

SYLLABUS

**Cambridge O Level
Statistics**

4040

For examination in November 2015

Changes to syllabus for 2015

This syllabus has been updated, but there are no significant changes.

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1. Introduction

1.1 Why choose Cambridge?

Recognition

Cambridge International Examinations is the world's largest provider of international education programmes and qualifications for learners aged 5 to 19. We are part of Cambridge Assessment, a department of the University of Cambridge, trusted for excellence in education. Our qualifications are recognised by the world's universities and employers.

Cambridge O Level is internationally recognised by schools, universities and employers as equivalent in demand to Cambridge IGCSE® (International General Certificate of Secondary Education). Learn more at www.cie.org.uk/recognition

Excellence in education

Our mission is to deliver world-class international education through the provision of high-quality curricula, assessment and services.

More than 9000 schools are part of our Cambridge learning community. We support teachers in over 160 countries who offer their learners an international education based on our curricula and leading to our qualifications. Every year, thousands of learners use Cambridge qualifications to gain places at universities around the world.

Our syllabuses are reviewed and updated regularly so that they reflect the latest thinking of international experts and practitioners and take account of the different national contexts which they are taught.

Cambridge programmes and qualifications are designed to support learners in becoming:

- **confident** in working with information and ideas – their own and those of others
- **responsible** for themselves, responsive to and respectful of others
- **reflective** as learners, developing their ability to learn
- **innovative** and equipped for new and future challenges
- **engaged** intellectually and socially, ready to make a difference.

Support for teachers

A wide range of materials and resources is available to support teachers and learners in Cambridge schools. Resources suit a variety of teaching methods in different international contexts. Through subject discussion forums and training, teachers can access the expert advice they need for teaching our qualifications. More details can be found in Section 2 of this syllabus and at www.cie.org.uk/teachers

Support for exams officers

Exams officers can trust in reliable, efficient administration of exams entries and excellent personal support from our customer services. Learn more at www.cie.org.uk/examsofficers

Not-for-profit, part of the University of Cambridge

We are a not-for-profit organisation where the needs of the teachers and learners are at the core of what we do. We continually invest in educational research and respond to feedback from our customers in order to improve our qualifications, products and services.

Our systems for managing the provision of international qualifications and education programmes for learners aged 5 to 19 are certified as meeting the internationally recognised standard for quality management, ISO 9001:2008. Learn more at **www.cie.org.uk/ISO9001**

1.2 Why choose Cambridge O Level?

Cambridge O Levels have been designed for an international audience and are sensitive to the needs of different countries. These qualifications are designed for students whose first language may not be English and this is acknowledged throughout the examination process. The Cambridge O Level syllabus also allows teaching to be placed in a localised context, making it relevant in varying regions.

Our aim is to balance knowledge, understanding and skills in our programmes and qualifications to enable candidates to become effective learners and to provide a solid foundation for their continuing educational journey.

Through our professional development courses and our support materials for Cambridge O Levels, we provide the tools to enable teachers to prepare students to the best of their ability and work with us in the pursuit of excellence in education.

Cambridge O Levels are considered to be an excellent preparation for Cambridge International AS and A Levels, the Cambridge AICE (Advanced International Certificate of Education) Group Award, Cambridge Pre-U, and other education programmes, such as the US Advanced Placement program and the International Baccalaureate Diploma programme. Learn more about Cambridge O Levels at **www.cie.org.uk/cambridgesecundary2**

Guided learning hours

Cambridge O Level syllabuses are designed on the assumption that candidates have about 130 guided learning hours per subject over the duration of the course, but this is for guidance only. The number of hours required to gain the qualification may vary according to local curricular practice and the learners' prior experience of the subject.

1.3 Why choose Cambridge O Level Statistics?

Cambridge O Levels are established qualifications that keep pace with educational developments and trends. The Cambridge O Level curriculum places emphasis on broad and balanced study across a wide range of subject areas. The curriculum is structured so that candidates attain both practical skills and theoretical knowledge.

Cambridge O Level Statistics is recognised by universities and employers throughout the world as proof of statistical knowledge and understanding. Successful Cambridge O Level Statistics candidates acquire knowledge of basic statistical ideas, methods and terminology. Study of the content of the syllabus enables candidates to:

- Represent and use statistical data in graphical, diagrammatic and tabular forms.
- Interpret statistical statements, calculations and diagrams.
- Perform statistical calculations accurately.
- Acquire knowledge of elementary ideas in probability.

Cambridge O Level Statistics provides a suitable foundation for further study in the subject, as well as developing concepts which are relevant in a wide range of other subjects.

Prior learning

Candidates beginning this course are not expected to have studied Statistics previously.

Progression

Cambridge O Level Certificates are general qualifications that enable candidates to progress either directly to employment, or to proceed to further qualifications.

Candidates who are awarded grades C to A* in Cambridge O Level Statistics are well prepared to follow courses leading to AS and A Level Statistics, or the equivalent.

1.4 How can I find out more?

If you are already a Cambridge school

You can make entries for this qualification through your usual channels. If you have any questions, please contact us at **info@cie.org.uk**

If you are not yet a Cambridge school

Learn about the benefits of becoming a Cambridge school at **www.cie.org.uk/startcambridge**. Email us at **info@cie.org.uk** to find out how your organisation can register to become a Cambridge school.

2. Teacher support

2.1 Support materials

Cambridge syllabuses, past question papers and examiner reports to cover the last examination series are on the *Syllabus and Support Materials* DVD, which we send to all Cambridge schools.

You can also go to our public website at **www.cie.org.uk/olevel** to download current and future syllabuses together with specimen papers or past question papers and examiner reports from one series.

For teachers at registered Cambridge schools a range of additional support materials for specific syllabuses is available online. For Teacher Support go to **<http://teachers.cie.org.uk>** (username and password required).

2.2 Resource lists

We work with publishers providing a range of resources for our syllabuses including textbooks, websites, CDs etc. Any endorsed, recommended and suggested resources are listed on both our public website and on Teacher Support.

The resource lists can be filtered to show all resources or just those which are endorsed or recommended by Cambridge. Resources endorsed by Cambridge go through a detailed quality assurance process and are written to align closely with the Cambridge syllabus they support.

2.3 Training

We offer a range of support activities for teachers to ensure they have the relevant knowledge and skills to deliver our qualifications. See **www.cie.org.uk/events** for further information.

3. Assessment at a glance

All candidates take both Paper 1 and Paper 2.

Paper 1	2 hours 15 minutes
A written paper of two sections. Section A: Six compulsory short questions worth 36 marks Section B: Candidates choose four out of five longer questions worth 64 marks.	

and

Paper 2	2 hours 15 minutes
A written paper of two sections. Section A: Six compulsory short questions worth 36 marks Section B: Candidates choose four out of five longer questions worth 64 marks.	

A high standard of accuracy will be expected in calculations and in the drawing of diagrams and graphs. All working must be clearly shown. **The use of an electronic calculator is expected in both papers.**

Past papers are available from Cambridge.

Electronic Calculators

1. At all centres, the use of silent electronic calculators is expected.
2. The General Regulations concerning the use of electronic calculators are contained in the *Cambridge Handbook*.

Mathematical Instruments

Apart from the usual mathematical instruments, candidates may use flexicurves in this examination.

Mathematical Notation

Please see the list of mathematical notation at the end of this booklet.

Examiners' Reports (SR(I) booklets)

Reports on the November examinations are distributed to International Centres in April/May.

Availability

This syllabus is examined in the October/November examination series.

Detailed timetables are available from **www.cie.org.uk/examsOfficers**

This syllabus is available to private candidates.

Cambridge O Levels are available to Centres in Administrative Zones 3, 4 and 5. Centres in Administrative Zones 1, 2 or 6 wishing to enter candidates for Cambridge O Level examinations should contact Cambridge Customer Services.

Combining this with other syllabuses

Candidates can combine this syllabus in an examination series with any other Cambridge syllabus, except:

- syllabuses with the same title at the same level

Please note that Cambridge O Level, Cambridge IGCSE and Cambridge International Level 1/Level 2 Certificate syllabuses are at the same level.

4. Syllabus aims and assessment objectives

4.1 Aims

The course should enable students to:

- appreciate that much of the information encountered in a wide variety of contexts in everyday life has a statistical base;
- recognise the suitability of this information for statistical analysis;
- appreciate the extent of the accuracy of this information;
- acquire an understanding of the elementary concepts of statistics and probability which are useful and relevant for carrying out such analysis;
- apply appropriate methods based on these concepts to numerical information;
- draw appropriate conclusions from the results of the application of statistical methods;
- interpret both primary statistical information and the conclusions of statistical analysis;
- be aware of the limitations and levels of accuracy of interpretations and conclusions, and their relevance in an everyday societal context.

4.2 Assessment objectives

The examination tests the ability of candidates to:

- define/describe elementary statistical concepts and procedures;
- present data in a suitable form for analysis;
- justify the use of a particular method in a given situation;
- solve statistical and probability problems numerically;
- perform relevant statistical calculations accurately;
- communicate conclusions and interpretations.

5. Curriculum content

Syllabus	Notes
1. General ideas of sampling and surveys. Bias: how it arises and is avoided.	Including knowledge of the terms: random sample, stratified random sample, quota sample, systematic sample.
2. The nature of a variable.	Including knowledge of the terms: discrete, continuous, quantitative and qualitative.
3. Classification, tabulation and interpretation of data. Pictorial representation of data; the purpose and use of various forms, their advantages and disadvantages.	Including pictograms, pie charts, bar charts, sectional and percentage bar charts, dual bar charts, change charts.
4. Frequency distributions; frequency polygons and histograms.	Including class boundaries and mid-points, class intervals.
5. Cumulative frequency distributions, curves (ogives) and polygons.	
6. Measures of central tendency and their appropriate use; mode and modal class, median and mean. Measures of dispersion and their appropriate use; range, interquartile range, variance and standard deviation.	Calculation of the mean, the variance and the standard deviation from a set of numbers, a frequency distribution and a grouped frequency distribution, including the use of an assumed mean. Estimation of the median, quartiles and percentiles from a set of numbers, a cumulative frequency curve or polygon and by linear interpolation from a cumulative frequency table. The effect on mean and standard deviation of adding a constant to each observation and of multiplying each observation by a constant. Linear transformation of data to a given mean and standard deviation.
7. Index numbers, composite index numbers, price relatives, crude and standardised rates.	
8. Moving averages.	Including knowledge of the terms: time series, trend, seasonal variation, cyclic variation. Centring will be expected, where appropriate.

9. Scatter diagrams; lines of best fit.	Including the method of semi-averages for fitting a straight line; the derivation of the equation of the fitted straight line in the form $y = mx + c$.
10. Elementary ideas of probability.	Including the treatment of mutually exclusive and independent events.
11. Simple probability and frequency distributions for a discrete variable. Expectation.	Including expected profit and loss in simple games; idea of a fair game.

6. Mathematical notation

The list which follows summarises the notation used in the Cambridge's Mathematics examinations. Although primarily directed towards Advanced/HSC (Principal) level, the list also applies, where relevant, to examinations at Cambridge O Level/S.C.

1. Set Notation

$\in$	is an element of
$\notin$	is not an element of
$\{x_1, x_2, \dots\}$	the set with elements $x_1, x_2, \dots$
$\{x: \dots\}$	the set of all x such that...
$n(A)$	the number of elements in set A
$\emptyset$	the empty set
$\mathcal{E}$	universal set
A'	the complement of the set A
$\mathbb{N}$	the set of positive integers, $\{1, 2, 3, \dots\}$
$\mathbb{Z}$	the set of integers $\{0, \pm 1, \pm 2, \pm 3, \dots\}$
$\mathbb{Z}^+$	the set of positive integers $\{1, 2, 3, \dots\}$
$\mathbb{Z}_n$	the set of integers modulo n , $\{0, 1, 2, \dots, n-1\}$
$\mathbb{Q}$	the set of rational numbers
$\mathbb{Q}^+$	the set of positive rational numbers, $\{x \in \mathbb{Q}: x > 0\}$
$\mathbb{Q}_0^+$	the set of positive rational numbers and zero, $\{x \in \mathbb{Q}: x \geq 0\}$
$\mathbb{R}$	the set of real numbers
$\mathbb{R}^+$	the set of positive real numbers $\{x \in \mathbb{R}: x > 0\}$
$\mathbb{R}_0^+$	the set of positive real numbers and zero $\{x \in \mathbb{R}: x \geq 0\}$
$\mathbb{R}^n$	the real n -tuples
$\mathbb{C}$	the set of complex numbers
$\subseteq$	is a subset of
$\subset$	is a proper subset of
$\not\subseteq$	is not a subset of
$\not\subset$	is not a proper subset of
$\cup$	union
$\cap$	intersection
$[a, b]$	the closed interval $\{x \in \mathbb{R}: a \leq x \leq b\}$
$[a, b)$	the interval $\{x \in \mathbb{R}: a \leq x < b\}$
$(a, b]$	the interval $\{x \in \mathbb{R}: a < x \leq b\}$
(a, b)	the open interval $\{x \in \mathbb{R}: a < x < b\}$
yRx	y is related to x by the relation R
$y \sim x$	y is equivalent to x , in the context of some equivalence relation

2. Miscellaneous Symbols

$=$	is equal to
$\neq$	is not equal to
$\equiv$	is identical to or is congruent to
$\approx$	is approximately equal to
$\cong$	is isomorphic to
$\propto$	is proportional to
$<, \ll$	is less than, is much less than
$\leq, \nless$	is less than or equal to, is not greater than
$>, \gg$	is greater than, is much greater than
$\geq, \ngtr$	is greater than or equal to, is not less than
∞	infinity

3. Operations

$a + b$	a plus b
$a - b$	a minus b
$a \times b, ab, a.b$	a multiplied by b
$a \div b, \frac{a}{b}, a/b$	a divided by b
$a : b$	the ratio of a to b
$\sum_{i=1}^n a_i$	$a_1 + a_2 + \dots + a_n$
$\sqrt{a}$	the positive square root of the real number a
$ a $	the modulus of the real number a
$n!$	n factorial for $n \in \mathbb{N}$ ($0! = 1$)
$\binom{n}{r}$	the binomial coefficient $\frac{n!}{r!(n-r)!}$, for $n, r \in \mathbb{N}$, $0 \leq r \leq n$

$$\frac{n(n-1)\dots(n-r+1)}{r!}, \text{ for } n \in \mathbb{Q}, r \in \mathbb{N}$$

4. Functions

f	function f
$f(x)$	the value of the function f at x
$f : A \rightarrow B$	f is a function under which each element of set A has an image in set B
$f : x \mapsto y$	the function f maps the element x to the element y
f^{-1}	the inverse of the function f
$g \circ f, gf$	the composite function of f and g which is defined by $(g \circ f)(x)$ or $gf(x) = g(f(x))$
$\lim_{x \rightarrow a} f(x)$	the limit of $f(x)$ as x tends to a
$\Delta x; \delta x$	an increment of x
$\frac{dy}{dx}$	the derivative of y with respect to x
$\frac{d^n y}{dx^n}$	the n th derivative of y with respect to x
$f'(x), f''(x), \dots, f^{(n)}(x)$	the first, second, ..., n th derivatives of $f(x)$ with respect to x
$\int y \, dx$	indefinite integral of y with respect to x
$\int_a^b y \, dx$	the definite integral of y with respect to x for values of x between a and b
$\frac{\partial y}{\partial x}$	the partial derivative of y with respect to x
$\dot{x}, \ddot{x}, \dots$	the first, second, ... derivatives of x with respect to time

5. Exponential and Logarithmic Functions

e	base of natural logarithms
$e^x, \exp x$	exponential function of x
$\log_a x$	logarithm to the base a of x
$\ln x$	natural logarithm of x
$\lg x$	logarithm of x to base 10

6. Circular and Hyperbolic Functions and Relations

$\sin, \cos, \tan,$ $\operatorname{cosec}, \sec, \cot$	}	the circular functions
$\sin^{-1}, \cos^{-1}, \tan^{-1},$ $\operatorname{cosec}^{-1}, \sec^{-1}, \cot^{-1}$	}	the inverse circular relations
$\sinh, \cosh, \tanh,$ $\operatorname{cosech}, \operatorname{sech}, \coth$	}	the hyperbolic functions
$\sinh^{-1}, \cosh^{-1}, \tanh^{-1},$ $\operatorname{cosech}^{-1}, \operatorname{sech}^{-1}, \coth^{-1}$	}	the inverse hyperbolic relations

7. Complex Numbers

i	square root of -1
z	a complex number, $z = x + iy$ $= r(\cos \theta + i \sin \theta), r \in \mathbb{R}_0^+$ $= re^{i\theta}, r \in \mathbb{R}_0^+$
$\operatorname{Re} z$	the real part of z , $\operatorname{Re}(x + iy) = x$
$\operatorname{Im} z$	the imaginary part of z , $\operatorname{Im}(x + iy) = y$
$ z $	the modulus of z , $ x + iy = \sqrt{(x^2 + y^2)}, r(\cos \theta + i \sin \theta) = r$
$\arg z$	the argument of z , $\arg(r(\cos \theta + i \sin \theta)) = \theta, -\pi < \theta \leq \pi$
z^*	the complex conjugate of z , $(x + iy)^* = x - iy$

8. Matrices

$\mathbf{M}$	a matrix $\mathbf{M}$
$\mathbf{M}^{-1}$	the inverse of the square matrix $\mathbf{M}$
$\mathbf{M}^T$	the transpose of the matrix $\mathbf{M}$
$\det \mathbf{M}$	the determinant of the square matrix $\mathbf{M}$

9. Vectors

$\mathbf{a}$	the vector $\mathbf{a}$
$\overrightarrow{AB}$	the vector represented in magnitude and direction by the directed line segment AB
$\hat{\mathbf{a}}$	a unit vector in the direction of the vector $\mathbf{a}$
$\mathbf{i}, \mathbf{j}, \mathbf{k}$	unit vectors in the directions of the cartesian coordinate axes
$ \mathbf{a} $	the magnitude of $\mathbf{a}$
$ \overrightarrow{AB} $	the magnitude of $\overrightarrow{AB}$
$\mathbf{a} \cdot \mathbf{b}$	the scalar product of $\mathbf{a}$ and $\mathbf{b}$
$\mathbf{a} \times \mathbf{b}$	the vector product of $\mathbf{a}$ and $\mathbf{b}$

10. Probability and Statistics

A, B, C etc.	events
$A \cup B$	union of events A and B
$A \cap B$	intersection of the events A and B
$P(A)$	probability of the event A
A'	complement of the event A , the event 'not A '
$P(A B)$	probability of the event A given the event B
X, Y, R , etc.	random variables
x, y, r , etc.	values of the random variables X, Y, R , etc.
$x_1, x_2, \dots$	observations
$f_1, f_2, \dots$	frequencies with which the observations $x_1, x_2, \dots$ occur
$p(x)$	the value of the probability function $P(X = x)$ of the discrete random variable X
$p_1, p_2, \dots$	probabilities of the values $x_1, x_2, \dots$ of the discrete random variable X
$f(x), g(x), \dots$	the value of the probability density function of the continuous random variable X

$F(x), G(x), \dots$	the value of the (cumulative) distribution function $P(X \leq x)$ of the random variable X
$E(X)$	expectation of the random variable X
$E[g(X)]$	expectation of $g(X)$
$\text{Var}(X)$	variance of the random variable X
$G(t)$	the value of the probability generating function for a random variable which takes integer values
$B(n, p)$	binomial distribution, parameters n and p
$N(\mu, \sigma^2)$	normal distribution, mean μ and variance σ^2
μ	population mean
σ^2	population variance
σ	population standard deviation
$\bar{x}$	sample mean
s^2	unbiased estimate of population variance from a sample, $s^2 = \frac{1}{n-1} \sum (x - \bar{x})^2$
ϕ	probability density function of the standardised normal variable with distribution $N(0, 1)$
Φ	corresponding cumulative distribution function
ρ	linear product-moment correlation coefficient for a population
r	linear product-moment correlation coefficient for a sample
$\text{Cov}(X, Y)$	covariance of X and Y

7. Resource list

These titles represent some of the texts available in the UK at the time of printing this booklet. Teachers are encouraged to choose texts for class use which they feel will be of interest to their candidates and will support their own teaching style. ISBN numbers are provided wherever possible.

Suggested Books

Author	Title	Date	Publisher	ISBN Number
Caswell	<i>Success in Statistics</i>	1994	Hodder Murray	0719572029
Chalmers	<i>O Level Statistics</i>	2009	Cambridge University Press	978-0521169542
Hartley	<i>Statistics Book 1</i>	1998	Ajanta Publications	8120203089
Plews	<i>Introductory Statistics</i>	1979	Heinemann	0435537504
Walker, McLean and Matthew	<i>Statistics – a first course</i>	1993	Hodder Education	0340552468

8. Other information

Equality and inclusion

Cambridge International Examinations has taken great care in the preparation of this syllabus and assessment materials to avoid bias of any kind. To comply with the UK Equality Act (2010), Cambridge has designed this qualification with the aim of avoiding direct and indirect discrimination.

The standard assessment arrangements may present unnecessary barriers for candidates with disabilities or learning difficulties. Arrangements can be put in place for these candidates to enable them to access the assessments and receive recognition of their attainment. Access arrangements will not be agreed if they give candidates an unfair advantage over others or if they compromise the standards being assessed.

Candidates who are unable to access the assessment of any component may be eligible to receive an award based on the parts of the assessment they have taken.

Information on access arrangements is found in the *Cambridge Handbook* which can be downloaded from the website **www.cie.org.uk**

Language

This syllabus and the associated assessment materials are available in English only.

Grading and reporting

Cambridge O Level results are shown by one of the grades A*, A, B, C, D or E, indicating the standard achieved, A* being the highest and E the lowest. 'Ungraded' indicates that the candidate's performance fell short of the standard required for grade E. 'Ungraded' will be reported on the statement of results but not on the certificate. The letters Q (result pending); X (no results) and Y (to be issued) may also appear on the statement of results but not on the certificate.

Entry codes

To maintain the security of our examinations we produce question papers for different areas of the world, known as 'administrative zones'. Where the component entry code has two digits, the first digit is the component number given in the syllabus. The second digit is the location code, specific to an administrative zone. Information about entry codes, examination timetables and administrative instructions can be found in the *Cambridge Guide to Making Entries*.

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