

# **EASTER REVISION COURSES**

**RESIDENTIAL & NON-RESIDENTIAL** 

# A-LEVELS (including AS) & (I)GCSE

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http://www.cherwell-college.co.uk/Easter-Revision

#### **EASTER REVISION**

As a result of increasing competition for the limited number of top places, universities are demanding ever higher grades from applicants. Cherwell College Oxford recognises that in order to produce the high standard of work required to achieve these grades, students may well require supplementary tuition in addition to that provided during their school year.

In general, the normal school syllabus makes little allowance for instruction in the skills of actually preparing for public examinations. Indeed, many schools make provision for only one trial or mock examination per term over the course of the academic year. Some students may have had no experience of examinations when they attempt the final public examinations and little understanding of the examination rubric, assessment objectives and question paper formats.

Clearly A-level and GCSE students must not merely be familiar with the subject material contained within the syllabus but must also develop the ability to commit this understanding and appreciation to paper in the allotted time.

Our Easter Revision courses have been designed specifically to provide an intensive regime of examination preparation and study skills for those students wishing to achieve the best possible grades in forthcoming public examinations. The course involves intensive tuition comprising small group or individual tuition together with seminars, examination technique and daily trial examinations.

The A-level course aims for each student to **concentrate on <u>one subject</u> for the whole week** and may be either residential or non-residential (where the pupil attends daily).

We expect that all students will derive substantial benefit from a week of vigorous study in a relatively informal environment, yet one that is conducive to effective and systematic revision and exam preparation.





### **ABOUT THE COLLEGE**

Founded in 1973, Cherwell has developed an excellent reputation for encouraging our students to achieve high and consistent academic standards. The College specialises in preparing students through personal supervision for entrance to leading Russell Group and International Universities.

Students enrol at Cherwell College Oxford each academic year to study: A-levels or (I)GCSEs; prepare for Oxbridge entrance examinations; and other University tests, e.g. BMAT; LNAT; and UKCAT. The College also offers tuition for Cambridge Pre-U.

The College is in the city centre – the very heart of Oxford. The study centre is at St George's Mansion just a short walk away from the student residence, Cherwell House.

At Easter, around 50 pupils from other schools and colleges join Cherwell College Oxford students to prepare for A-level and (I)GCSE exams. For over thirty years, our Easter Revision Programme has been designed for students who wish to improve the standard of their academic work.

The structure of the Easter course is based on years of experience, in identifying and correcting problems which result in students failing to achieve their full potential in public examinations. The College aims not only to develop an understanding and appreciation of the subject material, but also the ability to commit this understanding and appreciation to paper



in the public examination; to develop techniques; and a style of writing on which the pupil will ultimately be examined. The ultimate aim and objective are for a student to achieve high academic grades.

Throughout the year Cherwell College Oxford specialises in tutoring their own full-time residential and day students, to achieve their highest qualifications in traditional subjects, through a bespoke comprehensive academic programme, which enables entry to a UK Russell Group University or a leading International University.

Cherwell College Oxford is an Examination Centre which caters for all examination boards.

#### **SMALL GROUP TUITION**

The main aim of Cherwell's Easter Course is to provide an uninterrupted week of very intensive revision, examination preparation and study skills concentrated on **one** A-level subject (or **two** (I)GCSE subjects). The course for each subject is organised and taught by Cherwell's trusted highly qualified and experienced tutors (*some are examiners*). The teaching staff oversee 5 days of study and set assignments for the evenings.

The day for residential and non-residential pupils will normally commence with a timed trial examination, involving the answering of one or two past examination papers under supervised conditions. During this time or later in the day the course tutor can meet individual pupils for discussion of specific problems areas brought to light by the trial exam.

The test questions will be marked by the tutor, who is very experienced in understanding the demands of an examiner and then either returned to the pupil with detailed comment or alternatively appraised in the final report sent to parents / guardians.



Usually, after the trial examination there will be a small group tutorial on a topic central to the examination specification. The remainder of the day's study will involve tuition in small groups with particular emphasis paid to a study of past examination questions, examination preparation and technique and study skills: essay writing; problem solving; and developing a style of writing under timed conditions.



Group sizes are small to maximise the effectiveness of interaction with the subject tutor, and it is ultimately the subject tutor who determines the most effective delivery to meet the needs of each student in their group over the week: through 30 hours of subject-specific contact time.

### **INDIVIDUAL TUITION**

Students may, if they prefer, receive individual tuition over the course of the week rather than (or, in addition to) small group tuition. This arrangement is best suited to: those who may require tuition in a subject not included on the course; those who for one reason or another have not covered all the syllabus; or lack the subject material in core areas of the specification; and those who may have experienced severe difficulties in understanding the work covered at their school / college. In such instances, students follow a timetable divided equally between individual tutorials and directed study time consisting of 15 hours of teaching, with supervised preparation and revision timetabled at other times.

This approach is particularly appropriate for students studying essay-based subjects, such as History and English Literature, in which there are a multitude of possible topics and texts and where the greatest benefit is derived from careful review of timed-essays to ensure that the student understands and can meet the assessment objectives for each unit.

<b>A TYPI</b>	CAL	DAY
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08:00 – 09:00	Breakfast	
09:00 – 09:30	Registration and study skills	
09:30 – 11:00	Study period	
11:00 – 11:30	Refreshment break	
11:30 – 13:00	Study period	
13:00 – 14:00	Lunch break	
14:00 – 15:30	Study period	
15:30 – 16:00	Refreshment break	
16:00 – 17:30	Study period	
18:00 – 19:00	Dinner	
After dinner	Homework	

Breaks between tutorials will be used for private study and assignments in libraries. Additional hours for one-to-one tutorials are available on request.

## (I)GCSE COURSES

The daily timetable is modified for (I)GCSE candidates with provision being made for the different requirements of the syllabus and, naturally, the age of the pupil. Two (I)GCSE subjects may be covered in one week, though the choice and combination will be subject to demand and dictated by early reservations and preferences. Normally, one (I)GCSE subject is studied exclusively from the first day of the course until half-way through the time-period and then the second (I)GCSE subject is taken up. Usually, two and a half days of intensive study of a subject is quite sufficient for most (I)GCSE students.

Students wishing to revise four subjects would be advised to register for intensive study at Cherwell College Oxford for two weeks.

All other (I)GCSE subjects not listed are offered, but on an individual tuition basis only (unless there is sufficient demand to form a group).



## **SUBJECTS AVAILABLE**

Accounting	Economics	Philosophy
Art & Design	French	Photography
Biology	Further Mathematics	Physics
Business Studies	Geography	Psychology
Chemistry	Government & Politics	Religious Studies
Chinese	History	Sociology
Classical Civilisation	History of Art	Spanish
English Literature	Mathematics	

<sup>\*</sup>If your subject is not listed here, please enquire, as the College may be in a position to arrange tuition.

### **ACCOMMODATION & WELFARE**

Students attending the course on a residential basis will be allocated an en-suite single bedroom in Cherwell House – our purpose-built student accommodation.

For residential students all meals (continental breakfast, light packed lunch and 3-course evening dinner) will be prepared at Cherwell House. The course supervisors, Welfare Officer and Course Secretary will be available for assistance.







Residential Students are expected to arrive early evening on reception day (Sunday). Once rooms have been allocated there will be supper at 6 pm (for residential students) and immediately after there will be an introduction by the Course Director.

The course finishes at approximately 5:00pm on the Friday.

Weekend accommodation arrangements (additional cost) can be made for students enrolling for more than one week and who would like to stay over in Oxford.



## **REPORTS**

A report will be compiled for each student at the end of the course describing the pupil's attitude, approach and progress made over the week and commenting upon performance in trial examinations. Advice will be given as to the direction revision might take, helping to plan and implement an effective framework for examination preparation between Easter and May/June. The report will be posted as soon as possible after the close of the course.

#### **DATES**

Week 1: Monday 1st April - Friday 5th April 2024

Week 2: Monday8<sup>th</sup> April – Friday 12<sup>th</sup> April 2024

Week 3 (Reading Week) Monday 27th May- Friday 31st May 2024

### **FEES**

Residential (full board, five nights): £1,535

Non-residential £1,125

Additional individual tuition: £75 per hour

Additional night's accommodation: £82

