

MFL - French/German

Course requirements:

Must be studying the language in Year 9. Students must achieve a 4- to study either language at GCSE. The entry requirement is the same for students wishing to study 2 languages.

Who is this course suitable for?

This course builds upon the skills and knowledge already gained in Key Stage 3 and Year 9, and is suitable for all students currently studying languages in Year 9. If you are currently studying French and German, you can choose to study both or you can choose between the languages.

What will I learn?

Year 10 Modern Languages will continue studying the 3-year GCSE Curriculum in preparation for final exams in Year 11. Topics in Year 10 and 11 will include: Travel & Tourism, Education Post-16, Careers, Healthy Living, The Environment, Technology, Social Issues and Global Issues. Both French and German follow the same course structure and similar content, which means that pupils studying two languages often find that the two languages compliment each other.

How will I be assessed?

Students will be assessed in Listening, Speaking, Reading and Writing. Each skill will be worth 25% of the GCSE, and all exams will take place in Year 11. There is no coursework or controlled assessments.

How does this prepare me for the future?

The GCSE course will prepare students for A-Level study, university and a variety of jobs which use the skills that learning languages develops, such as good communication, understanding and appreciation of other cultures, logic, memorisation, dedication and application of knowledge in a variety of situations.

Who should I speak to?

Ms Lyon (Head of MFL) jlyon@adalovelace.org.uk

Geography

Course requirements:

This is a minimum requirement of a grade 3 in your Q4 exam to study Geography.

Who is this course suitable for?

- Students who are curious about how the world works (the climate, ecosystems, landforms).
- Students who enjoy learning about other countries and cultures and the way of life there.
- Students who are good at interpreting information e.g. maps or graphs and using this information to make predictions or decisions.
- Students who are interested in the environment and how we can care for it.
- Students with an interest in politics and current affairs e.g. migration, globalisation.
- Students who enjoy experiments, enquiries and project work.

What will I learn?

Geography is a very wide ranging subject. In the field of physical geography you will learn about climate, extreme weather hazards, ecosystems and biodiversity, coastal landforms and processes and river landforms and processes. You will also develop an understanding of the geology of the UK. In the field of human geography, you will learn about global development, resource management (with a focus on sustainable energy) and changing urban environments both in the UK and in the wider world.

How will I be assessed?

There will be 3 exams, which are 1 hour 30 minutes each.

There is no coursework, however you will complete two day visits in which you will plan and carry out a fieldwork investigation (an experiment) into coastal processes and inner city regeneration. These investigations will be examined in component 3.

How does this prepare me for the future?

Geography is a facilitating subject for many courses and is well respected by universities. Students interested in Environmental Science, Earth Science, Geology, Sociology, Politics, Biology, Urban Planning, Civil Engineering, International Development would all benefit from having studied Geography.

Who should I speak to?

Mr Doyle (Head of Geography) jdoyle@adalovelace.org.uk

History

Course requirements:

This is a minimum requirement of a grade 3 in your Q4 exam to study History.

Who is this course suitable for?

History is best suited to students who:

- Are intrigued by the past and want to discover how the world evolved
- Ask questions, look beyond headlines and express informed opinions.
- Enjoy researching and locating and sifting through evidence to find out what is useful and reliable.
- Are literary minded and enjoy reading around their subject
- Able to present your ideas to the class and in debates and discussions.

What will I learn?

History is broken down into 4 units (you will study the first of these units in year 9):

- Conflict and Tension between East and West, 1945-72—a study of the Cold War and the tension that existed between the USA & USSR.
- Britain: Health and the people, c.1100—present day—a study of how medicine has changed since the Medieval period to modern day.
- Elizabeth I: 1568—1603—a study of the reign of Queen Elizabeth I, daughter of Henry VIII.
- America: Opportunity and Inequality, 1920-72—a study of how key events in the 20th century affected the lives of American people with a particular focus on the Civil Rights Movement.

How will I be assessed?

You will sit two exams at the end of year 11, two units are assessed in each paper.

How does this prepare me for the future?

There are so many careers out there that require the skills that a study of history can bring: law, medicine, business, finance, accountancy, tourism, town planning, politics, journalism and research to name but a few. History also teaches you skills of analysis and evaluation which are key to many careers.

Who should I speak to?

Miss Bryant (Head of Humanities) mbryant@adalovelace.org.uk

Music

Course requirements:

Students should have studied Music in year 9 and be on track. In addition, students who have played an instrument or sung for a minimum of three years should aim to have achieved ABRSM Grade 1 on their chosen instrument/voice. Students who do not meet these requirements are still able to make an application directly to the Head of Music.

Who is this course suitable for?

This course is suitable for students who wish to explore their creativity and love of the subject through performing, composing and by developing listening skills. Students will learn about music from a range of genres and from different historical contexts. Students will need to commit to practising their instrument/singing daily as well as getting involved in the school ensembles. Getting involved in the wider learning opportunities that the music department offers is also highly recommended.

What will I learn?

The GCSE Music course requires students to become well-rounded musicians. This course offers students the opportunity to be self-expressive and communicative, to develop their confidence and to develop problem-solving and analytical skills. In addition, students will broaden their understanding of the world by learning about music from different historical, geographical and cultural contexts.

How will I be assessed?

There are three strands in which you will be assessed: performance, composing and listening. For performance, you will have to complete a solo and ensemble performance of a minimum of 4 minutes in total. For composition, you will compose one work to a brief and one free composition, both of which will be 3 minutes in total. The listening paper will be assessed in one exam at the end of the course.

How does this prepare me for the future?

Creative industries provide 1.7m jobs each year in the UK. Further education in music can open many doors into the industry, including careers in sound production, song-writing, composing music for film and TV, teaching, music therapy and performance (musicals, orchestras, bands etc.).

Successful students will practice discipline, perseverance, independent-thinking, problem-solving and creativity and be highly organised in order to meet the demands of the course. These are attributes that are sought by many employers and will stand students in good stead for their adult lives after school.

Who should I speak to?

Ms McGonigal (Trust lead for Music) fmcgonigal@adalovelace.org.uk

Graphics

Course requirements:

Students should have ideally studied Graphics in Year 9, however, if they haven't and wish to take Graphics for GCSE, they must produce a few pieces of digital work showcasing their talents and suitability to show to the Head of Art/Graphics. Students should have a passion to be creative, enjoy improving their Graphics skills, be dedicated to completing work and be willing to step outside their comfort zone.

Who is this course suitable for?

This course is suitable for students who wish to build their digital creative skills. Pupils will be learning to work to a client brief and build confidence in using digital technologies. Graphics can take time and therefore students need to be willing to put in the time and effort. This subject requires a minimum of 1.5 hours a week of prep.

What will I learn?

Pupils will learn in greater depth digital software such as Photoshop, Illustrator, After Effects and InDesign. They will also learn about key design principles and how to apply them when creating their work. They will look at historic and contemporary designers in relation to the world of work within the Graphics spectrum. Year 10 starts with a series of workshops to great build pupils' skills. The main coursework and exam units are then more open for pupils to use their own artistic choices, ideas and materials. Pupils will also have the opportunity to put on exhibitions of their work.

How will I be assessed?

You will produce 2 coursework projects and 1 exam project over the 2 years. Each project is assessed on 4 objectives: Analysis, Experimentation, Drawing and Final Outcomes, each with equal weighting. The coursework projects make up 60% of the GCSE and the exam unit makes up 40% of the GCSE.

How does this prepare me for the future?

Pupils studying Graphics may go onto further study in areas such as Graphic Design, Game Design, Editorial Design, Branding, Web Design, etc... By working on projects that combine a number of varied steps students learn to be thorough and to think and plan effectively. Successful students will also learn patience and perseverance. Multi-stage projects, deadlines which cover several weeks of work at a time, and open ended outcomes all encourage students to act independently and take responsibility for their own progress – functional skills that are critical to a successful adult life.

Who should I speak to?

Miss Sullivan (Head of Art/Graphics) ksullivan@adalovelace.org.uk

Art

Course requirements:

Students should ideally have studied Art in Year 9, however, if they haven't and wish to take Art for GCSE, they must produce a few pieces of work before the end of the Summer Term to showcase their ability to the Head of Art. Students should have a passion to be creative, enjoy improving their art skills, be dedicated to completing work and be willing to step outside their comfort zone.

Who is this course suitable for?

This course is suitable for students who wish to build creative skills through learning and doing and by developing imaginative and intuitive ways of working. Students will develop knowledge and understanding of Art and materials in historical and contemporary contexts. Art can take time and therefore students need to be willing to put in the time and effort. This subject requires a minimum of 1.5 hours a week of prep.

What will I learn?

Pupils will work in a broad range of materials and refine their skills. Art helps students become versatile thinkers – creative yet analytical, organised yet able to take imaginative leaps. As well as learning about the application of media, such as Acrylic painting, perspective drawing and print making, students will also be taught Art History as written analysis plays a significant role at GCSE level. Year 10 starts with a series of workshops to build great pupils' skills. The main coursework and exam units are then more open for pupils to use their own artist choices, ideas and materials. Pupils will also have the opportunity to put on exhibitions of their work.

How will I be assessed?

You will produce 2 coursework projects and 1 exam project over the 2 years. Each project is assessed on 4 objectives: Analysis, Experimentation, Drawing and Final Outcomes, each with equal weighting. The coursework projects make up 60% of the GCSE and the exam unit makes up 40% of the GCSE.

How does this prepare me for the future?

Pupils studying Art may go onto further study in areas such as Architecture, Fashion Design, Fine Art, etc... Many employers want to recruit people who are lateral thinkers and creative problem-solvers - natural qualities of artists and designers. By working on projects that combine a number of varied steps students learn to be thorough and to think and plan effectively. Successful students will also learn patience and perseverance. Multi-stage projects, deadlines which cover several weeks of work at a time, and open ended outcomes all encourage students to act independently and take responsibility for their own progress – functional skills that are critical to a successful adult life.

Who should I speak to?

Miss Sullivan (Head of Art) ksullivan@adalovelace.org.uk

Computer Science

Course requirements:

- Achieve at least a grade 5 in the Q4 computing assessment
- Have a genuine passion for computing, programming, coding and problem solving outside the classroom

Who is this course suitable for?

The Computer Science GCSE enables students to work with real-world, practical programming techniques that give them a good understanding of what makes technology work. You should have a real passion for programming outside the classroom and the thought of independently researching, trialling and testing programming code should excite you! If you enjoy computing, mathematics and like solving logic problems, then this could be something you may enjoy.

What will I learn?

1. Fundamentals of algorithms
2. Programming
3. Fundamentals of data representation
4. Computer systems
5. Fundamentals of computer networks
6. Fundamentals of cyber security
7. Relational Databases & structured query language (SQL)
8. Ethical, legal and environmental impacts of digital technology on wider society, including issues of privacy

How will I be assessed?

You will sit two written papers at the end of Year 11.

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| Paper 1: Computational thinking and problem solving (2 hours) | 50% of GCSE |
| Paper 2: Theoretical Knowledge (1hr 45mins) | 50% of GCSE |

Who should I speak to?

Mr Huxtable (Head of Computing) ahuxtable@adalovelace.org.uk

Drama

Course requirements:

This is a minimum requirement of a grade 3 in English.

Who is this course suitable for?

Drama is best suited to students who: work well both independently and in teams, feel comfortable performing in front of audiences, enjoy working creatively, are compassionate and enjoy seeing situations from other people's points of view, enjoy the creative side of English or are interested in working with people in the future

What will I learn?

The Drama GCSE is divided into 3 components:

Understanding drama — Students learn about all aspects of the Theatre through studying a set play. Students also experience and review a live performance.

Devising drama — Students work in groups to create their own performance from a stimuli. Alongside this they create a portfolio which evaluates their creative process.

Texts in practice — Students perform two different scenes from a play of their choice.

How will I be assessed?

- **Understanding Drama (40%)**
Students sit a 1hour 45 minute written exam in 3 sections:
Section A: Theatre roles and terminology
Section B: Set text
Section C: Review of live theatre production
- **Devising Drama (40%)**
Students perform their devised piece
Students complete a portfolio
- **Texts in Practice (20%)**
Students perform their two scenes from a play of their choice

How does this prepare me for the future?

Drama students go on to pursue careers in Performing Arts, the Entertainment Industry, Media, Politics, Teaching, Events Management, etc. While Universities view Drama A level in conjunction with other appropriate subjects as acceptable for study in Medicine and Law.

Who should I speak to?

Ms B Caitlin (Whole School Literacy Coordinator) bcaitlin@adalovelace.org.uk