



Physics



Overview

OCR Physics A Level is a well-established course built on many years of experience, covering the knowledge and understanding necessary to progress to STEM degrees and careers. Physics A Level is one of the most universally accepted qualifications for progression to university. The course content covers the basis of how things work, from the constituent parts of atoms out to the extent of the universe. Concepts studied are integrated with a range of practical experiments throughout each topic giving the course both an academic and practical focus.

Exam Board



Specification

A level: H556

<https://www.ocr.org.uk/qualifications/as-and-a-level/physics-a-h156-h556-from-2015/>

Assessment

The content is in six modules:

- Module 1: Development of practical skills
- Module 2: Foundations of physics
- Module 3: Forces and motion
- Module 4: Electrons, waves and photons
- Module 5: Newtonian world and astrophysics
- Module 6: Particles and medical physics

Subject Specific

Entry Requirements

It is essential that students achieve a high Grade 6 or above in Science / Physics at GCSE and a Grade 6 or above in Maths GCSE, due to the level of numeracy required on this course. Students who have taken foundation papers or achieved lower grades will struggle to achieve a grade at A level. If a student is not studying A level Maths, they will be invited to study AS Core Maths as a 4th subject alongside their Physics course, this has been shown to support improved outcomes for students.

A Level – two year course

40% of marks available in written exams are for the assessment of mathematical skills

There are four components that students must complete:

- Modelling physics (01) - 2¼ hour paper
- Exploring physics (02) - 2¼ hour paper
- Unified physics (03) - 1½ hour paper
- Practical endorsement in physics (04) – a non-exam assessment

Paper 01 – Modelling Physics 2 hrs 15 mins written exam, 100 marks	37% of A level
Paper 02 – Exploring Physics 2 hrs 15 mins written exam, 100 marks	37% of A level
Paper 03 – Unified Physics 1 hr 30 mins written exam, 70 marks	26% of A level
Practical endorsement in Physics Non-exam assessment	Reported separately

“Physics lessons put the fun into fundamental concepts of the universe.”

Harry

Progression and Career Opportunities

Studying Physics offers an excellent spring board for a wide variety of careers. Success in this subject is generally recognised to indicate an analytical mind, capable of original thought, with a good memory. As such, Physics students at A level or beyond are very well regarded.