

Thomas Hardy Sixth Form

Newsletter 1—Social Sciences Special

Welcome to our first newsletter for year 11 students who are thinking about applying to The Thomas Hardy Sixth Form next September.

In the forthcoming weekly newsletters we will be focussing on different subject areas and asking staff to answer the most frequently asked questions they usually receive at the Open Evening. In these challenging times we wanted to keep in regular contact with you all.

We start this week with a focus on the social science department.

The Sixth Form Team

Business A Level: What will I learn?

You will learn about the diverse nature of business enterprise; the interdependence of the various parts of the business world; explore business success and business failure, investigate local, national and global business markets, understanding how businesses need to adapt and respond. In Theme 1 and Theme 2 you will learn about marketing and people; entrepreneurs and business start-ups; business finance and operations; the impact of external influences. In Theme 3 and Theme 4 you will explore influences on business strategy and decision-making, and understand how businesses mitigate risk and uncertainty; explore the issues facing businesses in today's global world.

Psychology: Do you need to be good at science to do psychology?

Psychology is a recognised science; however, it is different to the natural sciences you've been studying at GCSE. Within the course there is no chemistry or physics but 20% is biology, there is a topic called 'biopsychology' and we also learn biological explanations for behaviours such as OCD, schizophrenia and aggression. You will be required to learn lots of specialist terminology and be able to demonstrate your understanding through full written answers. In order to do well on the course, you will need to engage with all elements, which is why we ask for a level 5 at GCSE in science, preferably biology.

Sociology: Why study sociology and what careers can it lead to?

Sociology will help you to make sense of the society we live in and understand the cultural and identity issues which affect us all. You will learn a number of skills including the use of evidence to support your arguments, how to investigate facts, and critical thinking. It is relevant to the society you live and you will learn about topics that are relevant to everyday life. Topics covered include; Families and Households, Education, Research Methods, Belief in Society, Crime and Deviance. Studying sociology at university opens career options, including: social work, human resources, advertising, policing, marketing, journalism, law, teaching.

Business and Enterprise: How will BTEC Business and Enterprise help me in the future?

Young people taking their first steps towards a new career need the right blend of technical and academic skills in order to become the highly skilled, work-ready individuals that employers and universities look for. Developed in collaboration with universities, employers and professional bodies, the BTEC qualification takes a unit-by-unit approach and offers a combination of assessment styles such as internally assessed coursework, practical activities and external examinations. This gives students the opportunity to showcase their skills and knowledge in an appropriate, work-related context, and provides evidence of what they can do when they apply to enter higher education or employment.

This course is a double option, equivalent to two courses.

Law

Often I hear from students “I’ve been told not to study law at school if I want to study it at university”

This is a common misconception and it is also incorrect. There are many reasons why you should study law not least because it’s a chance to see whether you want to spend the next 3 to 5 years studying it at university. Throughout your study you will have the opportunity to learn a broad range of subjects that you will continue to study at university. Our courses are also designed with a vocational element that can lead you onto an apprenticeship in law. Our students who go on to study law at university feedback that the knowledge and skills that they have learnt have given them a much better understanding and supported them with their studies. Most of all it’s two years of studying a fascinating subject taught by teachers who have studied and worked in the legal field.

Economics: What is Economics actually about?

Economics looks at how resources are shared out to get the best outcome. These resources include land, workers, time and money (amongst other things). For countries, the people responsible for allocating these resources are governments and private firms. Within businesses, it is the shareholders and owners that make the decisions, individuals are able to make the decisions themselves. Economists assume that these choices are based on maximising personal gain for individuals, maximising profit for firms and maximising society welfare for governments. Within economics we use these theories to make predictions for the future, recommend policy and study past events.

For all enquiries please email the [Sixth Form Team](mailto:sixthformteam@thomas-hardye.net) (sixthformteam@thomas-hardye.net)

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HANDS



FACE



SPACE