



Humanities

A LEVEL HUMANITIES: an innovative new qualification

This unique and exciting qualification helps students acquire key skills that are highly valued by Higher Education.



Engaging and inspiring, A Level Humanities encourages students to develop an interdisciplinary way of thinking – and the necessary knowledge, understanding and skills to achieve this.

JUST SOME OF THE REASONS TO OFFER A LEVEL HUMANITIES

- Students tackle complex issues which require an interdisciplinary and multi-faceted approach.
- They develop useful skills that are highly valued by employers and Higher Education (HE) alike, such as being able to analyse and evaluate materials in many different contexts.
- They learn how to interrogate, interpret and evaluate information to produce well-structured explanations supported by evidence from a variety of humanities and social sciences disciplines.
- The qualification includes an aesthetic element – using paintings, visual media and literature as sources of evidence.

WHO WILL IT SUIT?

Students can move on to this A Level from a broad range of GCSE subjects, and it's a great choice for anyone who's looking to improve their:

- Ability to approach the analysis of topics in an interdisciplinary way
- Essay writing skills
- Research and enquiry skills
- Broad knowledge of topics within the humanities area.

In particular, it provides students studying Science and Maths with the breadth and vital writing skills needed for HE.

A LEVEL HUMANITIES AT A GLANCE

In taking this qualification, students can develop their ability to:

- Analyse and evaluate evidence from a range of disciplines and sources in humanities and social sciences
- Develop analytical concepts with which to make sense of complex processes, issues or evolution of ideas
- Reach their own conclusions as to the quality of evidence presented
- Understand the difference between primary and secondary evidence
- Get to grips with the importance of relevance, credibility and reliability when evaluating evidence
- Understand both past and present as being shaped by structural processes and human actions
- Develop historical imagination so they understand why certain debates/questions/phenomena were important at certain times
- Effectively present evidence-based conclusions on humanities and social sciences topics in a recognised academic format.

"It's exciting to teach, has a specification with a detailed, clear and easy-to-understand format, and carefully planned support."

AS UNITS

Unit 1 – G101 Human Society and the Natural World

Themes:

- Industrialisation and Urbanisation
- Contact with Nature and the Aesthetic Response to the Natural World
- Natural Resource Depletion, Ecological Damage and Environmental Crisis
- Sustainability

50% AS, 25% A2

1 hour 30 minutes written paper

80 marks

Unit 2 – G102 People, Community and Power

Themes:

- Conflict and Co-existence
- Social Movements, Democracy and Power
- Rights, Responsibilities and Justice in Democratic Societies
- Communication and Social Interaction

50% AS, 25% A2

1 hour 30 minutes written paper

80 marks

A2 UNITS

Unit 3 – G103 International and Global Controversies

Themes:

- Inequalities in Living Standards
- Culture, Media and Identity
- Power, Control and Conflict
- Religion, Ethics and Society

25% A2

1 hour 30 minutes written paper

80 marks

Unit 4 – G104 Interdisciplinary Skills Research Enquiry

Students will produce a research enquiry that must have an interdisciplinary approach, placed within a broader context which may be regional, national or international.

25% A2

Internally assessed – 4,000 words

80 marks

A BRIEF LOOK AT THE SKILLS AT:
AS LEVEL

At AS, students begin to build the skills of analysis and interpretation by working within defined content areas, dealing with a range of sources of evidence. The content enables students to explore aspects of today's society within a well-grounded framework of change through time.

A2 LEVEL

As students progress to A2, the approach is focused on recent controversies, followed by an independent enquiry which allows them to undertake their own research and apply their skills and knowledge to analysing complex issues. A key learning outcome at this stage will be a growing independence of thought and ability to apply enquiry skills with minimal support. There's also an emphasis on essay writing skills.

SUPPORT INFORMATION

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

Here at OCR, we're constantly looking for ways to improve the support we offer to teachers. We've considered the increasing challenges that schools face in releasing teachers for INSET, and how we can make our Professional Development Programme more accessible and convenient for all.

Our improved programme includes:

- **Self-managed learning** – the training you want, when and where you want it. FREE online professional development units available when and where you want them.

WHAT TO DO NEXT?

- **Visit ocronlinetraining.org.uk** to keep up to date with all the latest information about our Professional Development Programme.
- **Sign up for updates** at ocr.org.uk/updates and be the first to find out about our exciting range of Professional Development courses.
- **Contact our team**, who will be happy to help, at professionaldevelopment@ocr.org.uk
- **Visit www.ocreventbooker.org.uk** for details of face-to-face courses when they become available.

HUMANITIES COMMUNITY

Join our social network community at www.social.ocr.org.uk where you can start discussions, ask questions and upload resources.

FREE eBooks for A Level Qualifications – We've joined up with Oxford University Press and Hodder Education to provide FREE AS and A2 textbooks online.

For more information visit www.ocr.org.uk/eBooks

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