Introduction to
Cambridge Assessment International Education

"As a member of the Cambridge Pre-U advisory board, I applaud Juanita High School on its adoption of this outstanding and rigorous program. The UW recognizes the value of this internationally recognized college preparatory academic path."

Dr. Philip A. Ballinger
Director of Enrollment and Undergraduate Admissions, Emeritus
University of Washington

Cambridge Assessment International Education is part of the University of Cambridge and is the world's largest provider of international education programs, serving over 160 countries and used by over 10,000 schools worldwide. The programmes and qualifications set the global standard for international education. They are created by subject experts, rooted in academic rigor and reflect the latest educational research. They provide a strong platform for learners to progress from one stage to the next and are well supported by teaching and learning resources.

The curricula provided by Cambridge Assessment International Education is at the heart of the Cambridge Program at Juanita High School, ensuring high standards and academic rigor from grades 9 to 12. Since the syllabi are international in outlook, students are exposed to and interact with a wide variety of issues and perspectives. Students receive breadth and depth in all subjects, developing the knowledge and understanding for success in college and future careers.

Developing Successful Students

In 1998, Cambridge Assessment International Education was formally established to provide high-quality, leading-edge qualifications that meet the ongoing demands of employers and educators around the world. Cambridge has partnered with ministries of education, qualifications authorities and examination and assessment boards around the world for over 160 years. In some countries, Cambridge examinations are the state qualification for students in secondary school. In other parts of the world, Cambridge International has worked with governments to reform education systems and has trained officials, teachers, markers and examiners in curriculum development and assessment. The Cambridge approach supports schools to develop learners who are:

- **Confident** in working with information and ideas – their own and those of others
- **Responsible** for themselves, responsible to and respectful of others
- **Reflective** as learners, developing their ability to learn
- **Innovative** and equipped for new and future challenges
- **Engaged** intellectually and socially, ready to make a difference.

Cambridge Assessment International Education
Cambridge International School

Preparing students for college success
Alongside in-depth understanding of their subjects, students also need to master a broader range of skills critical for success in university study and employment. The Cambridge AICE Diploma places emphasis on essential skills such as the ability to: think critically, carry out independent research, evaluate arguments, communicate clear and well-reasoned arguments, and understand global issues from multiple perspectives.

The focus on the development of these skills will help higher education institutions identify students with the type of cohesive academic experience and higher-order thinking and communication skills that are associated with distinguished achievement at the university level.

In a survey of university admissions officers:

- 98% said that Cambridge qualifications give students an excellent preparation for university
- 98% said that Cambridge qualifications help students to succeed at university once they're there
- 100% agreed that Cambridge students have in-depth knowledge of their subject
- 100% agreed that Cambridge students think logically and present ordered and coherent arguments
- 95% agreed that Cambridge students think independently

Thinking critically, independently and globally at the core of the diploma
To achieve the diploma, all learners will need to study and pass the Cambridge International AS Level Global Perspectives curriculum. This skills-based course challenges learners to think critically, analyze evidence and compare perspectives. The curriculum is assessed through a range of options, including a written examination, team project and presentation.

The course is built around an innovative teaching and learning process called the Cambridge critical path. This supports learners to think critically and objectively, leading to a deeper understanding of their chosen topic.

A rigorous and stimulating program that ensures breadth and depth
The Cambridge AICE Diploma is designed to deliver breadth across the curriculum and depth in selected subjects. Learners must achieve a minimum of seven credits from at least three subject groupings and the core (Cambridge International AS Level Global Perspectives) to be awarded this diploma.

The benefits of the Cambridge AICE Diploma

For students:

- Provides experiences recommended and valued by higher education institutions.
- Develops in-depth understanding of subject matter alongside skills critical to success such as the ability to:
  - understand an issue from multiple perspectives
  - evaluate the strength of different arguments
  - work in collaboration with others
  - think independently, critically, creatively and reflectively.
- The chance to stand out from the crowd with a diploma comprised of qualifications valued by leading universities around the world. To locate a list of universities that have provided statements of their AICE recognition policies, use this website: http://recognition.cambridgeinternational.org/SearchRecognitions.aspx

For schools:

- Offers a curriculum and assessment program that ensures depth and breadth.
- The opportunity to take a fresh approach to teaching – using skills to deepen students' understanding of content.
- A rigorous program to challenge, stimulate and engage learners.
- Provides professional development designed to help teachers improve their performance and practice.

For school administrators:

- Demonstrates an outstanding commitment to preparing students for success at university and beyond.
- Provides access to forward-thinking and innovative approaches to cultivating higher-order skills.
- The opportunity to work with Cambridge Assessment International Education, a world leader in assessment and a department of the University of Cambridge, committed to developing learners who are confident, responsible, reflective, innovative and engaged.

For higher education:

- A curriculum and assessment program that develops learners poised to distinguish themselves at university.
- A diploma to help identify the students prepared with the skills and research experience sought out by higher education faculty.

"Memorization is not what we are looking for. We want thinkers and those who can draw conclusions. Students are very prepared for Vanderbilt if they come through the Cambridge curriculum."

Douglas Christiansen, Vice Provost
University Enrollment and Affairs
Dean of Admissions and Financial Aid
Vanderbilt University

Information from www.cambridgeinternational.org

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