


# Cambridge AICE Course Completer Handbook

## A Guide for Parents & Students

CAMBRIDGE
International Education

Cambridge International School

## What is AICE?

- **A**dvanced **I**nternational **C**ertificate of **E**ducation
- Advanced studies program affiliated with the University of Cambridge - Cambridge International Education in the United Kingdom.
- C.I.E. (Cambridge International Education) is the largest program like this in the world.
- 10,000+ participating schools
- over 160 countries

## Why AICE Courses?

- Highly academically motivated students explore areas of strength and interest while taking college-level courses in high school
- Rigorous, international curriculum
- Heavily writing-based
- Strong emphasis on critical thinking, analysis, problem solving and interpretation skills
- Flexible curriculum
- Future predictor of college success
- GPA points

## Benefits

- AICE courses and examinations are equivalent to first year college and university courses (See Course Equivalents for more detail).
- Students who are course completers may receive college credit through exams passed.
- AICE and Pre-AICE teachers at Mainland High School are trained directly by Cambridge. Each course strictly follows a course syllabus that is designed by Cambridge professors.
- Rigorous college preparatory program

**Terminology**

- **AICE** - stands for the Advanced International Certificate of Education and is a rigorous credential. If a student takes and receives qualifying scores in Cambridge International AS Level Global Perspectives, a Science and Math, Humanities and Languages among other electives, they will be awarded the Cambridge AICE Diploma (group award).
- **Candidate** - A student or person who has been entered for a Cambridge assessment.
- **Component** - A component is part of or a section of the subject exam. An individual syllabus usually has several components. A component is sometimes referred to as a paper. Typically, several components make up the assessments for an examination.
- **Paper** - Sometimes referred to as a component, a paper is a part or section of the subject exam. An individual syllabus usually has several papers. Can also be referred to as a question paper.
- **Marks** - The total score or individual points given by an examiner on a specific component. Marks are totaled and ultimately converted to a grade.
- **AS level** - One of the set of courses we offer as part of the Cambridge Advanced program. Cambridge AS Level courses and exams are one-year college-level courses and examinations and are granted college credit or advanced placement with qualifying scores. Passing grades range from A* to E. (Mainland High School only offers AS level courses)
- **A level** - A Level or our full Advanced Level course is a two-year course of study with examinations that can be taken both at the end of year one and two and are our most rigorous courses that go into great depth within a given subject area.
- **Access Arrangements** - A pre-exam arrangement made on behalf of a candidate with needs, for example, the use of a scribe, modified papers or extra time.

## Cambridge Exams

We hold Cambridge International AS & A Level examination series once a year (March-June). Results are issued in August and January respectively. These exam dates and start times are determined by Cambridge International and may seem unusual.

- Some Cambridge exams are held once school has been dismissed for the summer. Students are still required to come in and sit for these exams.
- **EXAMS ARE NOT OPTIONAL** – students and parents need to plan for the student to be present at EVERY component of EVERY exam.
    - Exams may go into the second week of June so please plan accordingly.
- **THERE ARE NO MAKE-UPS FOR CAMBRIDGE EXAMS!**
    - Students who miss one or more components of an exam will not pass/earn their AICE credit.
    - Students who miss one or more components of an exam will be financially responsible for the cost of the exam.
- **EXAM RE-TAKES WILL NOT BE OFFERED FOR AICE COURSE COMPLETERS, ONLY AICE DIPLOMA SEEKERS.**

- An obligation will be placed on their school account and must be paid prior to graduation. Extenuating circumstances will be reviewed by the Principal and Guidance Team.

# FORMS

**Please sign and return the following forms to your instructor by_____**

I. Film and Literature Expectations
II. Financial Responsibility
III. Media Release

**FILM AND LITERATURE**

| Film and Literature Expectations | |
|---|---|
| **Expectation** | **I understand that I may be required to view or read materials that are mature or sensitive in nature and will recognize that these materials are integral to the syllabus for which I am enrolled.** |
| **Details** | Mainland High School does not make the novel and film selections associated with Cambridge University courses. The syllabus for each course has its own set of required reading and/or viewing materials that students will then be tested on for a particular class. These books and films are not optional. Films may not be rated PG and at times, the material may be intellectually mature in topic. Please understand that by signing this form you are agreeing to read/view the required materials for the course. |

**I _____ accept the Film and Literature expectations. Should I not adhere to the above statements, I understand that the AICE Review committee will have the final say in the outcome of any relevant cases.**

**Student Name_____(*Print)***

**Student Signature_____Date_____**

**Parent Name_____(*Print)***

**Parent Signature_____Date_____**

## MEDIA RELEASE

The undersigned hereby authorizes the AICE Program of Mainland High School to permit their child, named below, to be interviewed, photographed, videotaped and/or sound recorded by members of the Mainland High School organization and media, with the understanding that the results of these interviews, and such photographs, videos or other recordings may be used by the school/program in any school or community publication and/or newscast, including but not limited to printed publications, school affiliated social media, and television broadcasts.

***Valid for the duration of enrollment in a Mainland High School Cambridge AICE Course. ***

**Student Name_____(*Print)***

**Student Signature_____Date_____**

**Parent Name_____(*Print)***

**Parent Signature_____Date_____**

## FINANCIAL RESPONSIBILITY

As a student enrolled in an Advanced International Certificate of Education course, I realize that I may be required to sit for examinations during or at the end of my 10th, 11th and 12th grade years. I further realize that some of the examination dates fall in April, May and June and that the dates of these examinations are set by the University of Cambridge and **cannot** be changed or modified by Mainland High School.

**I understand that I will be held financially responsible for the cost incurred in any University of Cambridge International Examinations to which I commit but fail to take for any reason or request to take a second time.**

**Student Name_____(*Print)***

**Student Signature_____Date_____**

**Parent Name_____(*Print)***

**Parent Signature_____Date_____**