

A GUIDE TO REQUIRED GCE A LEVEL SUBJECTS FOR DEGREE COURSES

(Sourced from www.careers4u.tv)

This is a useful guide however it is essential that students research each individual course and university to be sure that they choose the correct subjects:

Degree course	Essential Advanced Level Qualifications	Useful Advanced Level Qualifications
Accountancy	Usually none although some universities require Mathematics	Mathematics, Economics
Actuarial Science/Studies	Mathematics	Further Mathematics, Economics
Aeronautical Engineering	Mathematics and Physics	Further Mathematics
Anthropology	None	A small number of courses like a science AS-level such as Biology.
Archaeology	None	Geography, History or science subjects can all be useful
Architecture	Some courses say they want an arts/science mix. Some may require Art	Art, Mathematics and Physics. Do note that a portfolio of drawings and ideas may be asked for
Art and Design	Art or Design Technology including AGCE/National (to give you the portfolio to get onto an Art Foundation Course, though sometimes AGCE/National Art and Design applicants go straight onto a degree)	Design Technology, Art & Design. Do note that most entrants onto Art and Design degrees will have done a one-year Art Foundation Course
Biochemistry	Always Chemistry, some degrees require Biology as well, while some say Chemistry plus one from Mathematics/Physics/Biology. Chemistry, Biology and Mathematics or Physics will keep all Biochemistry courses open	Biology, Mathematics, Further Mathematics, Physics
Biology	Biology, Chemistry	Mathematics or Physics
Biomedical Sciences	Normally two from Biology, Chemistry, Mathematics and Physics. Chemistry is essential for some courses	Mathematics, Further Mathematics, Biology, Chemistry, Physics
Business Studies	None	Mathematics and Economics
Chemical Engineering	Chemistry and Mathematics and sometimes Physics as well	Physics, Biology, Further Mathematics
Chemistry	Chemistry and occasionally Mathematics. Most courses require Chemistry and would like Mathematics and one other science subject (for example, Physics or Biology)	Mathematics, Further Mathematics, Physics, Biology
Communication Studies	A few courses ask for English	English

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Computing	For some courses, Mathematics	Mathematics, Further Mathematics, Computing, Physics, ICT
Dentistry	Chemistry and Biology for most courses, but some require Mathematics or Physics as well	Mathematics, Physics, Further Mathematics
Dietetics	Chemistry, Biology	Mathematics
Drama	Some courses require English Literature	English Literature
Earth Sciences	Usually two from Mathematics, Physics, Chemistry and Biology	Geography, Geology
Economics	Usually Mathematics	Economics
Education	See Teacher Training	
Electrical/Electronic Engineering	Mathematics, Physics	Further Mathematics, ICT
Engineering (General)	Mathematics and Physics	Further Mathematics
English	English Literature	History, a language
Environmental Science/Studies	Many courses will ask for two from Biology, Chemistry, Mathematics, Physics and Geography	Another facilitating subject, particularly a science
European Studies	A modern foreign language	Another modern foreign language, English Literature, History, Politics
Finance	Usually none although one or two universities require Mathematics	Mathematics, and Economics
French	French	Another modern foreign language, English Literature, History, Politics
Geography	Most degrees require Geography	Some Geography BSc (science) degrees prefer one from Biology, Chemistry, Mathematics or Physics
Geology	Usually two from Mathematics, Physics Chemistry and Biology	Geography
German	German (a handful of universities offer the opportunity to study German from scratch, without German A-level)	Another modern foreign language, English Literature, History, Politics
History	Most degrees require History	Economics, English Literature, Politics, a modern or classical language
History of Art	None	Art, English Literature, History, French, German, Spanish, Italian
Italian	Italian or another language such as French, German or Spanish	Another modern foreign language, English Literature, History, Politics
Law	Usually none, although a few universities require English	History; other facilitating subjects. There really are no essential subjects for

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		Law. Maybe one choice should involve essay / report writing. History gives you good relevant skills for Law but is not essential
Management Studies	Sometimes Mathematics	Mathematics, Economics
Materials Science	Normally two from Chemistry, Mathematics, Physics, Biology (also Design Technology for some universities)	Chemistry, Further Mathematics
Mathematics	Mathematics and sometimes Further Mathematics	Further Mathematics, Physics
Mechanical Engineering	Mathematics, Physics	Further Mathematics, Mechanical Engineering departments may have a preference for Mathematics A-levels with a strong mechanics component
Media Studies	A few courses ask for English or Media Studies	English
Medical Science	Normally two from Biology, Chemistry, Mathematics and Physics. Chemistry is essential for some courses	Mathematics, Further Mathematics, Biology, Chemistry, Physics
Medicine	If you do Chemistry, Biology and one from Mathematics or Physics you will keep all the medical schools open to you. If you do Chemistry and Biology you will keep open the vast majority. If you do Chemistry and one from Mathematics and Physics you will limit your range of choices much more	Further Mathematics or a contrasting (non-science) subject
Music	For most traditional courses, Music and Grade VII/VIII	Some universities have a preference for at least one essay-based subject
Nursing	Usually Biology or another science.	Biology, Chemistry.
Occupational Therapy	Some courses ask for Biology	Physical Education or another science
Optometry (Ophthalmic Optics)	Two from Biology, Chemistry, Mathematics or Physics (some courses prefer Biology as one of the choices)	Further Mathematics
Orthoptics	Biology	Chemistry, Mathematics, Physics
Pharmacy	Chemistry and one from Biology, Mathematics and Physics keeps the vast majority of courses open to you. Some courses like to see Chemistry, Biology and Mathematics. Doing Chemistry and Biology keeps most courses open	Mathematics, Physics
Philosophy	None	Mathematics

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Physical Education	Many courses want to see one from Biology/Chemistry/Mathematics/Physics (some courses will treat Physical Education as a science equivalent)	Physical Education
Physics	Mathematics, Physics	Further Mathematics, Chemistry
Physiotherapy	Most courses will consider you with just Biology, however some also require a second science from Chemistry, Mathematics or Physics	Chemistry, Mathematics, Physics
Politics	None	Politics, History, Law
Psychology	A few courses ask for one from Biology, Chemistry, Mathematics, Physics	Biology, Mathematics
Religious Studies	None	English Literature, History
Sociology	None	Geography
Spanish	Spanish (some degrees will also consider French, German or Italian)	Another modern foreign language, English Literature, History, Politics
Speech Therapy	Some degrees want a science such as Biology, Chemistry or Physics. Some specify Biology, but some degrees will consider candidates with none of these	A modern foreign language (for example, French, German, Spanish, Italian), English Language (and Literature)
Sports Science	Many courses want to see one from Biology/Chemistry/Mathematics/Physics (some courses will treat Physical Education as a science equivalent)	Physical Education
Surveying	None	For some types of Surveying i.e. Building Surveying, Mathematics and Physics could be helpful. For Estate Management (General Practice Surveying) most A-level combinations will be considered
Teacher Training (Primary and/or Secondary)	At least one from Art, Biology, Chemistry, English, French, Geography, German, History, ICT, Mathematics, Physics, Physical Education.	Another of the subjects listed
Theology	None	English Literature, History
Veterinary Science	You should do Chemistry and Biology and one from Mathematics/Physics so that you have all universities open to you	Further Mathematics