



# Writhlington Sixth Form Curriculum Booklet 2020-21

**Inspiring  
Futures**



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## Overview

Why do we have laws? Who decides what our laws are? Is the law always fair? What is a crime? Why is some behaviour criminal? How does our justice system work? These are the sorts of questions you will consider in BTEC Applied Law.

The BTEC Level 3 in Applied Law offers students the opportunity to understand the civil and criminal court structure, the ways in which laws are enacted and key aspects of offences and negligence.

This qualification is equivalent to one A Level and enables students to display their knowledge and understanding through assignments, examinations and controlled assessment tasks. This course will help students to understand the practical impact of legal rules and will involve guest speakers as well as a visit to the Houses of Parliament and the Law Courts.

## Futures

The BTEC in Applied Law is designed to appeal to those who are interested in a career in law, criminology, social work or other related subjects requiring a high level of evidenced based judgement. You may wish to pursue a career in legal services, for example as a police officer or paralegal.

Alternatively it will prepare you well for a career in any of the public services, in teaching, social work, business management, journalism, the civil services or customer services.

## Assessment Method

You will sit one written exam in Year 12. You will also undertake an externally assessed controlled assessment and assignments for internal assessment.

For more information contact Mr Netto  
[bnetto@msnsixth.com](mailto:bnetto@msnsixth.com)

## Taught Modules

**Year 12:** Dispute Solving in Civil Law; Investigating Aspects of Criminal Law and the Legal System

**Year 13:** Applying the Law (mandatory unit); Aspects of Family Law (optional unit)



## Overview

You will develop an understanding of key concepts relating to Biology, Chemistry and Physics. Through a range of experimental techniques you will continue to develop your practical skills, develop critical thinking skills and understand how to communicate scientific ideas and theories.

The course will provide you with opportunities to explore some of the diverse occupations available in science such as those relating to the human body, the role of the research scientist and microbiologists in the biotechnology industries.

## Futures

Nursing, laboratory work, forensic analysis, primary teaching, sport.

## Assessment Method

You will sit two written exams in Year 12. One on Biology, Chemistry and Physics theory, the second will be pre-release material on science in the modern world. You will sit one exam in Year 13.

You will also undertake and submit coursework which will contribute towards your final results.

For more information contact Miss Mackay [amackay@writhlington.org.uk](mailto:amackay@writhlington.org.uk)

## Taught Modules

### Year 12:

**Unit 1:** Key concepts in science

**Unit 2:** Applied experimental techniques

**Unit 3:** Science in the modern world

### Year 13

**Unit 4:** The human body

**Unit 5:** Investigating science

**Unit 6a:** Microbiology



## Overview

Art at this level is a challenging but rewarding subject that combines the intellectual with the practical and requires a high level of energy and commitment. You will develop a working knowledge of materials, practices and technology within art. You will also gain the skills to interpret and convey your ideas and feelings using art, craft and design by building on your imaginative and creative powers and your experimental, analytical and documenting skills.

By understanding specialist vocabulary and developing your working knowledge you will understand the place of art, craft and design in historical and contemporary society.

## Futures

Teaching, fashion, gallery/museum management, architecture, interior design, graphics, film and television  
Design, jewellery design, theatre and set design and production, TV and film, art directing, artist or art technician.

## Assessment Method

At the end of Year 12 you will sit end of year exams, these will not count towards your final results. There is one 15 hour exam at A level and your portfolio will also be assessed and count towards your award.

For more information contact Mr Turner  
[sturner@writhlington.org.uk](mailto:sturner@writhlington.org.uk)

## Taught Modules

**Year 12:** Practical skills based learning and development of critical understanding of art history together with concepts. You will begin to develop depth of understanding and learn how to respond to the visual word in both practical and written forms.

**Year 13:** Component 1 (assessed portfolio): produce a collection of work exemplifying aspects of their developing knowledge, skills and understanding. It should provide evidence of research, the development of ideas, making skills and critical/contextual understanding. Component 2 (exam): respond to a stimulus, produce work which evidences your ability to work independently within specified time constraints, developing a personal and meaningful response which addresses all the assessment objectives and leads to a finished outcome or a series of related finished outcomes.



## Overview

Although we know a lot (but not everything) about individual organisms, these do not exist in isolation and understanding how these communities work is one of the forefronts of Biological research.

At A level you will learn how scientific models are developed, the applications and implications of science, the benefits and risks that science brings and the ways in which society uses science to make decisions.

## Futures

Medicine, scientific research (including biotechnology, systems biology, biofuels, stem cells; genetics), sports science, food safety and development, zoology, veterinary science, agriculture, building and industry, ecology, conservation, oceanography, forestry, environmental health, etc.

## Assessment Method

At the end of Year 12 you will sit end of year exams, these will not count towards your final results.

There are three final written examinations at A level, two of which are 2 hours 15 minutes long and the third is 1 hour 30 minutes long.

Practical skills will be tested in the exams and you will be awarded a pass on your certificate, if you successfully complete the practicals and laboratory books.

For more information contact Miss Mackay  
[amackay@writhlington.org.uk](mailto:amackay@writhlington.org.uk)

## Taught Modules

### Year 12:

**Module 1:** Practical skills are developed through a range of guided practical activities

**Module 2:** Understand how sub-cellular structures and biochemistry interact to allow cells in living organisms to function effectively

**Module 3:** Study the structure and function of gas exchange and transport systems in a range of animals and in terrestrial plants.

**Module 4:** Learn about the biodiversity of organisms, their classification and the ways in which biodiversity can be measured as well as evolution and phylogeny.

### Year 13

**Module 5:** Develop an understanding of how organisms respond to stimuli by using chemical and/or electrical carriers.

**Module 6:** Investigate the role of genes in regulating and controlling cell function and development together with associated ethical considerations.



## Overview

Business employers value employees who are able to communicate effectively both verbally and using electronic communication methods.

BTEC Business Extended Certificate provides opportunities for you to develop your communication skills as you progress through the course. This can be both through presentations and discussions in which they have the opportunity to express their opinions.

## Futures

Advertising and Marketing, PR, Market Researcher, Research Analyst, Recruitment, Banking, Finance, Accountancy, Industry buyer, Retail, Distribution Management, Human Resource Management, Sales, Stockbroker, Systems Analyst.

## Assessment Method

You will sit two written examinations, ideally during Year 12. You will prepare four units including a portfolio which is marked externally, the remaining two units of work will complete an internally assessed portfolio.

For more information contact Mr Morton  
[mmorton@writhlington.org.uk](mailto:mmorton@writhlington.org.uk)

You will need a copy of Pearson's BTEC Nationals Student Book 1 (ISBN 9781292126241)

## Taught Modules

**Year 12:** Learn about personal and business finance, develop a marketing campaign as you prepare for the external exam and an externally marked portfolio which are completed in Year 12.

**Year 13:** Explore business and learn to manage an event, as you complete your internally assessed portfolio.





## Overview

Learn about marketing and people, managing business activities, decisions and strategy and global business.

## Futures

Advertising and Marketing, PR, Market Researcher, Research Analyst, Recruitment, Banking, Finance, Accountancy, Industry buyer, Retail, Distribution Management, Human Resource Management, Sales, Stockbroker, Systems analyst.

## Assessment Method

At the end of Year 12 you will sit end of year exams, these will not count towards your final results. Formative and Summative assessments will be sat throughout Year 12 and Year 13.

There are 3 final written examinations at the end of Year 13, which are 2 hours long each.

For more information contact Mr Morton [mmorton@writhlington.org.uk](mailto:mmorton@writhlington.org.uk)

You will need a copy of 'Edexcel Business A Level Year 1' (ISBN 9781471847769)

## Taught Modules

### Year 12:

You will learn how to meet customer needs, about business markets and marketing strategy, how people are managed and about entrepreneurs and leaders. Learn how to raise finance, financial planning and management together and how external influences can affect business.

**Year 13:** Building on previous studies you will look at business objectives and strategy, studying business growth, decision-making techniques and how these are influenced, assessing competitiveness and managing change. Finally you will develop your knowledge by looking at the impact of globalisation, market expansion, global marketing, industries and companies as well as multinational corporations.





## Overview

You will study a variety of topics which deal with the substances that make up our universe. Learn about the way that elements can be combined in a seemingly limitless number of ways to give countless millions of different materials. Study how atoms link together to form larger structures such as molecules and the mechanisms by which molecules can be reshaped and adapted.

This subject occupies a central position between physics, mathematics and engineering on the one hand, and biology, earth science and medicine on the other.

For more information contact Miss Mackay [mmackay@writhlington.org.uk](mailto:mmackay@writhlington.org.uk)

## Futures

Pharmacy, food science, chemical engineering, metallurgy, environmental protection, medicine and other healthcare courses, forensic science, agriculture, business, industrial management and education.

## Assessment Method

At the end of Year 12 you will sit end of year exams, these will not count towards your final results.

There are three final written examinations at A level, two of which are 2 hours 15 minutes long and the third is 1 hour 30 minutes long. Practical skills will be tested in the exams and you will be awarded a pass on your certificate if you successfully complete the practicals and laboratory books.

## Taught Modules

### Year 12:

Module 1: Practical skills are developed through a range of guided practical activities.

Module 2: Develop your understanding of atomic structure, types of bonding and quantitative chemistry.

Module 3: Further study of Group 7 halogens, comparing their reactions with those of Group 2.

Module 4: Study the varied chemistry of carbon and discover ideas of modern analytical techniques.

### Year 13:

Module 5: Deal with the practical realities of the chemical industry in a quantitative way. It provides in-depth study of transition metals and their role.

Module 6: More reactions that can be done by carbon, develop problem solving skills and study advanced analysis in settings such as drug testing in sport.



## Overview

The Level 3 Diploma in Criminology offers students the opportunity to understand crime and deviance in society. This qualification is equivalent to one A Level and enables students to display their knowledge and understanding through one assignment per year (50% of final grade) and one external examination (50% of final grade).

The topics the course covers includes:

- Types and consequences of under-reported crime. These include domestic violence, hate crime and e-crime.
- Theoretical explanations for criminal behaviour including Psychological, Biological and Sociological perspectives
- The role the media plays in our perception of crime

The effectiveness of crime prevention strategies and campaigns.

## Futures

You may go to University to read Law, Criminology, Social Work or other related subjects requiring a high level of evidenced based judgement. You may wish to pursue a career in the Criminal Justice System as either a Police Officer, Legal Executive, Social Worker or Probation Officer.

## Assessment Method

You will sit one written exam in Year 12. You will also undertake an externally assessed controlled assessment and assignments for internal assessment.

For more information contact Mr Netto  
[bnetto@msnsixth.com](mailto:bnetto@msnsixth.com)

## Taught Modules

### Year 12:

Changing Awareness of Crime (internal assessment)  
Criminological Theories (external assessment)

### Year 13:

Crime scene to courtroom (internal assessment)  
Crime and punishment (external assessment)



## Overview

Design & Technology offers a unique opportunity for learners to identify and solve real problems by designing and making products or systems. Product Design is an inspiring, rigorous and practical subject. It encourages learners to use creativity and imagination when applying iterative design processes to develop and modify designs, and to design and make prototypes that solve real world problems, considering their own and other's' needs, wants, aspirations and values.

## Futures

Engineering, product design, architecture.

## Assessment Method

This A level is assessed over the course of two years. You will sit one written exam at the end of Year 13. At the end of Year 12, your Design and Make Task will be assessed, and your Major Project will be assessed in Year 13. All pieces contribute to your final A level award.

For more information contact Mr Long  
[clong@writhlington.org.uk](mailto:clong@writhlington.org.uk)

## Taught Modules

### Year 12:

**Design Task:** students will design and make a product based on a brief developed by the student.

**Theory:** the characteristics and working properties of materials relevant to product design and manufacture, including metals, woods, polymers, textiles, composites, smart and modern materials. The application of smart and modern materials. Production processes including moulding, extrusion, laminating, milling, turning, casting, stamping, and forming; the use of ICT, prototyping, jigs and fixtures; the use of adhesives, permanent, and semi-permanent fixings.

### Year 13:

**Design task:** Students will design and make a product based on a brief which is chosen from 8 design briefs which are given by the exam board.

**Theory:** industrial and commercial practice including manufacturing processes and systems, product manufacture and maintenance, production scales, and quality control in relation to manufacturing and the design industries. Modular/cell production systems, just-in-time manufacturing, bought-in parts and components and the use of standardised parts. Rapid prototyping.



## Overview

You will develop the skills and knowledge to succeed in the Media industries. You will learn how to succeed in the contemporary creative work place by developing a range of key skills such as screenwriting, pre-production, film, editing, camera work, lighting and sound recording. You will develop your abilities to research, budget, communicate, work in teams, project manage and think as an entrepreneur.

You will need a Canon DSLR camera. The software needed for the course is provided.

## Futures

We aim to give you a starting point from which you can go on to either work in the advertising or marketing or film/TV industry as a skilled practitioner. Increasingly the skills you will learn are essential to succeed in the Media industries as a creative worker. You will also be able to use this qualification as a start off point for a wide range of university courses.

## Assessment Method

Assessment is largely internal. Your work will be assessed by your course tutors. You will sit one examination which will involve you responding to a brief. This will allow you to demonstrate the skills and techniques you have learned on the course.

For more information contact Mr Donovan  
[cdonovan@writhlington.org.uk](mailto:cdonovan@writhlington.org.uk)

## Taught Modules

**Year 12:** You will study the scope and techniques of camerawork using the Canon DSLR camera. You will learn how to edit, light and record sound and will begin to produce short films. You will learn how to construct effective moving image texts by studying classic films and TV dramas. You will become proficient in the fundamental skills required for film making.

**Year 13:** You will continue to develop the fundamental skills required for film making. Responding to a commission: learn the skills to work with a client to plan and produce a commercial film. You will carry out a minimum of 5 hours independent study, pre-production: research, plan, film and edit a short film.



## Overview

Economics enables students to:

- Gain a thorough and rigorous understanding of the theory that underpins the workings of a modern day economy
- Develop quantitative skills through the appreciation and use of various statistical methods
- Understand the causes of the current financial crisis or global credit crunch, both on a micro and a macro economic scale and develop an appreciation of how this crisis may be resolved
- Have a sound understanding of events, both internal and external that have influenced the UK economy over the past ten years
- Understand the risks, rewards and challenges to the UK and the global economy posed by the vast emerging markets of China and India.

## Futures

Economist, Financial risk analyst, Data analyst, Financial planner, Accountant, Economic researcher, Financial consultant. Investment analyst, teacher

For more information contact Mr Morton  
[mmorton@writhlington.org.uk](mailto:mmorton@writhlington.org.uk)

## Taught Modules

Microeconomics

Macroeconomics and the National Economy

International Economics

Research Investigation on China's role in the Global Economy



## Overview

These are just some of the questions that might be discussed by English Language and Literature students:

How can I manipulate different features of language in my own creative writing?  
What are the differences between written and spoken English?

What are the different ways in which people manipulate language to present their views, prejudices and feelings?  
How do writers create fictional and fantasy worlds?

## Futures

An excellent entry into the majority of sectors and graduate courses, journalism, marketing, PR, author.

## Assessment Method

At the end of Year 12 you will sit end of year exams, these will not count towards your final results.

There are two final written examinations at A level. This is supported by the NEA (coursework) which makes up 20% of the course.

For more information contact Mrs Lennon [llennon@writhington.org.uk](mailto:llennon@writhington.org.uk)

## Taught Modules

### Year 12:

- Introduction to language levels
- Introduction to language diversity, considering language and the individual, social groups and regional variation
- Developing textual analysis skills
- Developing language diversity: with a specific focus on gender, occupation and ethnicity
- Introduction to language change: how and why does language change?

### Year 13:

- Introduction to children's language development
- Examine stages and theories of children's language development
- Developing language diversity
- Developing language change
- Developing textual analysis skills



## Overview

English Literature encourages students to explore the relationships that exist between texts and the contexts within which they are written, received and understood.

Studying texts within a shared context enables students to investigate and connect them, drawing out patterns of similarity and difference using a variety of reading strategies and perspectives.

## Futures

An excellent entry into the majority of sectors and graduate courses, with possible careers in journalism, marketing, PR, or as an author.

## Assessment Method

At the end of Year 12 you will sit end of year exams; these will not count towards your final results.

There are two final written examinations at A Level. This is supported by the NEA (coursework) which makes up 20% of the course.

For more information contact Mrs Lennon [lennon@writhlington.org.uk](mailto:lennon@writhlington.org.uk)

## Taught Modules

### Year 12:

'Othello' by William Shakespeare

'The Great Gatsby' by F Scott Fitzgerald

NEA (coursework) including 'Frankenstein' by Mary Shelley

Anthology: Love Poetry through the Ages (pre-1900)

### Year 13:

NEA (coursework)

Poetry of Wilfred Owen

'Regeneration' by Pat Barker

'My Boy Jack' by David Haig





## Overview

The Extended Project is a one year course which carries equivalent points for university entry as an AS level and is awarded Grades A\*-E. Some universities will accept it as part of an offer, but the top universities will not but have said that they would look favourably on students who opt to do it and others have said they would be willing to make lower offers because of it, e.g. Bristol. Students start this course in the summer term of Year 12 and aim to be completed by January of Year 13.

## What can they look at?

Students can choose to look at an area which is an extension to their current area of study or alternatively they can explore an area of personal interest or an activity outside the main programme of study. Previously, students have taken the opportunity to examine a wide variety of subjects from Radiography, cubist artwork to devising a training plan for a hockey team.

## Assessment Method

- Students record what they do in a production log.
- They produce an extended piece of work and make a presentation about it.
- They are assessed on the log, the project and the presentation.

## What will students need to show that they can do to achieve a good grade?

- To choose an area of interest
- Draft a project title
- Draft aims of the project
- Plan, research and carry out the project
- Provide evidence of all stages of project production
- Deliver a presentation to a specified audience.



## Overview

Food Science and Nutrition is relevant to many industries and job roles. You will explore the relationship between food, nutrition and health. Making use of creative, investigative and analytical study methods you will learn and demonstrate an understanding of the science of nutrition and nutritional needs in a wide range of contexts. The ongoing practical sessions enable you to gain a wide range of high level skills to produce quality food items and meet the needs of individuals.

Working on a selection of optional units over the duration of the course, you will be able to tailor your studies towards your area of interest in developing and problem solving in food production, food science and nutrition.

## Futures

Global opportunities in hotels and restaurants, nutritionists, sports coaches, fitness instructor, care provider, food manufacturer, environmental health, teaching, higher education.

## Assessment Method

You will sit a written exam in Year 12 as well as completing an internally marked assignment.

In Year 13 you will carry out a 9 hour externally marked assessment and submit internally assessed coursework. These will contribute towards your final results.

For more information contact Mr Long  
[clong@writhlington.org.uk](mailto:clong@writhlington.org.uk)

## Taught Modules

### Year 12:

Unit One: Meeting the Nutritional Needs of Specific Groups (external exam and internal assessment)

### Year 13:

Unit Two: Ensuring Food is Safe to Eat (external assignment)

Choice of one of the units from the list below:

Experimenting to Solve Food Production Problems; Current Issues in Food Science



## Overview

Geography gives students a view on issues facing the planet, such as physical world topics; managing coastal landscapes (fieldwork), water and carbon cycles, climate change and hazardous earth. Additionally students understand the complex challenges of the human world involving the study of local and global issues including; understanding human environments (fieldwork), identity of places, social inequality, rebranding and regeneration, disease dilemmas and the future of food.

Geography develops a sophisticated understanding of the connections between the physical and human issues our planet faces, while equipping students with decision making and problem solving skills and a love and appreciation for the incredible natural world around us.

## Futures

Environmental protection/conservation, education, law, politics, town planning, tourism, journalism, coastal or hazard management, mapping, weather and humanitarian work (aid, hazard response and migration etc).

## Assessment Method

At the end of Year 12 you will sit end of year exams; these will not count towards your final results. You will also undertake regular termly and half termly assessments with your class teachers.

There will be one non-exam assessment, a written investigation planned and conducted independently by the students.

There are three final written examinations at A level which are taken at the end of Year 13.

For more information contact Miss Carter  
[jcarter@writhington.org.uk](mailto:jcarter@writhington.org.uk)

## Taught Modules

### Year 12:

- Coastal Landscapes (including fieldwork)
- Changing places: Making spaces (including fieldwork)
- Geographical debates: Hazardous Earth.
- Fieldwork Investigation: planning, fieldwork and consultation sessions.
- Written investigation for completion Dec 2020

### Year 13:

- Earth's Life Support Systems: Carbon and Water cycle
- Geographical debates: Future of food
- Global Connections: 'Global Migration' and 'Power and borders'



## Overview

The exciting Government and Politics A Level covers three core areas; government and politics of the UK, government and politics of the USA and political ideas and ideologies. There is an emphasis on comparative politics where students are required to demonstrate awareness of the similarities and differences between UK and US political systems and processes.

We recommend the following texts:

Hodder Education's 'UK Government & Politics 5<sup>th</sup> Edition' (ISBN 9781471889233)

'Political Ideas for A Level: Liberalism, Conservatism, Socialism, Feminism, Anarchism' (ISBN 9781471889462)

'US Government & Politics for A Level 5<sup>th</sup> Edition' (ISBN 9781471889363)

## Futures

Politics, local and national government, business, teaching, charities sector, NGOs, civil service, campaigning, marketing, journalism, public relations, diplomatic services and the foreign office.

## Assessment Method

At the end of Year 12 you will sit end of year exams, these will not count towards your final results.

There are three final written examinations at A level each of which are 2 hours long.

For more information contact Mr Ruston  
[rruston@writhlington.org.uk](mailto:rruston@writhlington.org.uk)

## Taught Modules

**Year 12:** Government and Politics of the UK; Political ideas.

**Year 13:** Government and Politics of the USA



## Overview

It is designed to provide a technical introduction to digital content publishing. Students develop skills in areas such as photography, digital magazine production and image manipulation techniques. This qualification is for students who are looking to progress to a degree or an apprenticeship or into employment. It is equivalent in size to one A Level.

Over the course you will develop the skills and knowledge to succeed in the contemporary creative work place by developing and understanding the skills in Photography, copywriting, page layout and digital design. You will develop your ability to create real media products for an audience and to develop your creative skills. The course is designed to provide students with the opportunity to develop technical skills for practical applications, as well as analytical and critical approaches to a range of media forms.

## Futures

We aim to give you a starting point from which you can go on to either work in advertising or marketing as a photographer or designer. Increasingly the skills of layout, design and photography are often required for entry into the Media industries as a creative worker. You will also be able to use this qualification as a start off point for a wide range of university courses.

## Assessment Method

Assessment is largely internal. Your work will be assessed by your course tutors. You will sit one examination, which will involve you responding to a brief. This will allow you to demonstrate the skills and techniques you have learned on the course.

You will need a Canon DSLR camera. The software needed for the course is provided.

For more information contact Mr Donovan  
[cdonovan@writhlington.org.uk](mailto:cdonovan@writhlington.org.uk)

## Taught Modules

**Year 12:** You will study the scope and techniques of digital photography using the Canon DSLR camera. You will learn how to take great photographs technically and creatively. You will then produce a set of photographs for a brief. You will learn how to construct copy (writing) for a range of purposes and how to manipulate text to accompany visual images. You will become proficient in Photoshop and learn to digitally manipulate images for a range of purposes.

**Year 13:** You will develop your study of photographic and design techniques for specific purposes including magazines and websites. You will learn how to lay out text and construct effective and considered designs and to make informed choices on style and content. Your external examination will allow you to demonstrate the range of techniques you have learned on the course.



## Overview

Build your skills and techniques in the four specialist areas of health, early years (care and education), care of older people and individuals with special needs. The units covered allow for studying particular groups in more detail and involves visiting relevant health and social care placements to gain real life experience to help complete coursework units. The topic areas have been chosen because of their importance and prominence within the core area and their accessibility to Advanced Level students.

## Futures

Nursing, social work, teaching, midwifery, care assistant and others

## Assessment Method

You will sit two written examinations, one in Year 12 and one in Year 13. You will prepare two units of coursework which will complete an internally assessed portfolio.

For more information contact Mr King  
[nking@writhlington.org.uk](mailto:nking@writhlington.org.uk)

## Taught Modules

### Year 12:

Human Lifespan Development (external exam)  
Anatomy & Physiology for Health & Social Care

### Year 13:

Working in Health & Social Care (external exam)  
Enquiries into current research in Health & Social Care



## Overview

Studying history will help you understand the significance of historical events, the role of individuals in history and the nature of change over time. History allows students to gain a deeper understanding of the past through political, social, economic and cultural perspectives. You will examine a **breadth study** and a **depth study** in addition to completing an historical enquiry.

Recommended texts:

Oxford 'AQA History for A Level: The British Empire c1857-1967'

(ISBN 9780198354635)

Hodder Education's 'Access to History: The American Revolution & the Birth of the USA 1740-1801' Second Edition

(ISBN 9781471838767)

## Futures

Politics, civil service, journalism, media, teaching, law, academia, broadcasting, consultancy, business and intelligence.

## Assessment Method

There are two written examinations at A level, one for each main topic. These are each worth 40% of your grade. A 3,000-4,500 word historical investigation accounts for 20% of your mark.

For more information contact Mr Allen

[pallen@writhlington.org.uk](mailto:pallen@writhlington.org.uk)

## Taught Modules

### Year 12:

The British Empire Part One: *The High Water Mark of the British Empire, c1857–1914*

- The development of Imperialism, c1857– c1890
- Imperial consolidation and Liberal rule, c1890–1914

The Birth of the USA - Part One: *The Origins of the American Revolution, 1760–1776*

- Britain and the American Colonies, 1760–1763
- Enforcing the Colonial Relationship, 1763–1774
- Ending the Colonial Relationship, 1774–1776

### Year 13:

The British Empire - Part Two: *Imperial Retreat, 1914–1967*

- Imperialism challenged, 1914–1947
- The winds of change, 1947–1967

The Birth of the USA - Part Two: *Establishing the Nation, 1776–1801*

- The War of Independence, 1776–1783
- Founding the Republic, 1776–1789
- Washington and Adams, 1789–1801





## Overview

Learners will develop a common core of IT knowledge and study areas such as the relationship between hardware and software that form an IT system, managing and processing data to support business and using IT to communicate and share information.

Recommended text: Pearson's 'BTEC Nationals Information Technology Student 1 Activebook' (ISBN 9781292140308)

## Futures

Any Computing/IT or related fields at university or the world of work.

Particularly suited to careers involving Website Development, Social Media Strategy and Database systems.

## Assessment Method

You will sit one written exam in Year 12. You will also undertake externally assessed controlled assessments and assignments for internal assessment.

For more information contact Mr Attfield  
[tattfield@writhlington.org.uk](mailto:tattfield@writhlington.org.uk)

## Taught Modules

### Year 12:

#### Unit 2: Creating Systems to Manage Information

In order to produce information to support many business processes as well as our social lives, relational databases are widely used to manage and process data. You will examine the structure of data and its origins, and how an efficient data design follows through to an effective and useful database. You will examine a given scenario and develop an effective design solution to produce a database system.

#### Unit 3: Using Social Media in Business

You will explore different social media websites, the ways in which they can be used and the potential pitfalls when using them for business purposes. You will develop a plan to use social media strategies for business purposes to achieve specific aims and objectives. You will then implement the plan, developing and posting content and interacting with others.

### Year 13:

#### Unit 1: Information Technology Systems - 2hr exam

Explore the relationships between the hardware and software that form an IT system, and the way that systems work individually and together, as well as the relationship between the user and the system. You will examine issues related to the use of IT systems and the impact that they have on organisations and individuals.

#### Unit 6: Website Development

As a website developer, you must use sophisticated techniques to capture user interest and to ensure that customers are served. The scripting involved in the development of websites has become crucial: website developers need to understand and acquire the necessary skills to find solutions to a variety of scenarios and problems. In this unit, you will use scripting languages such as Hypertext Markup Language (HTML), Cascading Style Sheets (CSS) and JavaScript® and a simple text editor, or rapid application development tools. Finally, you will reflect on the website design and functionality using a testing and review process.



## Overview

A Level Mathematics will follow on from several strands of the GCSE curriculum, and develop them further. A key thread throughout the course is algebraic manipulation, reasoning and proof, as well as further work on trigonometrical ratios, geometry and probability. There are also key new elements such as differential calculus, as well as statistical analysis and using Newton's laws to solve physical problems.

Students will need a calculator with the same functionality as the Casio Classwiz FX-991. Students will be able to purchase these throughout the school at the start of the course.

## Futures

An excellent entry into the majority of sectors and graduate courses; Engineering, Ecology, Financial Sector.

## Assessment Method

At the end of Year 12 you will sit end of year exams, these will not count towards your final results.

There are three final written examinations at A level.

For more information contact Mr Farr  
[gfarr@writhlington.org.uk](mailto:gfarr@writhlington.org.uk)

## Taught Modules

### Year 12:

Learn about algebra and functions, co-ordinate geometry in the xy plane, trigonometry, statistical sampling, interpreting data, further algebra, probability, hypothesis testing, Newton's Laws, exponentials and logarithms, differentiation and kinematics

### Year 13:

Building on previous work you will learn about proof, partial fractions, functions, series, binomial, projectiles, further trigonometry, parametric equations, further differentiation, integration, numerical methods, regression and correlation, probability, moments, 3D vectors, normal distribution, forces and further kinematics.



## Overview

A course designed for students to study maths to a higher level, but with a focus on real life situations and problem solving, rather than algebraic and theoretical maths.

The course covers 4 main areas:

- applications of statistics
- probability
- linear programming
- sequences and growth

## Futures

An excellent entry into the majority of sectors and graduate courses.

## Assessment Method

There are two final written examinations at the end of this two year course.

For more information contact Mr Farr  
[gfarr@writhlington.org.uk](mailto:gfarr@writhlington.org.uk)

## Taught Modules

**Statistics:** Statistics is the study of the collection, organisation, analysis, interpretation and presentation of data. It plays an increasingly important role in life, study and employment in a wide variety of contexts. It is important to be comfortable and confident in dealing with real data. It is used in areas of study such as actuarial science, biology, business and economics, IT and psychology.

**Probability:** Probability is used to determine a numerical value for the chance or risk of events happening.

Probability theory has made significant contributions to almost all branches of science and engineering over the last 100 years. Probability is used in areas of study such as finance, science, artificial intelligence, business, computer science and philosophy.

**Linear Programming:** This is a problem-solving approach to achieve the best outcome (such as maximum profit or lowest cost) through consideration of conditions that can be modelled by linear relationships. Linear programming can be applied to a variety of contexts in business and industry. It is used most extensively in business and economics but is also utilised for some engineering problems.

**Sequences and Growth:** A mathematical understanding of sequences, growth and decay can be applied to a variety of real-life contexts and problem-solving tasks, including financial mathematics, population growth, epidemics, earthquakes and radioactive decay.



## Overview

A Level Further Mathematics both broadens and deepens mathematical knowledge. Focusing mainly on pure mathematics (including complex numbers, matrices, hyperbolic functions, conic sections) the work is underpinned by further mechanics and decision mathematics.

Students will need a calculator with the same functionality as the Casio Classwiz FX-991. Students will be able to purchase these throughout the school at the start of the course.

## Futures

An excellent entry into the majority of sectors and graduate courses; Engineering, Ecology, Financial Sector.

## Assessment Method

At the end of Year 12 you will sit end of year exams, these will not count towards your final results.

There are four final written examinations at A level.

For more information contact Mr Farr  
[gfarr@writhlington.org.uk](mailto:gfarr@writhlington.org.uk)

## Taught Modules

**Year 12:** Core Pure mathematics extends pure maths into new areas such as matrices, complex numbers, series and proof by induction.

Decision mathematics includes working with a variety of algorithms, networks and graphs as well as critical path analysis.

Further mechanics goes deeper into Newtonian Mechanics.

**Year 13:** Building on previous work, you will learn about differential equations, hyperbolic functions, de Moivre's theorem.

Further Mechanics will deal with work, energy and power, elasticity of collisions and collisions in 2 dimensions.

Decision maths includes harder algorithms such as Floyd and Simplex, plus extending Year 12 work into more depth.



## Overview

Work will continue at sixth form level on the four key skills of listening, speaking, reading and writing. A more in-depth study of grammatical structures will be undertaken, leading to a greater ability to manipulate the language for the purpose of self-expression. Classes are conducted mainly in the foreign language and students are encouraged to contribute as much as possible to discussions. A variety of contemporary topic areas make up the basis of the course.

## Futures

The A Level languages courses are focused on the future needs of students, be they employment or higher education. Each year, a number of our students go on to pursue their language studies at university, either as the main focus of their degree or as a supplementary subject.

## Assessment Method

100% final exam.  
 A Level Paper 1 (50%) – Listening, reading and writing (aspects of French society, current trends, artistic culture, aspects of political life in the target language country).  
 A Level Paper 2 (20%) – Writing (based on an in-depth study of two books, or a book and a film).  
 A Level Paper 3 (30%) – Speaking (20 minutes, discussion of prepared themes, and unprepared discussion based on a stimulus).

For more information contact Ms Evans  
[chevans@nortonhillschool.com](mailto:chevans@nortonhillschool.com)

## Taught Modules

Cultural awareness is promoted by the use of authentic sources. Learners engage with the target cultures through a variety of media, producing written and spoken work springing from meaningful and engaging contextual knowledge. The extensive use of a variety of authentic materials acquaints learners with a range of syntax, lexis, style and expression in the target language and helps them to develop an authentic feel for the language.

Critical and independent thinking are developed through the study of literary and non-literary texts. Learners articulate their understanding and justify opinions both in the foreign language and in English, gaining essential critical tools and writing skills required for further study, as well as for the workplace. Grammatical competence and the ability to manipulate language accurately and appropriately are a prerequisite for study in higher education and are developed and rewarded through the mode of assessment.



## Overview

There are two mandatory units, which cover the following aspects of sound engineering; studio recording techniques and digital audio workstation (DAW) production.

You will be able to add three optional units, from a choice of four, to the mandatory content. These have been designed to support your progression to a range of employment opportunities in sound engineering, and to a range of higher education courses. Optional units will introduce you to sector specialist areas of your choice, including working in particular environments, and link with relevant technical roles. The optional units cover areas such as:

- live sound
- mixing and mastering techniques
- studio design and acoustics
- working and developing as a production team.

While taking this qualification, you will be required to engage with sector employers as part of your course, where you will be given opportunities to develop practical skills in preparation for employment.

## Futures

Sound engineering skills are required in diverse areas of the industry, from chart-topping audio recordings to live performances and television shows.

Some potential roles:

- Studio engineer (recording studio, mastering services)
- Live sound engineer (theatre, music venues, festivals)
- Broadcast engineer (TV and radio)
- Foley sound artist (Film and TV sound effects)
- Various record label roles

## Assessment Method

67% Coursework internally marked and externally verified

33% 15hr internally controlled practical examination (Externally Assessed)

For more information contact Mr Curtice  
[scurtice@writhlington.org.uk](mailto:scurtice@writhlington.org.uk)

## Taught Modules

### Year 12:

Intro to working a Digital Audio Workstation  
Studio recording techniques  
Mixing and Mastering techniques

### Year 13:

Working and Developing as a Production team  
Live Sound  
Working a DAW (15hr external assessment)





## Overview

The A Level Physical Education course is a detailed study of Sports Science, Sports Psychology and Sport in the Society. The course has a great deal of variety within its content, which allows students to gain experience and understanding in all areas of Physical Education. The majority of the course is classroom based as pupils prepare for two examinations at the end of their studies. An A Level Physical Education student will also be assessed in their ability to perform and analyse themselves in one sport, so playing at least one sport regularly is essential for acceptance onto this course.

We recommend the following texts:

Hodder Education's 'AQA A-Level PE Book 1' (ISBN 9781471859564)

'AQA A-Level PE Book 2' (ISBN 9781471859595)

## Futures

Fitness Instructor, Personal Training, Physiotherapy, Nutritionist, roles within the Leisure Industry, Sports Coaching, PE Teaching, working for national and international Sport organisations, Sport Science.

## Assessment Method

At the end of Year 12 you will sit end of year exams, these will not count towards your final results.

There are two final written examinations at A level each of which are 2 hours long. There is also an assessment where students are assessed as a performer or a coach in a full sided version of one activity. Pupils also analyse their performance in a written piece of work.

For more information contact Mr Riley [riley@writhlington.org.uk](mailto:riley@writhlington.org.uk)

## Taught Modules

### Year 12:

Applied Anatomy & Physiology  
Skill Acquisition  
Sport & Society

### Year 13:

Exercise Physiology & Biomechanics  
Sport Psychology; Sports & Society  
Technology in Sport





## Overview

Three Units make up this qualification. Students cover a range of Performing Arts disciplines in Unit 2, from Classical Acting and the use of Stanislavski's approach, Musical Theatre, Ensemble Movement and Physical Theatre. Unit 1 requires students to carry out an in-depth research project on a Performing Arts practitioner of their choice. Unit 3 combines the broad range of students' skills in a Group performance Workshop whereby students create a Devised piece of Theatre.

We recommend the following text:

'An Actor Prepares' by Stanislavski.

## Futures

Performing Arts can be beneficial to youth work, general teaching, marketing, PR, and advertising and a whole host of careers. Performing Arts at A Level supports university study in English Language, Literature and Law.

## Assessment Method

You will carry out a research project in controlled conditions and develop a practical performance and evaluative skills log, which will be assessed. Performances will undergo internal and external assessments. All performances will be assessed in the Dragonfly Theatre in front of Live audiences.

For more information contact Ms Whitehead  
[swhitehead@writhlington.org.uk](mailto:swhitehead@writhlington.org.uk)

## Taught Modules

### Year 12:

Unit 1: Investigating Practitioners Work  
Unit 2: Developing Skills for Live Performance

### Year 13:

Unit 2: Developing Skills for Live Performance  
Unit 12: Musical Theatre Techniques



## Overview

Two year A level course studying Philosophy of Religion (Philosophy = the study of ideas) and Ethics (beliefs about right and wrong) and the study of one religion.

Tackle some of life's most interesting 'Big Questions':

- Is God real, and how can we tell? What might God be like?
- Are the soul and the afterlife real? What about miracles?
- How can we be sure what right and wrong are? And what does it mean to be a good person?
- Do we have a responsibility to care for the environment?
- Is War ever justified?
- What makes a relationship ethical?

## Futures

Law, Political science, Bioethics, Teaching and Lecturing, Social work, Care work. Police service etc

## Assessment Method

At the end of Year 12 you will sit end of year exams, these will not count towards your final results.

There are three final written examinations at the end of Year 13.

We recommend the following texts:

'AS Religious Studies' (ISBN 9781846903342)

'A2 Religious Studies' (ISBN 9781846904943)

For more information contact Mr Buick  
[pbuick@writhlington.org.uk](mailto:pbuick@writhlington.org.uk)

## Taught Modules

### Year 12:

Philosophy: The design argument, The cosmological argument, Ontological argument, The problem of evil and religious experience.

Ethics: Situation ethics, Utilitarianism, Natural law, Equality, Environmental ethics, Sexual ethics and peace and conflict.

Christianity: The nature of God, The Trinity, The nature of the church, Key moral principles. Sources of wisdom and authority. The Early Church, The reformation, The role of music in Christianity

### Year 13:

Philosophy: Philosophy of language, Life after death, the soul and science and religion.

Ethics: Ethical language, Deontology and medical ethics

Christianity: Practices, Social and Historical developments - Science, Feminist theology, Liberation theology, Religion and society - Equality and discrimination, New religious movements



## Overview

We'd be a bit lost without physics. All the gadgets that we take for granted like laptops and mobile phones wouldn't be here. Physicists have recently shown that teleportation is possible – who knows what that will lead to in a few years' time? At A level you will start to see how forces, energy, waves, radioactivity, electricity and magnetism work together, and begin to grasp the universal principles that apply to everything from the smallest atoms to the largest galaxies.

We recommend the following texts:

Revision Guide CGP 'A Level Physics'

'Maths Skills for A Level Physics' by Nelson Thornes.

For more information contact Ms Mackay  
[amackay@writhlington.org.uk](mailto:amackay@writhlington.org.uk)

## Futures

Astronomy, education, engineering, medicine, meteorology, music, nanotechnology, oil & gas, renewable energy, scientific research, space exploration, telecommunications, transport, banking, insurance, accountancy, law, software, computing, etc.

## Assessment Method

At the end of Year 12 you will sit end of year exams, these will not count towards your final results.

There are three final written examinations at A level, two of which are 2 hours 15 minutes long and the third is 1 hour 30 minutes long. Practical skills will be tested in the exams and you will be awarded a pass on your certificate if you successfully complete the practicals and laboratory books.

## Taught Modules

### Year 12:

Module 1: Practical skills are developed through a range of guided practical activities.

Module 2: An introduction to important conventions and ideas that permeate the fabric of physics.

Module 3: Learn how to model the motion of objects using mathematics, understand the effect forces have on objects, the important connection between force and energy, appreciate how forces cause deformation and understand the importance of Newton's laws of motion.

Module 4: Introduction to the key ideas of quantum physics.

### Year 13:

Module 5: Learn about thermal physics, circular motion, oscillations, gravitational field, astrophysics and cosmology.

Module 6: Learn about capacitors, electric field, electromagnetism, nuclear physics, particle physics and medical imaging.



## Overview

Based on the scientific study of people, particularly how and why we think and behave as we do. Studying this course will provide students with a sound understanding of the various methods and approaches in Psychology. Knowledge of methods and approaches will be illustrated through various topic areas representing the core areas of social, cognitive, developmental, biological and individual differences. The topic areas have been chosen because of their importance and prominence within the core area and their accessibility to Advanced Level students.

We recommend the following text:

Hodder Education's 'AQA A Level Psychology1' (ISBN 9781471834882)

## Futures

Specialist careers such as educational, occupational, sport and clinical psychology are available with further study at degree level and beyond. Psychology enables students to develop skills, which are applicable in most careers.

## Assessment Method

At the end of Year 12 you will sit end of year exams, these will not count towards your final results.

There are three final written examinations at A level.

For more information contact Mr King  
[nking@writhlington.org.uk](mailto:nking@writhlington.org.uk)

## Taught Modules

### Year 12:

Social Influence; Memory and forgetting; Attachment; Approaches in Psychology

### Year 13:

Memory and forgetting; Psychopathology; Social Influence & Gender Development; Schizophrenia & Mood Disorders



## Overview

Psychology is the scientific study of minds and behaviour. As such, it is a part of our everyday lives. An understanding of human behaviour is fundamental to many jobs in society and the study of psychology at degree level and beyond remains a very popular choice.

You will be introduced to some basic ideas from different approaches in psychology. You will develop an understanding of how psychological research and concepts can explain gender identity, aggression and consumer behaviour. Social psychology explains how human behaviour occurs in a social context and how people, society and culture can affect behaviour. Cognitive psychology focuses on human information processing and how it can influence, and be influenced by, perception and memory. The learning approach in psychology explains how behaviour is learned from the world around us - through association, the consequent rewards and punishments or through the imitation of role models. The biological approach to psychology takes the opposite view to the learning approach and explains how internal biological processes, such as genetic inheritance, brain structure and chemistry, can affect human behaviour and how these processes can be explained by evolution. In this unit, you will investigate the various ways in which psychologists explain human interactions and you will gain a clear insight into how and why some behaviour occurs.

Psychology gives you the knowledge, understanding and skills relevant to higher education courses such as a BSc in Psychology. It is also useful to help you to progress to a range of vocational sectors where knowledge of psychology is helpful, including law enforcement, business and marketing, education and health care.

## Futures

Specialist careers such as educational, occupational, sport and clinical psychology are available with further study at degree level and beyond.

Psychology enables students to develop skills, which are applicable in most careers.

## Assessment Method

You will sit one written examinations, ideally in Year 12. You will also undertake an externally assessed controlled assessment and create two production projects for internal assessment.

For more information contact Mr King  
[nking@writhlington.org.uk](mailto:nking@writhlington.org.uk)

## Taught Modules:

### Year 12:

Psychological Approaches & Applications

### Year 13:

Health Psychology  
Criminal & Forensic Psychology



## Overview

Students can acquire the essential knowledge and understanding of central aspects of sociological thought and methods, together with the application of a range of skills. It has also been designed to allow the integration of sociological themes, such as socialisation, culture and identity, and social differentiation, power and stratification. The topic areas have been chosen because of their importance and prominence within the core area and their accessibility to Advanced Level students.

We recommend the following text:

'AQA A Level Sociology'  
(ISBN 9780007597475)

## Futures

Business, public relations and human resources, social services, public administration, counselling, protective social services (criminal justice related fields), law, education, and medicine are available with further study at degree level.

## Assessment Method

At the end of Year 12 you will sit end of year exams, these will not count towards your final results.

There are three final written examinations at A level.

For more information contact Mr King  
[nking@writhlington.org.uk](mailto:nking@writhlington.org.uk)

## Taught Modules

### Year 12:

Culture & Identity  
Families & Households  
Wealth  
Poverty  
Welfare & Education including research methods

### Year 13:

Beliefs in Society  
Global Development  
Mass Media Power  
Crime & Deviance



## Overview

BTEC Sport is aimed at students with an interest in sport, exercise and health and includes a range of practical and theory based lessons in order to give students an insight into a variety of sports based careers or further study.

We recommend the following texts:

'BTEC Nationals Sport Student Book 1'  
(ISBN 9781292134000)

## Futures

Fitness Instructor, Personal Training, roles within the Leisure Industry, Sports Coaching and PE Teaching.

## Assessment Method

You will sit one written examination during Year 12. You will prepare one task which is marked externally, the remaining two units of work will complete an internally assessed portfolio during Year 13.

For more information contact Mr Riley  
[lriley@writhlington.org.uk](mailto:lriley@writhlington.org.uk)

## Taught Modules

### Year 12:

Unit 1: Anatomy & Physiology

Unit 2: Fitness Training and Programming for Health, Sport and Well-being

### Year 13:

Unit 3: Professional Development in the Sports Industry

Unit 7: Practical Sports Performance



**Courses I may be interested in:**

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**Other notes:**

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