

Core Mathematics A Level

Board: AQA, Specification 1350

Contact Mr D Copp dcopp@robertsmyth.tgacademy.org.uk

The course

Core maths is A Level 3 qualification aimed at students not wanting to take A Level maths but still wanting to continue with some form of maths. It covers mathematical content in a practical context relating to many other A Level subjects, for example Business Studies, Economics, Psychology, Sociology, Geography and the Sciences. The course will help students maintain and build on their mathematical knowledge to make them better able to cope with the mathematical demands of other subjects they are studying, higher education and the workplace.

The course carries up to 20 UCAS points and it is looked upon favourably by universities when going through the application process. It is studied over a period of two years. To take this course, students require a grade 5 or above in their mathematics GCSE. The course would involve five hours of lessons over a two week period.

The subject content will include:

- Analysis of data
- Maths for personal finance
- Estimation
- Critical analysis of given data and models (including spreadsheets and tabular data)
- The normal distribution
- Probabilities and estimation
- Correlation and regression
- Critical path analysis
- Expectation
- Cost benefit analysis
- Graphical methods
- Rates of change
- Exponential functions

Assessment

The core maths course is assessed by examination only. There are two examination papers, each 1 hour and 30 minutes in length.



Media Studies A Level

Board: Eduqas

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What is Media Studies?

This subject investigates many areas of the mass media – film, music, newspapers, advertising and image production, the internet and videogames.

Given that teenagers are widely knowledgeable about the mass media, you will already have great funds of information about this subject upon which to draw.

As an academic area of study, media studies is nowadays very widely taught at degree level and some of its concepts are shared with English or literary studies. Elsewhere the subject forms significant overlaps with design, economics, history, psychology and sociology.

The course and assessment

Over the two year A Level course there is a combination of examined theory and analysis (70%) and creative coursework (30%)

The A Level course has three components, two of which are examined and one is a non-examined assessment.

Component 1: Meanings and representations in the media

In this examined unit you will study a range of media forms in order to develop your ability to write about: how meanings are created; theories of representation; and the impact of industry context on the production and reception of media texts.

Component 2: Media forms and products in depth

In this examined unit you will study the television industry, the magazine industry and explore the impact of the internet on the production, distribution and consumption of media texts.

Component 3: Cross-media production

For the non-examined assessment component you will produce a cross-media pair of media products. For example, you might be asked to produce a music video and the front cover of a music magazine featuring your performer.

