

Statistics

Advanced Level

General Information

The A level Statistics course provides a route for you if you are numerate and are pursuing other courses where the ability to handle data is an advantage. It does not involve as much algebraic content as A level Mathematics but requires you to interpret numerical and diagrammatic data and carry out calculations using large data sets.

The abilities to reason, interpret and communicate mathematically, to model situations mathematically and to solve problems and explain the conclusions that can be drawn are all tested in the course.

Entry requirements

You should have a grade 6 in Maths GCSE and an average GCSE score of 5.5.

You should also meet the general college entry requirements for Advanced Level study.

Please refer to the current prospectus - advanced programmes, entry requirements.

In this subject, particular skills and aptitudes will be required, many of which will be demonstrated by your GCSE profiles.

Entry requirements might be changed in light of curriculum reform.



Statistics

Advanced Level

Course content

The course helps you to develop a number of practical skills which can be applied to situations in which you need to handle data. It begins with interpreting statistical information and drawing conclusions from information presented in diagrams and numerical statistics.

You then study sampling techniques and a range of probability distributions used to describe common mathematical patterns. Later parts develop the ideas of statistical inference, deciding how strong a conclusion we can draw from a sample of data.

Throughout the course, there is a strong emphasis on the design of experiments in order to collect results that can be interpreted meaningfully. You will be expected to use technology such as spreadsheets, scientific and graphical calculators to analyse large real-life data sets.

Useful / common subject combinations

A level Statistics helps to develop skills which will be used in subjects such as A level Biology, Psychology, Geography, Business Studies and Economics.

Careers / HE information

The course is designed to provide a foundation in statistics for you if you want to seek to undertake higher education in social sciences, biological sciences or medicine and related health studies.

How it is taught

Most lessons involve identifying and applying new statistical methods, deciding which techniques are most appropriate in different situations, working through example solutions, practising techniques as well as a range of other activities including paired and group tasks.

You are expected to practise skills learned in class outside of lessons and homework tasks are set on a regular basis. A wide variety of resources are available to help you work independently in your own time including video tutorials, worksheets, practical activities, past papers, revision booklets and workbooks.

Examination details

The course is linear and the topics are studied over two years with assessment taking place at the end of two years. Assessment is through three written examinations.

QE