

# Curriculum Enrichment



Options Year 12





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**This booklet contains information about the courses on offer in Year 12 Curriculum Enrichment. These options will run from September, until you go on study leave in May.**

**The options are all full time and will run continuously for two hours per week.**

# AS Critical Thinking

**Contact:** Ms H Lapping

AS Critical Thinking is an AS examination, which is becoming more and more popular, not only with students, but also with universities, as an extra measure of a candidate's ability and potential.

AS Critical Thinking helps students to develop their skills of analysis, by introducing them to the way in which arguments are structured and by presenting them with conflicting evidence that has to be assessed for its credibility. It is, therefore, a skills based course – there are no 'facts' to be learned

## So, what does AS critical Thinking DO in Unit 1?

They become familiar with the language of reasoning, which means that they learn how to:

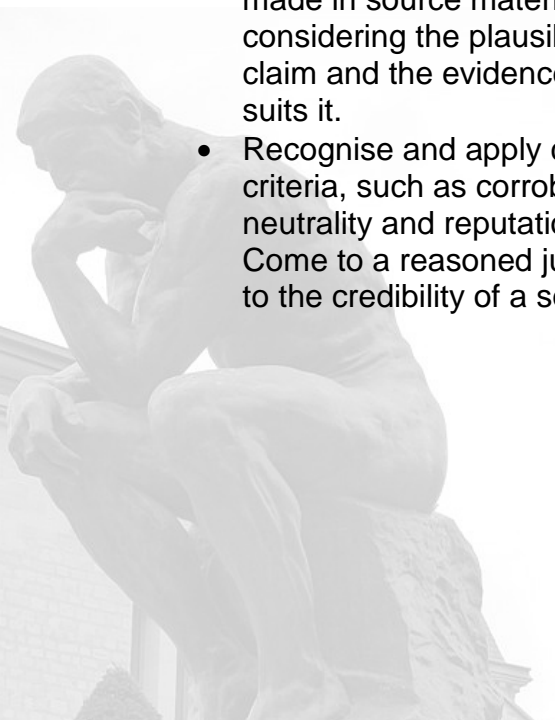
- Identify the structure of arguments - the conclusion, the reasons leading to the conclusion, evidence and counter arguments
- Evaluate the evidence used in arguments
- Assess the credibility of the claims made in source materials, by considering the plausibility of the claim and the evidence which suits it.
- Recognise and apply credibility criteria, such as corroboration, bias, neutrality and reputation. Come to a reasoned judgement as to the credibility of a source.

## What about Unit 2?

Here students build upon the skills developed in Unit 1 to:

- Develop further their understandings of how arguments are structured.
- Identify, explain or evaluate a range of potential weaknesses in an argument (such as 'slippery slope' and 'straw man').
- Identify when an 'appeal' is being made, for example, to 'popularity' or 'authority'.
- Write their own arguments, in response to stimulus material, demonstrating an understanding of the importance of clear structure and appropriate content.

These skills are examined by means of short and long passages/newspaper articles etc and by means of multiple-choice questions. You will work in pairs, small groups and individually. You will use a number of resources, including a specially designed Website. There will be some homework set.



# Level 2 Award in Community Sports Leadership

**Contact:** Miss Broadfield



**This is a nationally recognised qualification, accredited by Sports Leaders UK.**

*Through the medium of physical activity, candidates will develop vital skills and make a real difference to their local community. It is fun and does not include any exams to sit. Candidates do not need to be sporting superstars! Just a little 'get up and go' and an interest in helping others are all that are needed to get the most out of the course. The majority of the course is practical in nature.*

**The course is divided into 2 parts:**

**A tutored element gives candidates an understanding of sports leadership.**

## **Unit titles**

- Organisational skills
- Safety in sport
- Fitness for sport
- Organisation of events and competitions
- Improvisation and adapted games
- Local and national opportunities in sport
- Games and activity experience



**Once completed,** candidates put the skills learnt into practice by undertaking a minimum of 10 hours voluntary leadership experience in the community.

**More information from:** Miss Broadfield or [www.bst.org.uk](http://www.bst.org.uk) or [sportsleader.org](http://sportsleader.org)

# Extended Project Qualification



**Contact:** Mrs Shaw

This is a new qualification, in which the focus is on developing a student's independent learning ready for University courses. It is worth the equivalent of an AS. The student has a significant input into the choice and design of the project to be completed in this new qualification. This level of choice and flexibility means students are engaged and motivated, and gain valuable research and project management skills along the way.

## **What do you do?**

A student can choose to explore a further aspect of a subject they are studying, or another subject, or simply choose a topic in which they have a personal interest.

The finished project can be a written report, a performance, a piece of art, a community project, a CD or DVD, or even computer software.

## **Students have to:**

- choose a topic to study
- complete a production log to document the project process
- develop and improve their own learning and performance as critical, reflective and independent learners
- plan, research and carry out their project and will allow students to develop and apply skills creatively, demonstrating initiative and enterprise
- submit a written report of between 1000 and 5000 words, depending on the format of your project.
- prepare a presentation on the outcome.
- Finally, use their learning experiences to support their personal aspirations for higher education and career development.

## **Why do it?**

The EPQ offers students a unique opportunity to develop essential skills for higher education and the workplace, in a subject area of their own choice. It has been welcomed by a number of universities as it enhances a student's study skills, provides admissions tutors with additional diagnostic evidence for selecting among applicants and provides a bridge between AS/A2 and undergraduate modes of study.

**Minimum GCSE Requirement:** English Language at Grade A

# Italian and Mandarin Languages

## Italian

*Parliamo Italiano!*

This one-year course is designed to give you a full working knowledge of Italian, enabling you to understand and speak the language as quickly as possible. No previous background is required and the emphasis will be on learning in a fun, easy way.

Classes will concentrate on practical and relevant language, and essential grammar will be straight forward and user friendly. You will learn in a relaxed atmosphere but you will also have the opportunity to be stretched and challenged. At the end of the year you will gain a FCSE qualification. You will also have an introduction to Italian culture, learning about food, fashion and any other areas of Italian life that interest you.

*Arrivederci!*



## Mandarin Chinese

*The course will be open to all students.*

Pupils who follow the course will learn to read and speak Chinese using pinyin (phonetic Chinese). They will also take the first steps towards recognising Chinese characters and writing basic script.

Topics covered by the course will include basic introductions, family life, free time, travel around towns, food, drink and shopping.

Pupils will also learn about the culture of China and the various festivals, which are held throughout the year.



# Volunteering

**Contact:** Mrs Walker

## This will take two forms

1. Autumn term you will carry out a Social Enterprise project with the Voltage project from Lancaster University.
2. Spring/Summer terms you will choose some voluntary work to become involved with which should lead to you gaining the v50 Award.

### **Autumn Term: Social Enterprise project.**

The Voltage project run by Lancaster University Volunteering Unit (LUVU) aims to teach young people in the local area about social enterprise business and why it might be the answer to solving your community's needs. By attending social enterprise conference days at Lancaster University we'll teach you everything you need to know about social enterprise. Over two days you will come up with a plan for a business that you could run in your school which will either raise money for a local charity or perhaps raise awareness of a community issue. You will then run that business for a month with support from Lancaster University students and the LUVU team. At the end of the month you will present your business to a panel of judges and prizes are awarded for the winning teams. This is a great opportunity to develop some real business experience while at the same time making a positive difference to your local area. Please see our website if you would like to know more: [www.luvu.org.uk](http://www.luvu.org.uk)

*However if you are already volunteering you can still get involved to obtain the v50 award, a free national award which recognises your volunteering contribution (and looks great on your CV!!)*

### **Spring/Summer Term: involved team What is the v50 Award?**

This award has been designed to complement other awards being undertaken by young people, but not to replace them, which means that young people can achieve a **v50** Award in addition to the accreditation / recognition your organisation is offering.

This is a new charity, set up to inspire more young people, aged 16 to 25, to get involved in volunteering and has taken over from Millennium Volunteers that has run very successfully at LGGS for a number of years.

**So what does that mean?** It means, for example, more young people, like you on community radio, improving the environment, helping at sports clubs, having fun whilst helping others!

