## **Troy High School Cambridge Program**

Program Overview for Interested Troy High School Students





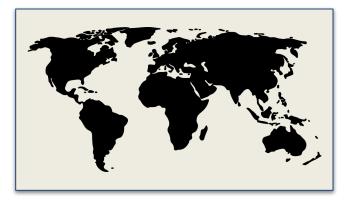
Updated: 2/18/25

# Introduction to Cambridge

## **Cambridge International Education (CIE)**

#### **CIE Quick Facts**

- Established in 1858, Cambridge International Education (CIE) is a branch of the renowned University of Cambridge in England.
- Cambridge International Education is the world's largest provider of international education programs and qualifications.
- In 2023, Cambridge International administered over 270,000 AS &
  A Level exams in 147 countries, including the United States.
- Over 2,350 universities in 90 countries <u>recognize CIE qualifications</u>, including over 880 universities in the United States.



In 2024, **147** Troy students took 341 Cambridge exams, passing them at a remarkable **94%** rate.

Also in 2024, of our 34 AICE Diploma students, **27** earned their AICE with Merit or Distinction.

## **Recognition & Acclaim for Cambridge**

<b>66</b>	"Students who have studied Cambridge International AS and A
	Levels have a real <b>depth of understanding</b> of the subject matter
	that they have had classes in, and a real engagement with it."

- Stuart Schmill, Dean of Admissions Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT)

"The Cambridge curriculum is superb preparation for university."

#### - Christoph Guttentag, *Dean of Admissions* **Duke University**

"The depth and knowledge displayed by the best A Level students makes them prime targets for America's lvy League universities."

 "Analytical thinking skills, critical thinking skills, communication skills – Cambridge encompasses all of this. Students engage in a way that prepares them for the experience they find in college." - Richard Levin, *President* Yale University

- Greg Roberts, *Dean of Admissions* **University of Virginia** 



*Source:* CIE <u>AS & A Level Fact Sheet</u>, <u>Guidance for Schools & Students</u>

## **Troy's Innovative Cambridge Program**

#### **Partnering in Excellence**

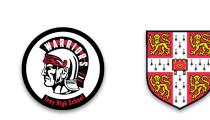
Troy High School's Cambridge program is <u>one of the few like it in the world</u>, representing an **innovative**, ongoing collaboration between Troy and CIE.

Specifically, all Troy students have the opportunity to take <u>multiple **A Level**</u> <u>courses and exams</u> and optionally earn an A Level-focused **AICE Diploma**.

#### **Participation on Campus**

Troy High School's Cambridge program launched in **2020** and first tested in 2022. Our inaugural AICE Diploma class (34 students) graduated in **2024**.

In 2025, roughly **200** Troy students (5-7%) participate in the Cambridge program by <u>taking A Level exams and/or pursuing the AICE Diploma</u>.



"We want to partner with innovative schools who are globally standardized, always evolving, and provide advanced pedagogy. The focus on A Levels and a specialist profile here is *good*."

- Ben Schmidt Director, International Network Cambridge International Education

Source: Troy High School Site Visit, 2024

## Cambridge A Level Exams

### **Overview of A Level Exams**

#### What Is an A Level Exam?

A Cambridge **A Level exam** is a rigorous standardized exam offered <u>at the end of a two-year Cambridge course sequence</u>. A sequence consists of one AS class (taken in Year 1) and one A Level class (Year 2). The exam assesses two years of learning.

#### Who Can Take an A Level Exam?

Any student who finishes a Cambridge two-course sequence can take the A Level exam in that subject. They do *not* need to be an AICE Diploma candidate. In this way, an A Level exam is similar to an AP or IB exam ("take the class, take the exam").



**Example:** The Business A Level exam consists of: <u>Paper</u> <u>1 (AS)</u>, <u>Paper 2 (AS)</u>, <u>Paper 3 (A2)</u>, <u>Paper 4 (A2)</u>. A student sits for the four Papers over the course of three weeks.

### **The Benefits of A Level Exams**

#### Why Take an A Level Exam?

**College Credit:** A student who passes an A Level exam with a high score can potentially earn **college credit** or **articulation**. For example, the UC's selectively award <u>up to 12 Quarter Units</u>.

**College Application:** Passing an A Level with a high score is an **unusually impressive** accomplishment, reflecting <u>an advanced</u> <u>degree of subject mastery</u>. It is especially rare in the US.

**AICE Diploma:** To earn the AICE Diploma at Troy High School, a student <u>must pass three A Levels</u> (and Global Perspectives AS). The A Level-focused AICE Diploma is an **outstanding accolade**.



**Note:** A strong A Level exam score <u>does not guarantee</u> the student will receive credit from the university they prefer (same as with AP and IB). It *always* reflects well.

# Cambridge AICE Diploma

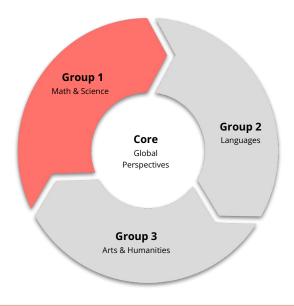
## The "A-Level" AICE Diploma at Troy

#### What Is the AICE Diploma?

The Cambridge AICE Diploma is a <u>flexible</u>, <u>streamlined program</u> <u>of advanced study</u> that a student designs and takes over **three years**. A student who fulfills the requirements earns the award and is recognized as an AICE Diploma Student at graduation.

#### What Are the AICE Requirements?

At Troy High School, to earn the AICE Diploma, a student takes one **A Level two-course sequence** from each of three Groups, plus the Global Perspectives course (seven classes total). They <u>must pass all of the respective AS and A Level exams</u>.



**Distinctive:** Troy's AICE Diploma, given its "three A Levels requirement," is unique and **respected**. Many programs only require taking AS courses and exams.



#### **Troy High School Cambridge AICE Diploma Pathways**



An AICE Diploma candidate must complete <u>one two-course sequence from each Group</u>, plus the Core course: Global Perspectives & Research. The student must pass all Cambridge exams associated with their selected courses. They have three school years to fulfill the requirements.

Grade	<b>Group 1</b> Mathematics & Science	Group 2 Languages	Group 3 Arts & Humanities	Core
9	Biology AS Year 1 <u>AS</u> Y0867	English 1H CAM Year 1A <u>Pre-Reg</u> Y0312		
10	Biology A Level  Design Tech AS    Vear 2  Year 1    ALevel  AS    Y08778  Y0400	Fnglish AS Year 1B <u>AS</u> Y0872	History AS      Media St. (Film 1) AS      Intrrt' Business AS        Year 1 AS      Year 1 AS      Year 1 AS        Yoge4      Yoge5	
11	AP Calculus BC  Or Take A Level in 11th  AP Physics 1 or 2  CAM Comp Sci AS  Design Tech A Level    Year 1 AS  Year 1 AS  Year 1 AS  Year 1 Your 2  Year 1 AS  Year 1 Your 2    Your 3  Your 3  Your 3  Your 3  Year 2	English A Level Year 2 <u>A Level</u> Y0325	APUSH A Level Year 2 A Level	Global Perspectives AS Core <u>AS</u> Y0896
12	AP  AP    Statistics  Physics 2 or C    Year 2 A Level  Year 2 A Level    Y0605  Y0277 or 781	AP  AP    Spanish  Chinese    1 Point *  1 Point * <u>AS</u> Y0525    Y0525  Y0512A	Or Take Sequence 11th & 12th	Or Take Sequence 11th & 12th

\* If an AICE Diploma candidate takes a 1-Point course for their Group 2 requirement, they must also take one additional AS course and exam from any course sequence.

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**1. Decide** on a two-course sequence from each Group you want to pursue. Ideally, it is an area of *interest* or *skill*.

2. Plug these courses and the Global Perspectives course into your **AICE Diploma Planner** (on pages 1 & 2). Add your other classes, too.

**3.** On page 3 of your AICE Diploma Planner, add your **exam dates**. This will help with your exam registration.

**4.** Book a **meeting** with Mr. Laubhan to review your AICE Diploma Planner before class registration in February.

**4.** Check Google Classroom and your email regularly for **announcements**.

Group 1 • Biole Math & Science • AP (

- Biology AS > Biology A Level
- AP Calculus BC > AP Statistics
- AP Physics 1 > AP Physics 2
- Computer Science AS > Computer Science A Level
- Design & Technology AS > Design & Technology A Level

English 1H Cambridge > English AS > English A Level
 Alternate AS Options: AP Spanish or AP Chinese

- Group 3 History AS > AP US History A Level
- Arts & Humanities Media Studies AS > Media Studies A Level
  - International Business AS > Business Management IB-HL / A Level

Group 4 Core

Group 2

Languages

Global Perspectives AS

## **Thank You!**