

Edexcel International Update

MAY 2015

International Advanced Levels | GCSE and GCE A Level reform | International GCSE | PLSC

Contact us | Advice

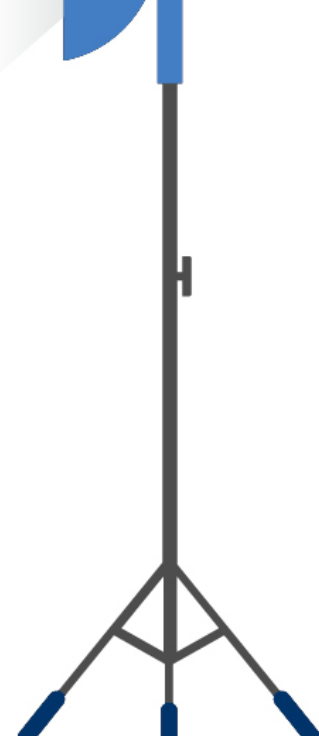
Welcome to the **May edition** of the **Edexcel International Update newsletter**.

Keeping you informed every step of the way

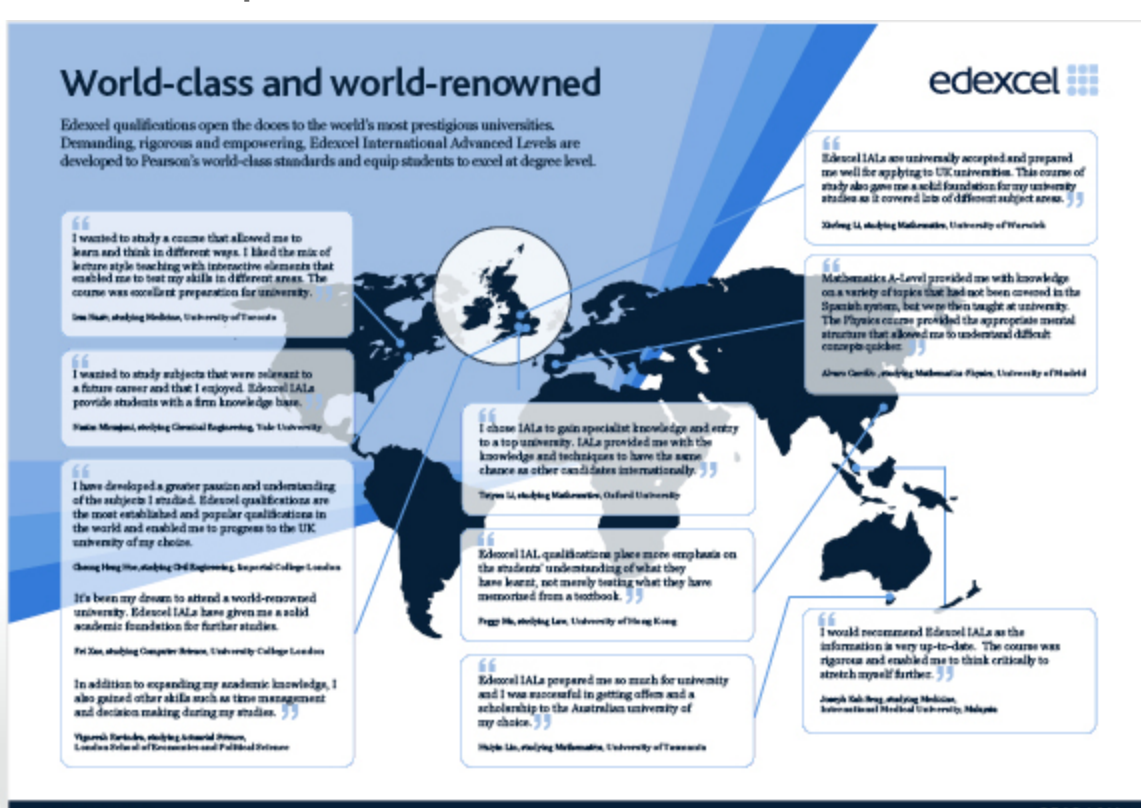
This edition brings you updates about Edexcel qualifications for international schools, including: International Advanced Levels, GCSE and GCE A level reform, International GCSE and the Primary and Lower Secondary Curriculum. Read the latest news below.

International Advanced Levels

Spotlight on university recognition of International Advanced Levels

Created in consultation with world-leading Higher Education Institutions, **International Advanced Level (IAL)** qualifications **open the doors of the world's most prestigious universities**. Demanding, rigorous and empowering, they are developed to Pearson's world-class standards and equip students to **excel at degree level**.**Leading UK universities** including: the University of Cambridge, Imperial College London, the University of Oxford, University College London, the University of Edinburgh and the University of Bristol recognise IAL qualifications for entry.**Leading US universities** including Ivy League Institutions such as: Columbia University, Cornell University, Yale University and Dartmouth College recognise IAL qualifications for entry.**Top global universities** including: the University of Hong Kong, the University of Melbourne, the National University of Singapore and the University of Tokyo recognise IAL qualifications for entry.Over **890 universities** worldwide recognise IAL qualifications for entry.**70% of the QS World University Rankings Top 20 Universities**, including Massachusetts Institute of Technology, California Institute of Technology, Johns Hopkins University and the University of Toronto recognise IAL qualifications for entry.

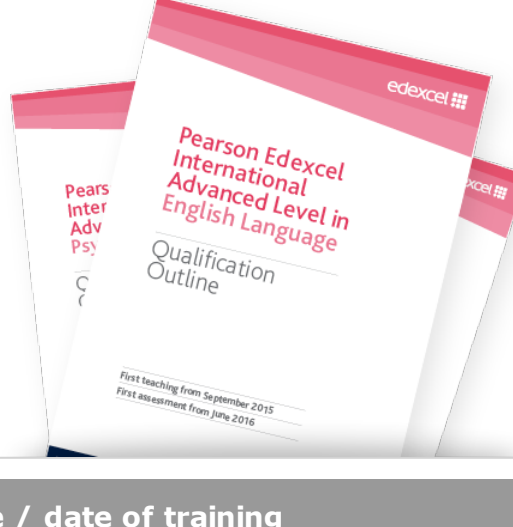
Click on the world map below to read some of our IAL student success stories.

To view the full list of global universities that recognise IAL qualifications, please visit our [Degree Course Finder website](#).

Update on new subjects for first teaching in September 2015

We are pleased to announce we have a dedicated website area for each new IAL subject in **English Language, English Literature, History** and **Psychology**. Please bookmark these web pages to easily access a comprehensive **qualification overview** for each subject.

As soon as further teaching and learning materials for these new qualifications become available, such as Specifications and Sample Assessment Materials (SAMs), we will publish them in the relevant subject areas on the website.

To support you to deliver the new IALs in **English Language, English Literature, History** and **Psychology** from September 2015 onwards with confidence, we are running free online **"introductory briefing" training events** for each new subject. These training sessions are 1 hour 30 minutes in length and have been designed to support you with planning and delivery.

IAL qualification	Time / date of training
IALs in English Language and in Literature	28 May 12.30-14.00
IALs in English Language and in Literature	29 May 08.30-10.00
IAL Psychology	28 May 08.30-10.00
IAL Psychology	1 June 12.30-14.00
IAL History	3 June 08.30-10.00
IAL History	3 June 12.30-14.00

For more information and to book your place, please visit our [website](#).

IAL Accounting and Law update

A reminder that brand new specifications and SAMs in Accounting and Law, for first teaching in September 2015, are now available to download from our website here:

- [IAL Accounting \(2015\)](#)
- [IAL Law \(2015\)](#)

To support the effective delivery of these qualifications, a brand new 'Getting Started' guide for Law is now available to download from our [website](#). We are also offering free online **"getting ready to teach" training events** for Accounting.

IAL qualification	Time / date of training
IAL Accounting	27 May 12.30-14.00
IAL Accounting	28 May 08.30-10.00

For more information and to book your place, please visit our [website](#).

GCSE and GCE A Level reform

Update on GCSE and GCE A level reform from 2015, 2016 and 2017

We have been in regular touch with international schools over the past couple of years to keep you up to date with all the latest news and information about GCSE and GCE A level reform from 2015 onwards.

Recently, a few schools have been in touch to ask for clarification about which subjects we are developing for first teaching in September 2015, 2016 and 2017. We have included this information in the timeline below.

Reform timeline

Edexcel GCSE subjects	2015	Edexcel GCE A level subjects
English Language , English Literature , Mathematics	2015	Art and Design , Biology A , Biology B , Business , Chemistry , Economics A , Economics B , English Language and Literature , History , Physics , Psychology
Art and Design, Biology, Chemistry, Physics, Combined Science, Citizenship Studies, Computer Science, Drama, Geography, History, Modern Foreign Languages (MFL), Music, Physical Education and Religious Studies.	2016	Modern Foreign Languages (MFL), Drama and Theatre, Geography, Music, Physical Education and Religious Studies.
Arabic, Astronomy, Business, ICT, Chinese, Design and Technology, Japanese, Italian, Modern Greek, Psychology, Russian, Statistics and Urdu.	2017	Chinese, Design and Technology, Government and Politics, Italian, Mathematics and Russian.

To easily access Edexcel 2015 GCSE and GCE A level teaching and learning materials, we advise you to bookmark the following web pages:

[Edexcel 2015 GCSE teaching and learning materials](#)
[Edexcel 2015 GCE A level teaching and learning materials](#)

International GCSE

International GCSE subject expert panel – phase 1

Our International GCSE online expert panels for phase 1 subjects are still live and we are seeking feedback about qualification content and assessment models. Examples of current discussion topics include:

- History – the inclusion of Medieval and Early Modern topics in the specification
- Geography – how best to split the current 3-hour exam paper into 2 shorter papers
- Modern Foreign Languages – the use of photographs in the speaking examination

All feedback gathered is informing planned updates to our International GCSE suite of qualifications. We really value your time and input into the online subject panel discussions and encourage you to actively participate.

If you are experiencing any issues accessing the online subject panels, please email internationalqualifications@pearson.com and include your name, centre name, centre number, email address and your subject area, so we can ensure you have full access. Please include 'International GCSE' in the title of your email.

Primary and Lower Secondary Curricula

The Primary and Lower Secondary (PLSC) summer examination series will take place between 2-4 June 2015. In addition, the *Primary English (JEH01) Year 6 Pre-release Resources Booklet* is now available on our website. [Click here to download the booklet](#).We are currently reviewing our Primary and Lower Secondary curricula and would love to hear feedback on your experiences and how you feel it could be improved. To become part of the discussion, please email your name, position, centre name, centre number, location and subject area to internationalqualifications@pearson.com. Please include 'PLSC' in the title of your email.

Contact us

If you have any questions or feedback you can:

Email us

Visit our website

Advice

Key information for international centres:

Information Manual

Exam Timetables

Key Dates