

Most of the topics covered relate to current social, scientific, political and cultural issues. The best preparation for the discussions held in class is to read a quality daily newspaper and develop your own opinions. General Studies classes will challenge students to think outside their comfort zone and apply what they do know to new situations. There will be the opportunity to work through past papers in preparation for the AS and A2 examinations. There is no coursework, assessment is by examination only.

Who is the course for?

General Studies is a well-established part of the second year programme of study at Wyke College. It helps students to develop analytical skills that can be transferred to their other subjects and provides an outlet for subject based knowledge to generate an additional advanced level qualification. Nearly all students are required to follow the AS and A2 General Studies course in their second year at college.

The A level in General Studies qualification demonstrates a breadth of learning which is valued by employers and universities. Many students have been relieved to gain the extra UCAS Tariff points provided by their General Studies qualification for a modest investment of their time in their second year. For some it has been the 'insurance policy' which secured their place at university.

AS

The Cultural Domain

Beliefs, values and morals, cultural issues in Britain. The media.

The Scientific Domain

Contemporary issues such as the environment, energy sources and genetic manipulation. Scientific manipulation. Scientific methods. Mathematical reasoning and looking at data

The Social Domain

Political systems in the UK and Europe. Social and economic issues in education, leisure, wealth and transport.

Each domain is assessed by a 1hr 15minute exam paper in January

A2

Cultural Issues

Religions and alternatives, creativity and aesthetic evaluation in the arts.

Scientific Issues

Historical developments in disease control, evolution, the universe, science, technology and society.

Social Issues

Ideologies, human behaviour and the law

Each domain is assessed by a 1hr 30minute exam paper in June / July

Method of Assessment

100% Exam

Exam Board

OCR