



## Cambridge Course Descriptions

### AICE English Language

The AICE English Language course gives learners the opportunity to study English language and its use in contemporary communication. It aims to encourage a critical response to texts in a range of forms, styles and contexts, and to promote skills of communication, reading, research and analysis. Through their study, learners will develop an ability to read and analyze material, gaining further knowledge and understanding of English language features and issues, and writing clearly, accurately, creatively and effectively for different purposes and audiences.

### AICE General Paper (\*required for all Pasco County High School Juniors)

The AICE General Paper course encourages learners to develop a maturity of critical thought and argument and a mastery of expression in the English language. These are all skills of great use for university level study. The course draws on topics from across the school curriculum, and learners are able to draw upon knowledge and understanding gained from study of other subjects.

### Pre-AICE Biology

With an emphasis on human biology, the Cambridge IGCSE Biology course helps learners to understand the technological world in which they live, and take an informed interest in science and scientific developments. Learners gain an understanding of the basic principles of biology through a mix of theoretical and practical studies. They also develop an understanding of the scientific skills essential for further study at Cambridge International AS Level, which are useful in everyday life. As they progress, learners understand how science is studied and practiced, and become aware that the results of scientific research can have both good and bad effects on individuals, communities and the environment.

### Pre-AICE Chemistry

The Cambridge IGCSE Chemistry course enables learners to understand the technological world in which they live, and take an informed interest in science and scientific developments. Learners gain an understanding of the basic principles of Chemistry through a mix of theoretical and practical studies. They also develop an understanding of the scientific skills essential for further study at Cambridge International AS Level, skills which are useful in everyday life. As they progress, learners understand how science is studied and practiced, and become aware that the results of scientific research can have both good and bad effects on individuals, communities and the environment.

### Pre-AICE Math 1

The fundamental purpose of the course in Pre-AICE Math 1 is to formalize and extend the mathematics that students learned in the middle grades. The critical areas, called units, deepen and extend understanding of linear and exponential relationships by contrasting them with each other and by applying linear models to data that exhibit a linear trend, and students engage in methods for analyzing, solving, and using quadratic functions. The Mathematical Practice Standards apply throughout each course and, together with the content standards, prescribe that students experience mathematics as a coherent, useful, and logical subject that makes use of their ability to make sense of problem situations.

## **Pre-AICE Math 2**

The Cambridge IGCSE Math 2 course aims to enable students to: develop their mathematical knowledge and skills in a way which encourages confidence and provides satisfaction and enjoyment. Learners will develop an understanding of mathematical principles and an appreciation of mathematics as a logical and coherent subject and acquire a range of mathematical skills, particularly those which will enable them to use applications of mathematics in the context of everyday situations and of other subjects they may be studying.

## **Pre-AICE Math 3**

Cambridge IGCSE Additional Mathematics is a rigorous college preparatory course intended to prepare students for the AICE Math curriculum. Students will devise mathematical arguments and present them precisely and logically, develop creativity and perseverance in the approach to problem solving, derive enjoyment and satisfaction from engaging in mathematical pursuits, and gain an appreciation of the beauty, power and usefulness of mathematics.

## **AICE History**

The AICE U.S. History class focuses on both a student's historical knowledge and on the skills required for historical research. Students learn about cause and effect, continuity and change, similarity and difference, and use of historical evidence as part of their studies. Students will study the American past to develop an understanding of complex historical events and their significance to modern society. By the end of this course, students will be able to assess different interpretations of an argument, formulate their own ideas about a subject, present clear, logical arguments, and evaluate historical evidence.

## **AICE Thinking Skills**

The AICE Thinking Skills course develops a specific set of intellectual skills, independent of subject content, reflecting the need voiced by universities and employers for more mature and sophisticated ways of thinking. The Thinking Skills course also enables students to approach their other subjects with an improved ability to understand, analyze and resolve problems. As a result, students will find the course of great benefit when preparing for higher education and for a wide range of careers, including law, scientific research, social science, journalism, medicine, business, accounting and engineering.

## **AICE Media Studies**

The AICE Media Studies course offers learners the chance to develop an understanding and appreciation of the place of media in our everyday lives. The course enables learners to take a hands-on approach to the subject. Through the coursework components they create their own media products from planning through to execution. Learners also consider and analyze examples from existing media, examining production processes and technologies and the effects they achieve.

## **AICE Psychology 1**

Students enrolled in this course develop their appreciation of psychology by exploring the ways in which it is conducted. As part of their studies, learners also review important research; this provides an insight into the ways in which psychology has been applied, thereby leading to a better understanding of key approaches, research methods and issues and debates.

Also offered:

- Pre-AICE Spanish 1, 2, 3
- Pre-AICE French 1, 2, 3