



Frequently Asked Questions about the Cambridge Program

1. *What is the difference between IGCSE, AS, and A Level courses and exams?*

Courses in Juanita High School's Cambridge Program are offered at two levels: Cambridge Secondary and Cambridge Advanced. Students enrolled in courses at the Cambridge Secondary level are learning content in courses and taking examinations aligned to the International General Certification of Secondary Education (IGCSE) standards. These courses lay the foundation for courses in the Cambridge Advanced Level of study. While students may earn content level IGCSE certificates, students will not earn an IGCSE diploma as Juanita High School focus is the AICE diploma. Students will complete coursework aligned to IGCSE standards and sit for examinations in English Language and Literature, History, Biology, and Physics.

Students enrolled in Cambridge Advanced level courses are working to complete coursework and sit for examinations aligned to the AS- and/or A-level standards. Advanced Level or A-level standards cover approximately two years of college-level curriculum in a subject. The Advanced Subsidiary Level or AS-level standards cover the first year of the two-year Advanced (A) Level curriculum. In the Juanita High School Cambridge Program, students will complete AS- and A-Level classes and sit for examinations in Mathematics, Biology, English Literature, and History. Students will complete only an AS-Level program of study and examinations in Global Perspectives and English Language.

2. *What is AICE?*

The Advanced International Certificate of Education (**AICE**) is an international diploma awarded by Cambridge Assessment International Education, a branch of the University of Cambridge in England, to students who earn the necessary credits. Students can earn the AICE diploma by taking Juanita High School classes aligned to Cambridge Assessment International Education's advanced academic syllabi and sitting for the assessments. The Cambridge Program at Juanita High School, a registered Cambridge International center, offers courses needed to earn the AICE diploma in grades 9 – 12. In some subjects, students will take courses during grades 9 and 10 aligned to the International General Certificate of Secondary Education (**IGCSE**) in order to prepare for classes aligned to the AICE international diploma. Classes aligned to the IGCSE are suitable for honors or regular high school students. The IGCSE and AICE programs together are referred to in some areas of the United States as "The Cambridge Program."

3. *What are the benefits of AICE?*

Students who earn an AICE diploma, in any country, have demonstrated their knowledge of the rigorous Cambridge International's standards. All students, regardless of country of origin, are demonstrating their knowledge of the same standards by taking the same tests.

The standards utilized by courses within the AICE framework provide the rigorous academic experience required for admittance to competitive universities and the critical thinking skills needed to be successful in this environment. A study conducted by the Director of Admissions found that AICE program graduates attending the University of Florida had an average end-of-freshman year GPA of 3.46 whereas students coming from other acceleration mechanisms such as Advanced Placement (AP) and International Baccalaureate (IB) had an average GPA of 3.12 and 3.10 respectively.



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Cambridge International qualifications (examination scores) are recognized and accepted by over 500 universities in the United States, including all Ivy League universities, MIT and Stanford.

4. *What do I have to do to earn an AICE Diploma?*

Students must earn seven credits within a twenty-five month period. Credits are earned by passing examinations administered at the end of each course. At least one examination must come from each of the four subject groups: *Mathematics & Sciences, Languages, Arts & Humanities, and Global Perspectives*. An AS Level exam counts for one credit towards the AICE Diploma; the A Level exam counts for two credits.

5. *Do students need to earn the full AICE Diploma in order to earn college credits?*

No. Students receive a General Certificate of Education (GCE) for passing AS- and A- Level subject examinations. Colleges and universities award credit on a subject-by-subject basis according to the grades earned on individual examinations.

6. *How do AICE examination grades compare with the US grading scale?*

Passing grades available on A-Level exams range from A* to E with A* being the highest. Students who do not demonstrate the necessary knowledge and skills on these examinations earn a grade of U (not passing/not meeting standard). The highest grade possible on AS-Level examinations is an A. A grade of A* may not be earned on these examinations.

A Department of Education AICE program study found that a CIE grade of E most closely correlated with an Advanced Placement exam grade of 3 and a United States grade of C.

7. *How will Cambridge classes be recorded on student transcripts?*

Students enrolled in Cambridge classes will earn grades on the United States grading system. Student grades will reflect their progress in meeting the Cambridge International standards. Cambridge courses are designated with a code of K on transcripts.

8. *How will enrolling in Cambridge classes affect my GPA?*

Cambridge courses are designed for students who desire an academic challenge beyond what is found in a comprehensive high school. A student's grade is determined by how well he/she meets the international standards for each course.



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9. Do colleges and universities give credits for the AICE examinations students pass?

- Yes. CIE publishes a list of universities that have stated policies on recognizing AICE examination scores. To access this list of colleges and universities, visit:
<http://recognition.cambridgeinternational.org/SearchRecognitions.aspx> and enter your search criteria.

Admissions officers of respected universities throughout the United States offer their perspectives on the AICE diploma as well as the CIE standards in this video:

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=TVi2NPhrkQU>

[Juanita Cambridge graduates and current University of Washington students are featured in “Why University of Washington is interested in Cambridge students” video:](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=L6byy2a9NII)

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10. How many years of a World Language do Cambridge students need to take?

Cambridge students need to successfully complete three years of one World Language. Cambridge students have the choice of enrolling in French, Japanese, or Spanish. A student may continue past three years of language study or choose another elective instead.

11. What costs are associated with the Cambridge Program?

Students are required to take the Cambridge examinations associated with their courses. The fees for the examinations in each level for June 2018 are as follows:

IGCSE - \$89

AS Level - \$95 (Global Perspectives is \$169)

A Level - \$148

Mailing Costs - \$25

Other costs throughout the program will vary, but will likely include lab, workbook, and field trip fees.

12. Do Cambridge students have time in their days to include extra-curricular activities?

Our Cambridge students are actively involved at Juanita High School. Many students participate in sports, band, orchestra, choir, and drama. Some of the clubs that students join are Honor Society, DECA, Technology-Student Association, Key Club, Model United Nations, Interact Club, ASB, literary magazine, and the school newspaper. Students have learned the art of time management by balancing their academic requirements with their activity schedule.

13. What are the high school graduation requirements?

Students in the Class of 2022 must earn the following credits to graduate:

English – 4 credits

Science – 3 credits

Fine Arts – 2 credits

Health - .5 credits

World Language – 2 credits

Social Studies – 3 credits

Mathematics – 3 credits

Physical Education – 1.5 credits

Occupational Education – 1 credit

Electives – 4 credits



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14. I would like to participate in the performing arts program at Juanita High School. I am concerned that I won't be able to fit in all of the graduation requirements into my schedule. What are my options?

For many students taking advanced courses, this is a common question. Here are some options to “free” up some time during the day.

- Take select courses online. The most popular course to take online is Health (\$152 is the current cost for BYU online/HLTH 041). You may make arrangements with your counselor if you wish to take an online course. Do not sign up for an online course without speaking with your counselor first as only some online classes will count for credit.
- For the Physical Education requirement: Currently, students can meet the PE graduation requirement through one of the following options: taking PE classes, taking the Fitness Assessment, or submitting a Fitness Plan. Current information is on the LWSd website: <http://www.lwsd.org/Parents/High-School-Guide/Pages/Physical-Education-Credit-Options.aspx>.
- If the 7-period day is instituted, then most students will have time to take the required courses during the school day.

15. I have a question regarding my schedule.

Your counselor or the Cambridge coordinator, Ms. Lewis, will provide assistance. They will help you to create a schedule that meets all of your high school graduation and AICE diploma requirements. Here are two examples of schedules to show how you can meet graduation requirements in a 6 – period day.

Sample Four Year Schedule for Performing Arts Students

9 th Grade	10 th Grade
1 – Mathematics	1 – Mathematics
2 – IGCSE English Language	2 – AS Level English Language
3 – IGCSE Biology	3 – IGCSE Physics
4 – IGCSE History	4 – AS Level Global Perspectives
5 – Band or Orchestra or Choir or Drama	5 – Band or Orchestra or Choir or Drama
6 – World Language	6 – World Language
11 th Grade	12 th Grade
1 – Mathematics	1 – Mathematics
2 – AS Level English Literature	2 – A Level English Literature
3 – AP Chemistry	3 – A Level Biology
4 – AS Level History	4 – A Level History
5 – Band or Orchestra or Choir or Drama	5 – Band or Orchestra or Choir or Drama
6 – World Language	6 – Occupational Education

Note: These students will need to meet Health and PE requirements outside of the school day. See response to question #13.



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Sample Four Year Schedule for Students not enrolled Performing Arts Courses

9 th Grade	10 th Grade
1 – Mathematics	1 – Mathematics
2 – IGCSE English Language	2 – AS Level English Language
3 – IGCSE Biology	3 – IGCSE Physics
4 – IGCSE History	4 – AS Level Global Perspectives
5 – PE (1 st semester)/Health (2 nd semester)	5 – Occupational Ed (1 st sem)/Fine Arts (2 nd sem)
6 – World Language	6 – World Language
11 th Grade	12 th Grade
1 – Mathematics	1 – Mathematics
2 – AS Level English Literature	2 – A Level English Literature
3 – AP Chemistry	3 – A Level Biology
4 – AS Level History	4 – A Level History
5 – Occupational Ed (1 st sem)/Fine Arts (2 nd sem)	5 – Physical Education (both semesters)
6 – World Language	6 – Fine Arts (both semesters)

16. How will the number of required Cambridge courses be affected if the high schools are changed to a 7- period day?

The Cambridge Program required courses will remain the same.

17. Where do the Cambridge students take their classes at Juanita High School?

Cambridge students are members of Juanita High School and are not housed in a separate area on the campus. Students will go to their instructors’ classrooms. Only Cambridge students are in Cambridge courses.

18. What summer assignments do the students need to complete?

During the summer of 2018, the students will need to complete an assignment in each core Cambridge course. There is a book to read in English, a paper (one page) to write for History, four videos to view and summarize for Biology, and Algebra review concepts for Mathematics. The assignments will be given to the students during the Class of 2022 meeting in May.

19. Does the school district provide transportation for Cambridge students who do not live in the Juanita attendance area?

No. Transportation to Juanita High School is the responsibility of the family. Many families make carpool arrangements at the May meeting.

20. My student does not live in the Juanita High School attendance area. If he/she does not want to continue with the Cambridge courses, can he/she stay enrolled at Juanita High School?

No. A student would need to enroll at their “home” high school if they choose to leave the Cambridge Program.

21. What colleges and universities have accepted Juanita High School Cambridge graduates?

Our students have been accepted to the following institutions:
Aberystwyth University, Academy of Art University, American University, Asuza Pacific University, Babson College, Baylor University, Bellevue College, Belmont University, Bentley University, Biola



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University, Boston Conservatory, Boston University, Brigham Young University, Bryn Mawr College, California Institute of Technology, California Polytechnic State University, Calvin College, Campbell University, Carleton College, Carnegie Mellon University, Case Western Reserve University, Central Washington University, Chapman University, Clark University, Cleveland Institute of Music, Colby College, College of William and Mary, Colorado College, Colorado School of Mines, Colorado State University, Dartmouth College, DePaul University, DePauw University, Digipen Institute of Technology, Duke University, Eastern Washington University, Eastman School of Music, Eckerd College, Elon University, Emerson College, Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University, Franklin W. Olin College of Engineering, George Washington University, Gonzaga University, Harvard University, Harvey Mudd College, Highpoint University, Hofstra University, Illinois Institute of Technology, Indiana University, Ithaca College, Lawrence University, Lewis and Clark College, Loyola Marymount University, Maryland Institute College of Art, Massachusetts Institute of Technology, Moore College of Art and Design, Mount Holyoke College, New York University, North Carolina State University, Northeastern University, Northwestern University, Northern Arizona University, Occidental College, The Ohio State University, Oregon State University, Oxford Brookes University, Pacific Lutheran University, Pacific University, Pennsylvania State University, Pitzer College, Point Loma Nazarene University, Portland State University, Pratt Fine Arts Center, Purdue University, Reed College, Renton Technical College, Rice University, Rochester Institute of Technology, Rhode Island School of Design, Rocky Mountain College, San Diego State University, Santa Clara University, San Jose State University, School of Art Institute of Chicago, St. John's University – New York, St. Lawrence University, St. Olaf College, Stanford University, Seattle University, Seattle Pacific University, Sewanee: The University of the South, Smith College, Southern Oregon University, State University of New York- Stony Brook, Syracuse University, Texas State University, Trinity University, Tufts University, United States Naval Academy, University of Arizona, University of Auckland, University of British Columbia, University of California (Berkeley, Davis, Irvine, Los Angeles, Riverside, San Diego, Santa Barbara, Santa Cruz), University of Colorado, University of Denver, University of Essex, University of Evansville, University of Florida, University of Hawaii, University of Illinois – Urbana Champaign, University of Miami, University of Michigan, University of Minnesota, University of Northern Colorado, University of Oklahoma, University of Oregon, University of Portland, University of Puget Sound, University of the Pacific, University of Portland, University of Puget Sound, University of Richmond, University of Rochester, University of San Diego, University of San Francisco, University of Santa Clara, University of Southern California, University of Vermont, University of Victoria, University of Virginia, University of Washington, University of Waterloo, University of Wisconsin, Vanderbilt University, Washington College, Washington State University, Washington University in St. Louis, Wellesley College, Wentworth Institute of Technology, Western Washington University, Westminster College, Whitman College, and Willamette University.

22. *Where can I find more information regarding the Cambridge AICE Program?*

The Cambridge Assessment International Education website has extensive information regarding syllabi, sample examinations, and university recognition.

The website is: www.cambridgeinternational.org. Select Cambridge for Parents and Students. (Juanita High School video is featured in the “In Class” section.)

23. *If I still have questions after reading through these documents, who can I contact?*

Please feel free to contact Kelly Clapp (kclapp@lwsd.org), Principal or Meg Lewis (mlewis@lwsd.org), Cambridge Coordinator.