

New Course Approval Form

Name of qualification Anthropology A level (AS and A2)

Awarding Body AQA

Department Philosophy /Humanities **Course Leader** (Teacher A and B, names are being withheld for confidentiality purposes).....

Level of qualification AS/A2 **Proposed date of introduction** September 2010.....

Guided Learning hours Same as other A levels

Is the course LSC funded? Yes

Target number of students in Year 1.....1 AS group..... **Year 2**...1 AS group and one A2 group..... **Year 3**...Two AS groups and One A2 group.....

Evidence for the assessment of the student demand for the new course

Anthropology has been extremely well-received by the IB students. In addition, philosophy and sociology students have been on the London Anthropology Day and have also taken the initiative to go to a UEL taster day. They found it very interesting. (Teacher A) conducted a 5 week pilot study at City College Norwich last year through collaboration with Sussex University; over 30 students participated and all successfully completed the programme. Feedback from follow-up study indicates that the students' level of knowledge, interest and pleasure was very high. The AQA has researched demand and found that it is likely to be a viable and successful A-level.

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Qualification being replaced (if relevant)

Rationale for introduction of new course (how does it meet a particular curriculum need in terms of content, style of assessment etc)

Anthropology is defined as the study of humans, asking the general question of what it means to be human.

- It is interdisciplinary, encouraging students to make links between different areas of knowledge. It combines disciplines such as sociology, economics, psychology, philosophy, history, religious studies, politics, geography, communications, law, and biology in a unique way, demanding a comparative, global and holistic perspective. This means that students who have a general interest in the study of human beings do not have to restrict themselves in by choosing A-levels that focus only on one aspect. At the same time, it can complement the study of any of the above A-levels by providing a cross-cultural context.
- In addition, all topics are studied in relation to a wide variety of cultures and societies. It is this aspect that will be particularly appealing to many of our students from different cultural backgrounds. In IB anthropology I am able to use the different backgrounds of the students themselves as a way of making learning points.

- The syllabus also engages the students with important global issues such as war and nationalism, globalisation, racism and immigration, poverty and development, environmental crisis and impact of technology.
- Another feature of the anthropology syllabus is that it has been written and designed by a team of both sixth form and university teachers. This means that it is sufficiently challenging and demanding to prepare students for university study whilst at the same time recognising the stage where students are at when they begin A-level study. Students will be required to read ethnographies and to produce an independent study. There is also a high level of conceptual thinking involved in anthropology and will therefore develop high level thinking skills in the students.

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Subjects expected to be combined with the new course

All subjects mentioned above. It is a course that can add a global and issue –based dimension to all A-levels. It would also combine well with languages.

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Resource needs and costs of introduction of the new course

Accommodation

.....Use of a teaching room and the usual resources for a Humanities A-level.....

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Capital expenditure and equipment start up costs

.....Textbooks and library resources....

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Staff training needs

There will be some INSET provided by AQA for the new syllabus.

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Possible impact on recruitment onto existing courses

It might impact on other Humanities and Social Science courses as students might choose to do Anthropology and one other of these subjects rather than two. However, as the proposed teachers are in those SSA then it should not have an impact on staffing. It could encourage more students to come to the college as we are offering a subject not offered in many other institutions.

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Progression routes for students at the end of the qualification

University as well as any of the professions where there will be a global dimension (which is quite wide).

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Submitted by (Teacher A and Teacher B) names have been withheld for confidentiality purposes

Date April 29th, 2009

Approved /not approved by SMT