



Anthropology

One year AS/Two year A level.

Anthropology means the study of humans. It is distinctive amongst other social science and humanities subjects in three main ways:

- anthropology is holistic. This means that it appreciates that human beings are complex and have to be understood as biological, cultural and psychological beings;
- anthropology has a global perspective and adopts a comparative approach to the study of any issue. Anthropologists study humans all over the world; and
- anthropology is based on ethnography. Anthropologists go to live in the societies they are studying. They immerse themselves in the way of life, living as the local people do, in order to understand the culture from the inside.

Requirements:

The College minimum to start an advanced level course is one grade B and four grade Cs at GCSE. Students wishing to undertake this course require grade B or above in GCSE English Language. The student will also be expected to meet the Average Points Score for this subject. This subject requires you to read extensively and write essays.

The subject will focus on:

- being human: unity and diversity;
- becoming a person: identity and belonging;
- societies, environments and globalisation; and
- personal study.

Method of Assessment:

You will be assessed by two written papers in the first year and a written paper and a personal study in the second year.

Progression:

Anthropology will help you develop your research skills and academic literacy. In addition, this is the only A Level subject to give you a fully global perspective. It combines well with all subjects but it will go particularly well with Archaeology, Philosophy, all Social Sciences and Biology.

Other information:

By studying anthropology you will soon realise the question of what it means to be human is one of the most difficult and important ones we can ask ourselves. The pace of technological innovation means that the world is changing so rapidly that our lives will be transformed beyond recognition in a few decades. In addition, though we have always had to deal with social problems such as war and poverty, the extent of these problems, together with the threat of environmental disaster, has brought humanity to a point where it may well

be causing its own extinction. If we are going to seriously tackle these issues and take control of our future, then we need to consider very carefully what we are and more importantly, what we could be.

Jinisha Selvaraj (ex Cardinal Pole) said: "Anthropology is a great subject! You learn about different cultures that you never new to exist and about human perspectives that just seem too bizarre."