



Cambridge IGCSE **GLOBAL PERSPECTIVES**



Cambridge IGCSE Global Perspectives

Cambridge IGCSE Global Perspectives looks at global themes and issues, and promotes an international outlook and cross-cultural awareness.

The syllabus is flexible and covers a variety of subjects, helping students to develop their skills of enquiry, collaboration, reflection, evaluation and problem solving, and to apply these skills to the global themes being studied.

All scenarios and discussions are considered in an international setting and students undertaking the course must consider topics from local, national and global angles whilst developing their own personal perspective.

The syllabus is designed to draw on a variety of subjects, across a number of groups.

Teachers of the syllabus can come from a variety of disciplines, with a broad interest in matters of global import, and a deep commitment to preparing young people for their role in an increasingly interdependent world.

The syllabus will appeal to students because it extends their understanding of the world. They will develop their potential to understand different perspectives and to make reasoned responses: skills which will be useful in their study of all other disciplines.

Cambridge IGCSE – Foundation for success

Cambridge IGCSE is the world's most popular international qualification for 14 – 16 year olds. There are more than 70 subjects to choose from.

Cambridge developed the IGCSE in 1985, as an international alternative to the 'UK-centric' GCSE. Cambridge IGCSEs are designed to avoid cultural bias and to be accessible for students whose first language is unlikely to be English.

Students who attain IGCSE qualifications are well-educated, adaptable and thoroughly prepared for their next steps in education and employment. Cambridge IGCSEs provide a solid foundation for higher level national and international courses such as A/AS Levels, the IB Diploma and the US Advanced Placement programme.

Common characteristics of Cambridge IGCSE syllabuses

- IGCSE develops students' independent learning, problem solving and enquiry skills.
- IGCSE develops students' knowledge and understanding across key subjects, allowing schools to build a world-class curriculum.
- IGCSE has a high level of international recognition and acceptance by universities and colleges – a passport for progression.
- IGCSE's flexibility and cultural sensitivity helps schools individualise the curriculum for each student.
- IGCSE's wide subject range, regular curriculum innovation and updating means schools can extend and develop their core curriculum as they wish.
- IGCSE is accessible for students with good English skills but who are not native English speakers. Schools who educate students bilingually are choosing IGCSE examinations to assess students.

Reporting of achievement

Cambridge uses an eight-point grade scale: A*, A, B, C, D, E, F and G. Grade A* is awarded for the highest level of achievement, and grade G indicates minimum satisfactory performance.

Syllabus Aims

Candidates should develop:

- An awareness of a range of global themes and issues, viewed from personal, local, national and global perspectives, and of the connections between them;
- Insights into the causes of these issues, and their possible future effects on the planet and on humanity;
- Insights into the student's own nature, circumstances and possible future, as a member of the human race, but also as an individual with unique biological and cultural inheritances;
- Reflection and evaluation, i.e. thinking about experiences, observations, data, feelings, ideas, ideals, projects and practices, to see whether and how such things might be improved; and the ability to:
 - Engage in enquiry that draws out very different perspectives on global themes and issues;
 - Engage in dialogue, collaboration and action, to share and compare experiences, feelings, ideas, ideals, projects and practices with those immediately around them, but also with those living in other countries and/or cultures;
 - Seek clarity and develop a personal viewpoint, wherever possible, in relation to the global themes and issues studied.

Scheme of Assessment

Component	Duration	Weighting	Nature of Assessment
Component 1 Portfolio	n/a	50%	Individual
	The focus is on research, developing lines of reasoning, consideration of a wide variety of perspectives and reflecting on own circumstances.		
Component 2 Project	n/a	20%	Individual 50% Group 50%
	The focus is on analysis of issues, group work and collaboration.		
Component 3 Written Paper	2 hours	30%	Individual
	The focus is on enquiry, reasoning and evaluation.		

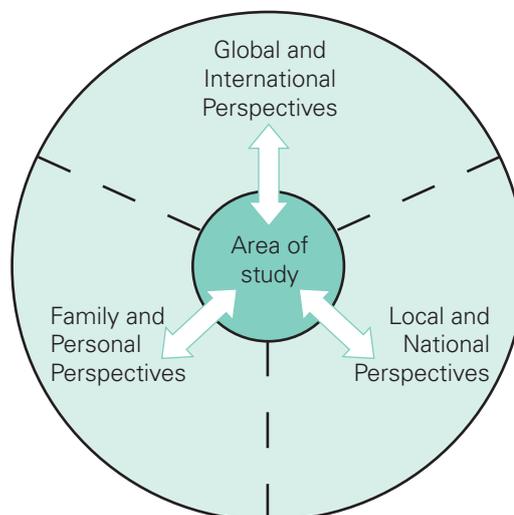
Curriculum Content

Effective global thinking involves enquiry into relevant facts, as well as reflection on their significance. Students must show evidence of research into at least five global areas of study from the list below, however the emphasis is on developing ways of thinking about global issues rather than demonstrating great knowledge.

An area of study is a global theme, or issue, which can be viewed from a wide range of perspectives. In researching an area of study, students are required to consider a range of perspectives and the connections between them.

Students studying this programme around the world will find themselves in many different contexts where the different issues will have greater or lesser degrees of impact on their own environment.

The ideal behind the syllabus is to develop active global citizens. Curriculum content is constructed largely by teachers and students themselves, to encourage active rather than passive learning. The starting points for study could include newspaper articles, TV programmes or films, guest speakers and NGO websites.



Areas of Study

Belief Systems	Biodiversity and Ecosystem Loss	Climate Change	Conflict and Peace
Disease and Health	Education for All	Employment	Family and Demographic Change
Fuel and Energy	Humans and Other Species	Law and Criminality	Technology and the Economic Divide
Trade and Aid	Tradition, Culture and Language	Urbanisation	Water

Support and Resources

CIE offers a programme of Cambridge IGCSE workshops and distance learning for teachers, accompanied by support materials on the Cambridge Teacher Support website. More details are available on www.cie.org.uk/events

Full syllabus details are available from www.cie.org.uk/igcse