



Recognition of Cambridge International AS & A Level and Cambridge Pre-U in Germany

Recognition of Cambridge International AS & A Level

The Central Office for Foreign Education (Die Zentralstelle für ausländisches Bildungswesen / ZAB) of the Standing Conference of German Ministers of Education and Cultural Affairs (KMK) provides the official recommendations for the recognition of foreign qualifications for higher education admissions. Within the recommendations of the Central Office, German universities decide on specific subject choices, combinations, and language requirements.

Applicants are therefore strongly advised to check all entry requirements with their chosen university before submitting an application.

The current recommendations, issued in 2017, will continue to be valid until the winter semester 2023-24 (October-March, typical application deadline 15 July).

However, they have recently been updated and are to be replaced by the new provisions from the summer semester 2024 (April-September, typical application deadline 15 January). Universities will apply the new framework already from summer semester 2022, if it is more favourable for admission purposes.

Below is a summary of the two sets of requirements:

General entry requirements

Valid until winter semester 2023/24	Valid from summer semester 2024 (applicable from summer semester 2022)
<p>Four Cambridge International AS & A Level independent* academic subjects, three of which must be at full A Level standard.</p> <p>The four AS & A levels must include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A language. An AS or A Level in Literature may be accepted in lieu; this decision lies with the individual university**. • Mathematics OR a natural science such as biology or chemistry or physics. <p>Two AS Levels may be accepted instead of one A Level, depending on university and study programme.</p>	<p>Three independent academic subjects at A Level with a minimum grade C.</p> <p>Language, maths / science A Levels are no longer compulsory, but are only required depending on the study programme the student is applying for (see below).</p> <p>AS levels are no longer accepted.</p>

* A Level subjects are not independent of each other if they are in the same field, (e.g. Economics and Business), with the exception of languages.

** In addition, universities have specific language proficiency requirements (German or English).



Specific requirements (per field of study)

Valid until winter semester 2023/24	Valid from summer semester 2024 (applicable from summer semester 2022)
<p>For courses in the humanities, law, social sciences, economics or arts, a suitable A Level for the chosen field of study is required:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • For the humanities, for example, an A level in history or geography would be acceptable. • For economics or the social sciences, in addition to a relevant A Level subject, an A Level in mathematics is also required. <p>For natural science courses, two of the following A Level subjects are required: mathematics, biology, chemistry or physics.</p> <p>For technical and mathematical courses, an A Level in mathematics is a must as well as one of the following A Level subjects: biology, chemistry, physics, information technology, information and communication technology, or computer science.</p> <p>For medicine, three A Level subjects from the following list are expected: mathematics, biology, chemistry or physics.</p> <p>Vocational qualifications, such as GCE Applied A Levels or the formerly available Vocational Advanced Levels and Advanced GNVQs, are not accepted.</p>	<p>Subject-specific requirements still apply, depending on the chosen field of study, as well as by reference to three subject lists A, B, and C. Full information, including the subject lists A, B and C, can be found on the anabin database.</p> <p>List A specifies the subjects that can be taken as A Level subjects 1, 2 and 3. Lists B (academic), and C (vocational) provide additional choices for A Level subject 3. Selecting a subject from list C will narrow the choice of degree programmes that the applicant is eligible for. As a result, the choice of subjects 1 and 2 will also be narrower.</p> <p>For humanities and law, 1 A Level from language, history, geography, social / political science, economics.</p> <p>For social and economic studies:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 1 A Level from: history, geography, social studies/politics, economics; and • 1 A Level from: mathematics, biology, chemistry, physics, computer science <p>For natural science courses:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 2 A Levels from: mathematics, biology, chemistry, physics, computer science <p>For mathematical and technical courses:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 1 A Level in mathematics; and • 1 A Level from: biology, chemistry, physics, computer science <p>For medical programmes, including pharmacy:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 3 A Levels from: Mathematics, Biology, Chemistry, Physics, Computer Science. <p>Computer Science/IT can be taken when applying for degree programmes in the fields of social / economic studies, natural sciences, mathematics and technical programmes, or medicine.</p>

Courses such as English General Paper, Thinking Skills or Global Perspectives & Research are not accepted as a stand-alone qualification, while they may be valued by the university alongside the required number and combination of A Levels.



Recognition of Cambridge Pre-U

The requirements outlined above, both in the old and the new version, also apply for Cambridge Pre-U regarding the number of Cambridge International AS & A Levels and the choice of subjects.

A Cambridge Pre-U Principal Subject is recognised as the equivalent of a GCE Advanced Level, while a Cambridge Pre-U Short Course is the equivalent of a GCE Advanced Subsidiary Level.

For Cambridge Pre-U, grade M3 in a Principal Subject is considered equivalent to A Level grade C.

Information



We strongly advise students to check all entry requirements with their chosen university before submitting an application. The information in this factsheet is for guidance only, and each university can set its own entry requirements within the recommendations of the Central Office for Foreign Education.

Learn more! Full details of all entrance requirements for Cambridge International AS & A Levels and Cambridge Pre-U are listed on ZAB's database: *anabin* at <http://anabin.kmk.org/>