an open book examination where students are expected to take their texts (without annotations) into the examinations and answer detailed questions on 3 specific texts.

25% Coursework - Two pieces of the candidate's work (800 words) are finally sent off for appraisal in April.

75% Open Book examination - 2 hours 15 minutes. 3 questions on 3 specific texts (45 minutes per question). Students take their texts into the examination where they are asked to analyse prose, poetry and a play in essay format.

who do I contact for further details?

Ms Katherine Wallace, the Head of English, - katherine.w@shrewsbury.ac.th

course outline

IGCSE Mathematics at Shrewsbury is a two-year course leading to examinations in May/June of Year 11. Mathematics is not an optional subject; all students in Year 10 and 11 must take this course. The IGCSE syllabus follows on from the work covered in Year 9, revisiting key topics and introducing some new material. As in Years 7-9, a variety of teaching methods, including ICT, are used to enthuse students and reinforce understanding.

In Year 10, students review and extend their understanding of mathematical concepts relating to number, such as fractions and percentages, indices, factors and multiples. They use spatial relationships in two and three dimensions, including angle, Pythagoras' theorem, trigonometry, symmetry, area and volume, and they use systems of measurement in everyday use. Algebra is a key topic at IGCSE level and students learn how to solve linear, quadratic and simultaneous equations, draw and interpret graphs of functions and solve inequalities. Year 10 also introduces functions and sets for the first time.

In Year 11, students complete the IGCSE syllabus, revisiting topics such as statistics, probability and transformations, and studying vectors and matrices. In preparation for the examination papers, students tackle increasingly demanding questions that require them to recall, apply and interpret mathematical knowledge using combinations of skills and techniques.

Note: Some pupils may be selected to sit IGCSE Mathematics one year early, following the Year 10 curriculum in Year 9 and taking the examinations in May of Year 10. In Year 11, these pupils will have the opportunity to study some A/S Mathematics modules.

assessment

All candidates will take two written examination papers, one consisting of short-answer questions that is worth 35% of the total marks available and the other consisting of longer, structured questions worth 65%.

Most students follow the Extended curriculum and are eligible for grades A* to E. The extended papers are 1.5 and 2.5 hours long. There is no coursework component.

Some students follow the easier Core curriculum and are eligible for grades C to G. The core papers are 1 and 2 hours long. Again, there is no coursework component.

who do I contact for further details?

Mrs Deborah Almeida, the Head of Mathematics, - deborah.a@shrewsbury.ac.th

is this a suitable option for me?

PE will offer you the opportunity to develop your skills in a wide range of sports and activities and help you improve your own performance. You will learn about exercise, how the body works to help you exercise, and then through training, how performance can be improved.

A good grade at GCSE will help you move on to any A/S or Advanced GCE course. If you enjoyed your Physical Education GCSE course, you might want to continue with the subject onto the Advanced Subsidiary and full A level Physical Education courses.

This course is compulsory for all students, starting from Year 9. Pupils will be entered for either the Short Course format of the qualification, or the Full Course. The level of entry will be dependent on both academic and practical performance in Year 9 / 10 / 11.

course outline

The course is practically based and involves participating, coaching and leading a range of practical activities as well as developing the knowledge to improve your own ability in sport.

Physical education allows you to develop a wide range of personal skills through the involvement in physical activity. At the same time the need to analyse performance will often involve using ICT as a basis for studying and reviewing different performances.

assessment

EDEXCEL Examination Board.

Paper 1 Written examination of 1 hour 30 minutes, which will test candidates' knowledge of the factors affecting performance and their understanding of the reasons for participating in physical activity.

Weighting: 40% of course assessment.

Paper 2 Practical Skills. Each candidate will be assessed on their performance / coaching / leadership in **four** sporting activities. Half the marks for this component of the course are awarded over the duration of the course. The other marks are awarded during a practical assessment examination, which is videotaped in the final months of the course.

Weighting: 50% of course practical assessment, 10% Analysis of performance.

who do I contact for further details?

Ms. Simone O'Connor - the Head of PE simonelouise.o@shrewsbury.ac.th

course outline

At Shrewsbury International School students either study IGCSE Co-ordinated Science or IGCSEs in three separate sciences, based on ability in Year 8 and 9. Both courses start in Year 9 and are taught over three years by three specialist teachers in Biology, Chemistry and Physics. The Co-ordinated Science syllabus has been designed to set the content, ideas, skills, processes and applications of Science in the broadest possible contexts. It sets out to make the students continuously aware of the relationships between the main areas of Science while allowing the subjects to keep their own identities. In Year 10, those students who have successfully studied Separate Science in Year 9 may continue to study all three Sciences as separate IGCSE courses. These courses cover the subjects in greater depth and those students will end up with three IGCSE grades at the end of Year 11. Those continuing with the Co-ordinated Science program will still be able to pursue any of the three sciences at A level, provided that they achieve the necessary grades. These students will end up with two IGCSE grades at the end of Year 11.

Experimental work is an essential component of all Sciences and is fitted into the courses at every available opportunity.

The courses are taught in a series of modular topics which are tested internally at the end of each topic or topic group. This gives regular feedback to students, teachers and parents on a student's progress in an individual topic, subject or the course as a whole. Full details of the syllabi and the topic contents are available in the CIE website www.cie.org.uk

assessment

External assessment is in the form of three written examinations.

These will be:

Paper 1 (a multiple choice paper lasting 45 minutes).

Paper 6 (a paper designed to test familiarity with laboratory based procedures)

And either,

Paper 2 (a core theory paper of short answer and structured questions, designed to discriminate between grades C and G)

or,

Paper 3 (an extended theory paper of short answer and structured questions, designed to discriminate between grades A* and D)

The grades awarded for Co-ordinated Science are double grades, i.e. the students will receive 2 grades for Science e.g. AA, CC or DD.

There are three papers for each of the separate sciences (9 in total) and grading for each of the subjects ranges from A* to G/U, giving three grades in total.

who do I contact for further details?

Ms Lynda Sharp, the Head of Science and Biology - lynda.s@shrewsbury.ac.th

Mr Martin Kirk, the Head of Chemistry - martin.k2@shrewsbury.ac.th

Mr Stuart Flavell, the Head of Physics - stuart.f@shrewsbury.ac.th

Full details of the syllabus and the topic contents are available on the CIE website www.cie.org.uk

optional subjects

art and design

is this a suitable option for me?

An education in Art and Design is essential for anyone interested in a career in Product design, Architecture, Textiles and Fashion design, Jewellery, Furniture design, Interior design, Graphic design and publishing, as well as the Fine arts of Painting and sculpture. Art develops communication skills and self confidence, problem solving skills and teamwork. Anyone who likes Art can learn, through practice, to become good at it. You will be able to work in any way you wish, once you have learned about materials, processes and skills.

course outline

Examination Board: Cambridge International Examinations

This course is designed to help you become good at drawing and be able to develop ideas successfully, through easy to understand projects and tasks. In Year 10 you will be able to develop skills in different media and techniques. The emphasis will be on drawing and painting, design realisation and digital photography. You will learn step by step how to realise art and design ideas from drawings through to end products, so that you become confident in the subject. During Year 10 you will be introduced to different ways in which you can express yourself. The course is Fine Art based so that you learn to develop confidence and become innovate independent thinkers. The skills which you develop will allow you to pursue work in

1. Observational drawing. Drawing in different media and styles.
2. Painting and related media. Painting, drawing, printmaking.
3. Three dimensional studies. Sculpture and Ceramics.
4. Textile media.

In year 11 you will be given a major project which will form 50% of your final assessment.

assessment

The coursework is assessed by the teacher to give students a clear indication of their progress. Coursework is presented in the form of a portfolio and forms part of the overall assessment for the IGCSE examination.

Examination Study. - The examination period begins earlier than other IGCSE subjects. The examination itself takes the form of a project. You are allowed to choose from a wide list of examination themes and are given ample time to prepare for a final piece of practical examination work, for which 8 hours are allowed. You may work in any way you wish.

Moderators from the Examination Board consider the portfolio of coursework and examination study as a whole, in determining the marks.

who do I contact for further details?

Mr Peter Douglas, the Head of Art,- peter.d@shrewsbury.ac.th

is this a suitable option for me?

In Business Studies you will be expected to take an interest in local and global business events and issues. The subject requires quite extensive reading and writing in response to business problems.

An ability to handle numerical data is also required.

It is unlikely that you will have studied the subject before, and this is not a requirement as the course assumes that you have no previous knowledge.

In general those students who are most successful have a good grasp of the English language and are sound Mathematicians, not daunted by graphs or other numerical data. A willingness to work hard and to take an interest in current events is obviously an essential requisite of success.

Business Studies complements most other subjects and is a useful field of study for those interested in a career in Business, Management, Finance, Banking, Accounting, and Law.

course outline

Examination Board: CIE (Cambridge International Examinations) 0450. (www.cie.org.uk)

This subject provides a general introduction to business behaviour and organisation in a real world context.

Our aim is to provide you with an insight into business decision making by applying business theory to a wide selection of case study material drawn from many countries. The course includes modules in marketing, production, business organisation and communication, finance and accounting, and the place of business in the local, national and global community.

You will develop skills in numeracy, report writing, analysis and problem solving, ICT applications, debate, discussion, research methods and teamwork.

We encourage you to take a consistent interest in local and global business events and provide opportunities for you to undertake individual research. Wherever possible, outside visits will be arranged to locally based businesses such as Toshiba, Toyota, and Singha.

assessment

Internally, you should expect to be formally tested once every half term, and a full, internal, mock examination is undertaken in January of Year 11. You will be assessed regularly on your ability to analyse business related information, write business reports and handle numerical data in a variety of contexts.

The external examinations which are taken at the end of year 11 consist of:

Paper 1. Short Answers: One hour and forty five minutes (50%).

Paper 2. Case Study Paper: One hour and forty-five minutes (50%).

There is no coursework component to this course.

who do I contact for further details?

Mr Gary Phillpott, the Head of Economics and Business Studies - gary.p@shrewsbury.ac.th

is this a suitable option for me?

Students who have enjoyed their Year 7, 8 & 9 Design Technology lessons and are interested in developing their skills and abilities in design, practical work, CAD/CAM, graphics, mechanisms and electronics, and also have some ability in ICT and Mathematics, will benefit greatly from this course. Much of the course is project based, with theoretical knowledge being gained from the solving of practical problems.

IGCSE Design and Technology combines well with a combination of Sciences, ICT, Art and Mathematics. It is an ideal preparation for further study in product design, engineering, graphical design, architecture, interior design, industrial design etc. Design and Technology is fun, practical and rewarding and will help you to develop real-life skills that will be useful throughout your life irrespective of your future occupation.

course outline

We offer two IGCSE Design Technology courses; Resistant Materials and Graphic Products. Whilst the designing and problem solving elements of the two courses are identical, in the Resistant Materials course you are expected to produce three-dimensional outcomes in resistant materials such as wood, metal and plastic, whilst with the Graphic Product course you are expected to produce primarily two-dimensional work using materials such as card, modelling foam and plastic sheet. The Cambridge International Examinations (CIE) course expects that the subject's theoretical content be delivered through small-scale projects in Year 10, before the 'Major Project' is tackled in Year 11. The Major Project takes up almost the whole of Year 11 and is of the student's own choosing; the project is a great challenge and will be the most extended piece of coursework that students of this age will tackle in almost any subject. Success here proves not only that the student is an able Design Technologist, but also that they can work to deadlines, can organise themselves over long periods of time and have those highly regarded qualities of dedication and perseverance. Minor projects will cover such areas as resistant materials, CAD/CAM, graphics, electronics, control and mechanisms. The only limits to the Major Project are time, individual student ability and their imagination!

The CIE website is a good link for further information: www.cie.org.uk

assessment

Assessment is carried out through two examination papers and one piece of coursework. The coursework is the aforementioned Major Project, which consists of a design portfolio and a piece of practical work; this counts for 50% of the final grade. The first examination is entitled 'design' and includes a question where the student is asked to design a solution to one of several problems that are set. The other paper is a more traditional examination paper, testing the theory that has been learnt during the two-year course, in the case of the Graphics Products option, this paper primarily tests the student's technical drawing skills.

who do I contact for further details?

Mr Mark Holloway, the Director of Design Technology, - mark.h@shrewsbury.ac.th

is this a suitable option for me?

You may have always wanted a go at creating a play, performing, making costumes, building a set or operating lights, but never had the chance. Drama GCSE would be a suitable option to take if you are practical, creative and enjoy working as part of a team. As well as developing your creative and imaginative skills, the study of Drama will also help develop your analytical, critical and interpretative skills that are vital for this subject and academic study as a whole. It is particularly complementary to the study of English Language and Literature as both subjects share many similar objectives and skills. To study Drama GCSE, you should have an interest in the Arts and an enthusiasm for learning about Drama and Theatre, as well as a good level of English. Drama is a useful foundation for any career, the most obvious of which would be in Acting or Film. However, it is beneficial for any career that requires fluent communication skills and an ability to work productively with others such as business, tourism, sales and marketing.

what will I learn?

You will learn:

- *how drama is created, including all the acting and staging skills that are needed to put a piece of drama on to the stage*
- *how to create a character and play this character in a performance*
- *many skills that are highly valued in any walk of life including teamwork and confidently presenting yourself in public.*

course outline

Unit 1 Drama Exploration (30%) - You will participate in a 6-hour practical exploration of a given topic / theme or issue. You will use your drama skills and techniques to explore ideas and express your opinions and create short pieces of drama. You will then complete a 2,000 word documentary response to the workshop.

Unit 2 Exploring Play Texts (30%) – You will study a full and substantial play text and learn how a playwright expresses their ideas about a theme, topic and characters and explore ways of making the play work on stage. You will then complete a 1,000 word documentary response to the workshop and a 2,000 word live theatre evaluation.

Unit 3 Drama Performance (40%) - You will have the choice of being involved in the performance of a play from an existing script or one you create yourselves. Students who wish to develop and be examined on their production support skills can also do this.

is this the right subject for me?

It is if you enjoy:

- *expressing yourself in an active and exciting way*
- *working in a group and contributing your ideas and taking onboard those of others*
- *exploring ideas by putting yourself in other people's shoes*
- *playing many parts in different imaginary situations*
- *creating your own drama work as well as looking at plays written by other people*

who do I contact for further details?

Mrs Victoria Green, the Head of Drama, - victoria.g@shrewsbury.ac.th

is this a suitable option for me?

In Economics you will be expected to take an interest in local and global economic events and issues. The subject requires quite extensive reading and writing in response to economic problems.

An ability to handle numerical data is also required.

It is very unlikely that you will have studied the subject before, and this is not a requirement as the course assumes that you have no previous knowledge.

In general, those students who are likely to be most successful will have a good grasp of the English language and be sound Mathematicians, not daunted by graphs or other numerical data. A willingness to work hard and to take an interest in current events is an essential requisite of success.

Economics complements most other subjects and is a useful field of study for those interested in a career in Finance, Banking, Business, Management, Accounting, and Law.

course outline

Examination Board: CIE (Cambridge International Examination) 0455. (www.cie.org.uk)

This subject provides a general introduction to how economic systems work in a real world context. Our aim is to provide you with an insight into economic decision making by applying economic theory to a wide selection of material drawn from many countries. The course includes modules in the operation of markets and market failure, international economics, economic problems such as unemployment and inflation, government policy and economic growth and development.

You will develop skills in numeracy, essay writing, analysis, evaluation, problem solving, ICT applications, debate, discussion research methods and teamwork.

We encourage you to take a consistent interest in local and global economic events and provide opportunities for you to undertake individual research.

assessment

Internally, you should expect to be formally tested once every half term, and a full, internal, mock examination is undertaken in January of Year 11. You will be assessed regularly on your ability to analyse economics related information, write extended answers and handle numerical data in a variety of contexts.

The external examinations which are taken at the end of Year 11 consist of:

Paper 1. Multiple Choice: Forty five minutes (20%).

Paper 2. Structured Questions: Two hours (50%).

Paper 3. Analysis and Critical Evaluation (30%).

There is no coursework component to this course.

who do I contact for further details?

Mr Gary Phillpott, the Head of Economics and Business Studies - gary.p@shrewsbury.ac.th

is this a suitable option for me?

It is useful to have studied Geography previously (Key Stage 3) as IGCSE Geography will build upon the knowledge and skills developed then. However, as long as you have a reasonable command of English and Mathematics, plus the right level of enthusiasm, then you should be able to cope with entry now, even without prior experience!

IGCSE Geography complements the Science and Business subjects in particular, but also gives you chance to practise lots of the techniques that you learn in Mathematics. Geography can also lead to a number of stimulating careers, such as those connected to environmental science, GIS, planning, remote sensing, surveying and marketing

course outline

Are you interested in the outdoors? Concerned about environmental issues? Intrigued about how we interact with our surroundings? Want to know why the world is so full of contrasts? Eager to solve problems? Then come and join us!

IGCSE Geography covers lots of different topics. We study volcanoes, earthquakes, population, weather and climate, rivers and marine environments, plus much more!

During lessons you will develop a range of graphical, numerical and analytical skills. You will use ICT and audio-visual resources to explore new concepts and processes.

During the two-year course you will also undertake field work in Year 10 to support your learning. This will take you to Chiang Mai and Chiang Rai provinces to study: environmental problems, rivers, agriculture and hill tribe villages.

assessment

There are 4 examination papers and no coursework. Geography students will be entered for the highly respected University of Cambridge examination.

Paper 1: Gives a choice of questions which focus on knowledge and understanding

Paper 2: Is short answer questions assessing analytical skills such as interpretation of numerical data, graphs, maps, photographic evidence and newspaper articles.

Paper 4: Tests practical skills which will have been developed previously during field trips and classroom study.

Paper 5: Tests practical skill also but will be a new online examination.

who do I contact for further details?

Mr Paul Williams, the Head of Geography, - paul.w@shrewsbury.ac.th

is this a suitable option for me?

- *Are you an inquisitive person who enjoys thought provoking discussion and hard work?*
- *Are you someone who is interested in people who have influenced and shaped our past and future?*
- *Are you the type of person who is not afraid to question and be critical of things around you?*
- *Do you want to be a well-informed and active citizen who can contribute something worthwhile to your community?*
- *Do you want to gain a prestigious and academic qualification that can open the doors to most professions and education courses after your IGCSE courses?*

If you are answering "yes" to the majority of these questions then History will be a suitable option for you to take as one of your IGCSE subjects.

course outline

We study the Cambridge IGCSE syllabus, which is split up into core content and a depth study.

Core content: The 20th Century, International Relations since 1919.

This addresses the following key questions: -

- *Were the Peace Treaties of 1919-23 fair?*
- *To what extent was the League of Nations a success?*
- *Why had international peace collapsed by 1939?*
- *Who was to blame for the Cold War?*
- *How effectively did the USA contain the spread of communism?*
- *How secure was the USSR'S control over Eastern Europe 1948-1989?*
- *How effective has the United Nations been?*

Depth study: Germany 1918-45.

This addresses the following key questions: -

- *Was the Weimar Republic doomed from the start?*
- *Why was Hitler able to dominate Germany by 1934?*
- *How effectively did the Nazis control Germany 1933-45?*
- *What was it like to live in Nazi Germany?*

assessment

Candidates will be assessed by sitting three examination papers. Papers 1 and 2 both two hours in length. Paper 4, which is the alternative to coursework component of the examination, lasts one hour. Candidates will be assessed on their ability to recall, select, organise and deploy their knowledge; to demonstrate their understanding of cause and consequence, change and continuity, similarity and difference; to show their understanding of the motives, emotions, intentions and beliefs of people in the past; to comprehend, interpret, evaluate and use a range of sources as evidence in their historical context.

who do I contact for further details?

Mr. Stuart Howard, Head of History, at:- stuart.h@shrewsbury.ac.th

is this a suitable option for me

In every walk of life and every profession, it is very difficult to avoid the need to use ICT. The course is highly practical and will equip students with a very useful set of skills, which they will also use in their other IGCSE subjects. Whilst not all students will have studied the year 9 IT course, there is no reason at all why they shouldn't choose IGCSE IT in year 10 and achieve a very high grade.

Although a good grounding in ICT is just about essential for any job these days, there are also many opportunities in the IT industry itself. IT also complements Business Studies and is useful in every technical or engineering career you can think of.

course outline

We follow the IGCSE (international GCSE) syllabus from the Cambridge board. The course is designed to be as practical as possible. The main software packages the students will become proficient with are:

- *Word-processing (Microsoft Word)*
- *Spreadsheets (Microsoft Excel)*
- *Databases (Microsoft Access)*
- *Presentation manager (Microsoft PowerPoint)*
- *Internet usage and e-mail (Microsoft Internet Explorer)*
- *Web page design and building (Microsoft FrontPage and HTML programming)*
- *Image editing and manipulation (Paint Shop Pro)*

There is an element of theory work; this covers all of the basic theory and such useful topics as viruses, Systems Analysis, and how to apply IT in business, industry and science, amongst other things.

The course syllabus is in Adobe Acrobat format and can be downloaded from www.cie.org.uk;

assessment

The course is assessed by 3 papers; there is no coursework for this subject. The papers are weighted as follows:

Paper 1	40%	Theory
Paper 2	30%	Practical
Paper 3	30%	

The assessment is weighted in favour of practical tests, which the students carry out on the computers at School, under examination conditions. We feel that this option suits our students well, and relieves them of the burden of extended coursework projects.

who do I contact for further details?

Mr. Simon Aves, the Head of ICT - simon.a@shrewsbury.ac.th

is this a suitable option for me?

(Media Studies is available to those students who are studying Co-ordinated Science)

We recognise the advantages of speaking more than one language, especially widely spoken languages such as English, Chinese and Spanish. But there is another language that is in even greater use, a language that affects practically every person on the planet. The language of the media. Advertising. Newspapers. Movies. Television. Magazines. Radio. The internet. Nearly every decision we make or idea that we believe in is influenced by the media we absorb. We are bombarded by its influence each and every day, what happens if you cannot tell the truths from the untruths?

Many of the most successful and powerful people in the world today either help control or distribute the media, or they understand and know how to manipulate the media. It is imperative that the future generations, be it as politicians, businessmen, scientists, musicians or simply citizens of the world, understand the media around them.

Along with studying the media that you see around you, GCSE Media Studies will also give you the opportunity to create your media work, be it documentary films, music videos, magazines, web pages or one of many other options. If you have an interest or desire to work in any area of the media this GCSE is essential. Successful candidates will be enthusiastic, out-going and interested in the world around them.

course outline

The course is designed to cover all aspects of media through a variety of practical and theory based modules. Candidates will learn a variety of practical skills during the course, such as, filming and editing along with leadership and teamwork skills. These will then be utilised in a practical production that compliments the candidate's interests and skills. As part of the study of media theory candidates will look at a wide range of aspects, such as media language, genre, representation, audiences and media institutions. Study material will be selected from around the world, insuring social and cultural relevance for all candidates.

assessment

To successfully complete the course candidates will need to produce two coursework portfolios, one containing a major practical production and one contain two assignments, both folders worth 30% of their overall grade.

The remaining 40% of their grade will come from two examinations. The first will test the candidates understanding of Media language, Genre and Representation, while the second will examine their understanding of Audiences and Institution.

who do I contact for further details?

Mr Jake Lynn, - jake.l@shrewsbury.ac.th

is this a suitable option for me?

Modern Foreign Languages available: Mandarin, French, Spanish and Japanese.

To opt for a Modern Foreign Language in Year 10, you must have studied the language in Year 9, as the courses will build on this and introduce you to new language structures and vocabulary.

A Modern Foreign Language rewards practical communication skills and adds an international dimension to your studies. It will appeal to all types of students including those interested in travel, culture and people from different countries, as well as those who always have something to say! The world has become a much smaller place and the ability to communicate in several languages will place you in a strong position for interesting employment in a wide variety of careers.

course outline

French, Spanish, Japanese, Mandarin

During the course students will develop the language skills – namely listening, speaking, reading, and writing, and each skill attracts 25% of the total marks.

The course offers a variety of activities with topics that include: media, entertainment and youth culture, education, employment, social activities, fitness and health.

The course allows you to make certain key choices. You are able to select an oral topic that particularly interests you and you have a choice of questions in the writing paper.

assessment

You will take one examination in each of the four skills. This includes a speaking test that your teacher will carry out with you. Marks will be awarded positively and are mostly awarded for communication in the foreign language. Your ability in English will not really have an effect on your performance in a Modern Foreign Language.

There are two tiers: Foundation level (grades C-G) and Higher level (grades A*-C)

There is no coursework.

who do I contact for further details?

Mr. Nick Loudon, the Head of Modern Foreign Languages, - nicholas.l@shrewsbury.ac.th

is this a suitable option for me?

The IGCSE Music course is designed to offer students the opportunity to explore music in the broadest possible sense. Whether as pianist, clarinetist, drummer, violinist or even rock guitarist, the student is expected to study music from a variety of historical periods dating from approximately 1650 to the present day. This includes jazz and popular music as well as music from selected Asian and other non-western cultures. For those students interested in media and journalism as well as music generally, IGCSE Music is often regarded as a useful qualification to have.

course outline

The IGCSE Music Course is divided into three main sections each with an equal weighting, these areas are listening, performing and composing.

Listening

While listening to prepared and unprepared extracts, students should be able to demonstrate both knowledge with understanding and musical perception in relation to:

- *musical language/staff notation/tablature (and other systems if appropriate) and rudiments.*
- *an elementary harmonic sense*
- *instrumental vocal timbre and texture*
- *structural expressive elements*
- *an awareness and recognition of past and present*

Performing

Students should be able to demonstrate the following skills:

- *playing individually*
- *playing in an ensemble*

Composing

Students should submit 3 compositions by the end of the course in a variety of styles.

assessment

Assessment Scheme

Listening

This will be by responding to extracts played on a pre-recorded cassette tape provided by the University of Cambridge.

Performing

Audio cassette recordings will be made of candidates individual and ensemble performances. These will be assessed and marked by the teacher before being sent to London.

Composing

School based assessment of students' compositions pertaining to set descriptors as indicated by the syllabus. These are then sent to London for further assessment.

who do I contact for further details?

Mr Jonathan Ling, the Head of Music, - jonathan.l@shrewsbury.ac.th

is this a suitable option for me?

Psychology is a fascinating subject to study because it is primarily all about you! This course will appeal to anyone who is interested in exploring issues relating to how and why human beings think, feel and behave in different situations.

Students of Psychology will study a range of stimulating topics such as perception, dreaming, phobias, and aggression. They will also be introduced to many current applications of Psychology to the real world, for example, how psychological sleep disorders are treated at a sleep disorder clinic and how Criminal Psychologists build up psychological profiles of dangerous offenders.

Psychology complements many other IGCSE choices. It is a Science and therefore will involve the planning and implementation of investigations. It will also require students to use their Mathematical skills in order to present, interpret and analyse data. Throughout the course, skills of language and critical thinking will be developed as students learn how to discuss, present and reflect on the various Psychological theories. It is therefore a subject that appeals to students who have interests in either Science or more Art/Humanities based subjects.

Following a GCSE course in Psychology, students can opt to continue the subject at A level. Higher level studies of Psychology can lead to a variety of occupations including Clinical, Criminal, Occupational or Educational Psychology. A qualification in Psychology provides students with many important transferable skills which are useful to careers such as medicine, business and education.

course outline

There are 2 main units of study:

Unit 1: Perception and Dreaming: Students use Cognitive, Biological and Psychodynamic approaches within Psychology to explain how we perceive our world and how we dream. They will also be introduced to some contemporary issues, including how sleep disorders are treated and the role of the Psychoanalyst in dream interpretation.

Unit 2: Social and Biological Debates in Psychology: topics of aggression, phobias and learning theories will be studied.

Students will also cover a number of contemporary debates, including 'Are criminal born or made?' and 'why do people suffer from phobias?'.

Throughout both units, students will also study about Psychological methodology and will be expected to plan, conduct, present and analyse the data from small-scale investigations.

assessment

Unit 1 is externally assessed through a 1 hour and 15-minute paper.

Unit 2 is externally assessed through a 1 hour and 45-minute paper.

who do I contact for further details?

Miss J L Hartley, Head of Psychology - joanna.h@shrewsbury.ac.th

is this a suitable option for me?

Religious Studies will give students the opportunity to explore religious, philosophical and ethical issues in the context of religious and non-religious beliefs.

It will encourage independent thought and build skills of enquiry, whilst tackling issue-based work that encourages a personal worldview embedded in respect and tolerance for other people's ideas and beliefs. It will also allow students to develop their spoken English through academic discussion of issues and will lead them towards forming their own ideas and opinions on a variety of issues including War, Peace, Racism and the Environment.

The GCSE will particularly benefit any students who is considering a career in Medicine, Law, Public Service or the Charity/NGO sector

course outline

Examination board: Edexcel.

One exam of 2hrs 30mins is taken at the end of Year 11. The exam is made up of two parts, a study of beliefs and values (1) and aspects of the religious community (2). There is no limit on the number of religions studied, with non-religious ideas also being part of the syllabus.

Part one 'Beliefs and Values' covers the following:

- *The Universe, human beings and their destiny*
- *Ultimate reality and the meaning of life*
- *Relationships, families and children*
- *Rights, equality and responsibilities*

Part two 'The Religious Community' covers the following:

- *Religious texts and sources of authority*
- *Founders and leaders*
- *Rules for living*
- *Worship and celebration*
- *Places of worship and pilgrimage*

assessment

Students will be tested regularly on their understanding of key words and terms, as understanding new vocabulary is an important element of the course.

There will be continuous internal assessment in the form of tracking assessments throughout the course. These will generally take place at the end of each taught module.

Students will also undertake a full mock exam in Year 11.

The public exam will be taken in June and will last 2 Hours 30 Minutes. Students will answer four questions from Part one and two questions from part two of the paper.

who do I contact for further details?

Please contact Simon Mower, Assistant Principal (Academic), for more information on this course, at simon.m@shrewsbury.ac.th

is this a suitable option for me?

Thai IGCSE allow the students to develop their ability in using Thai effectively for practical communication. Moreover, they form a sound base for the skills for language and attitudes required for further use of Thai in study, work and leisure as well as encouraging positive attitudes to the learning of languages and cultures.

The course will develop the Thai student's ability to:

- communicate accurately, appropriately and effectively in writing;
- develop creativity and think reasonably and systematically;
- understand and respond appropriately to what you read;
- enjoy and appreciate the variety of language;
- improve in other areas of study by developing skills of a more general nature (e.g. analysis, synthesis, drawing of inferences);
- promote a better understanding of yourself and others.
- develop a good human relationship and unity of being Thai
- Retain good moral, vision and wider understand of the society they live in as well as the whole world.

course outline

- Writing a short story
- Critical Thinking skill
- Commentary Writing
- Compare and Contrast Essay
- Writing a different type of letter
- Creative thinking and reasonable writing
- Writing a script of a conversation, interview script or broadcast
- Understand and respond appropriately to Thai language and culture
- Read widely, use relevant vocabulary and employ correct Thai grammar
- Ability to analyze, synthesis, make inference, order fact and present opinions
- Demonstrate a good control of vocabulary, grammar, punctuation and spelling

assessment

Candidates will be assessed in three categories: Reading and Directed Writing, Continuous Writing and Usage. All candidates will take Papers 2 and 3. The papers in the assessment are as follows:

Paper 2 Reading and Directed Writing (Weighting: 60%)

Part 1: There will be two passages. Two questions will be set, one of which may be subdivided. The first will test candidates' ability to select, compare and summarise specific information from both passages; the second question will invite a response to passages in a variety of forms, for example, a selective summary, a letter, a report, a speech, a script of a conversation or broadcast, a continuation of a story, an development of an idea in the passage, etc.

Part 2: This part will test candidates' ability to use and develop given information in another form.

Paper 3 Continuous Writing (Weighting: 40%)

A Selection of nine titles will be provided calling for an imaginative, narrative or argumentative response in an appropriate style. Candidates will be required to choose one assignment and will be advised to write 350-500 words.

who do I contact for further details?

Kru Kanok Chupak, the Director of Thai Studies, - kanok.c@shrewsbury.ac.th

