

New GCE Applied Science Awards



Advanced Subsidiary GCE consisting of 3 AS units

Advanced Subsidiary GCE (Double Award) consisting of 6 (from 7) AS units

Advanced GCE consisting of 3 AS units plus 3 (from 9) A2 units

Advanced GCE (Double Award) consisting of 6 (from 7) AS units plus 6 (from 9) A2 units

GCE Applied Science awards are part of a new suite of vocationally-focused GCEs and replace VCE Science. These new awards incorporate an extremely wide range of AS and A2 Level units. These are flexibly structured to give candidates plenty of choice to form qualifications which can be focused to their skills, interests and ambitions. At AS GCE Level, single (three units) and double (six units) awards are available. At GCE Level, single (six units) and double (twelve units) awards are available. Grades are awarded from A – E for both single awards and AA – EE for both double awards.

As well as four mandatory AS units and one (or three*) mandatory A2 units, there are no less than three optional AS units and eight (or six*) optional A2 units from which candidates can choose for their GCE Applied Science award, which can be in a specific pathway. These pathways include Analysis and Detection, The Environment, Manufacturing, Health and Communications.

These new broad-based awards provide significantly more 'vocationalism' than current VCEs and are designed to provide vocational alternatives to the various AS GCEs and GCEs in Science. They may be used to give a general vocational introduction to science, or units may be selected to provide an introduction to more specialised areas. There are many opportunities for candidates to actively experience the

scientific environment through work experience, links with local employers, case studies and research.

The **AS GCE Applied Science** awards may be used to complement other vocational courses or provide a work-related experience for candidates taking non-vocational subjects. These awards also provide better progression from GCSE Applied Science. Using work-related contexts, innovative teaching and assessment methods, these new awards offer a broad introduction to this vocational area. These awards are designed to provide a progression route to higher education and further training for employment.

As with other GCEs, AS units and A2 units are equally weighted and, in the GCE awards, each level forms 50% of the total assessment. Aggregation, within and across units, means that candidates can fail a unit but still pass overall. Each unit requires 60 guided-learning hours. Assessment is 33% externally tested and 67% by portfolio evidence.

GCE Applied Science is available for first teaching from September 2005 – AS level only for the first year. First AS assessment is in January 2006 (first AS GCE certification June 2006). First A2 assessment is in January 2007 (first GCE certification June 2007).

* GCE Double Award only

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Unit Code	Unit Number	Level	Title of Unit	Mode of Assessment	Unit Combinations (mandatory/optional)			
					AS GCE	AS GCE (Double Award)	GCE	GCE (Double Award)
G620	1	AS	Science at work	Portfolio	m	m	m	m
G621	2	AS	Analysis at work	Portfolio	m	m	m	m
G622	3	AS	Monitoring the activity of the human body	External	m	m	m	m
G623	4	AS	Cells and molecules	External		m		m
G624	5	AS	Chemicals for a purpose	Portfolio		o ²		o ²
G625	6	AS	Forensic science	Portfolio		o ²		o ²
G626	7	AS	The physics of sport	Portfolio		o ²		o ²
G627	8	A2	Investigating the scientist's work	Portfolio			m	m
G628	9	A2	Sampling, testing and processing	External			o ^{1a}	m
G629	10	A2	Synthesising organic chemicals	Portfolio			o ^{1b}	o ³
G630	11	A2	Materials for a purpose	Portfolio			o ^{1b}	o ³
G631	12	A2	Electrons in action	Portfolio			o ^{1b}	o ³
G632	13	A2	The mind and the brain	Portfolio			o ^{1b}	o ^{3*}
G633	14	A2	Ecology and managing the environment	Portfolio			o ^{1b}	o ^{3*}
G634	15	A2	Applications of biotechnology	Portfolio			o ^{1b}	o ^{3*}
G635	16	A2	Working waves	External			o ^{1a}	m

m candidates must complete those units marked m listed in the relevant column for the award being taken

o¹ candidates choose **one** option from those marked o¹ listed in the relevant column for the award being taken

o² candidates choose **two** options from those marked o² listed in the relevant column for the award being taken

o^{2a} candidates choose **two** options from those marked o^{2a} listed in the relevant column for the award being taken

o^{2b} candidates choose **two** options from those marked o^{2b} listed in the relevant column for the award being taken

Your nearest centre is: