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*Pictured below: The Campus at College Square East, in the heart of Belfast City Centre.*



**bmc**  
Belfast Metropolitan  
College

# A-LEVELS

## AT BELFAST METROPOLITAN COLLEGE



\*BELFAST METROPOLITAN COLLEGE IS THE MERGER OF  
BELFAST INSTITUTE AND CASTLEREAGH COLLEGE



## COURSE INFORMATION

### Dear Prospective International Student,



I am pleased to introduce to you our booklet "A Levels at Belfast Metropolitan College", giving you a profile of just some of the many thousands of students who, over the years, have successfully completed their A Level studies with us, at Belfast Metropolitan College.

Belfast Metropolitan College has over 55,000 students and is the third largest college in the United Kingdom. It was founded in 1907. It is a fully public organization and is funded and monitored by Government. It offers a wide range of courses including university degree programmes. It is the largest provider of GCE A levels in the sector. The College has about 1700 A level students each year, and 600 of them are full time A level students.

We are very proud of our A level programme which we have run since the inception of A levels, some 40 years ago. We can offer a very wide range of A level subjects offered by a range of awarding bodies, including our local awarding body CCEA, all of which have national and international recognition. We currently offer 25 A level subjects. Students studying for A levels have all the benefits of being taught by excellent and experienced teachers, many of whom are also employed as Chief Examiners and Examiners by the A Level awarding bodies themselves, and who are educated up to doctorate level. Students also benefit by being supported by a range of valued student support services and of having access to some of the best ICT and resource facilities available to students in any college. International students have in addition the support of a dedicated international support team and have access to specialist English Language classes.

Our students have progressed to a variety of universities, degree programmes and careers. They progress to study for their degrees in a range of universities from the local Belfast universities of Queen's University (a member of the prestigious Russell Group) and the University of Ulster, to world renowned universities in other cities such as Trinity College Dublin, University of London, St Andrew's (Scotland) and the University of Manchester. They have studied as undergraduates and post-graduates in disciplines from Accountancy to Zoology and everything in between. From here they have gone on to careers ranging from university professors, to media and television producers, to doctors, to dentists, to engineers, to politicians, to civil servants, to bankers and financiers and to lead independent businesses.

We would like you to consider coming to Belfast to study A levels, with your fellow International Students, in a warm and welcoming environment in which you will receive support to the highest standards to help enable you to succeed and progress to the university and career of your choice.

You are most welcome.

*Paul Kane*  
Head of A Level Studies

### 到英国优秀公立学院读高中 贝尔法斯特城市学院

- 100 年的悠久历史
- 55,000 名学生
- 位于英国北爱尔兰的首府—贝尔法斯特市
- 我们是英国文化部(British Council) 的成员，并因优秀的教育质量而被英国政府多次授予灯塔奖(Beacon Awards)
- 学费: 每年 6000 英镑

#### A Level Subjects

财会 (Accounts)	历史 (History)
艺术 (Arts)	咨询和通讯技术 (Information & Communication Technology)
生物(Biology)	数学 (Mathematics)
商务 (Business Study)	新闻学(Media Studies)
化学 (Chemistry)	物理学 (Physics)
数字摄影(Digital Photography)	心理学 (Psychology)
英国文学 (English Literature)	宗教学 (Religious Studies)
电影学 (Film Studies)	社会学 (Sociology)
法语 (French)	西班牙语 (Spanish)
地理 (Geography)	
政府与政治 (Government & Politics)	

学时: 2 年 Full Time

学生们一般在第一年选择 3 — 4 门课程，为 'AS' Level，第二年选择 3 门课程为 'A2' Level。

考试方式: 每一科将加入冬天或者夏天的考试。'AS' Level 的考试安排在在第一年，'A2' Level 的考试安排在在第二年。

#### 入学要求：

- 年龄至少 16 岁，高一学生可申请（各科平均分数至少 70 分）或同等学历
- 雅思成绩 IELTS 5.0

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## COURSE INFORMATION

### Jennifer Teeney

In June 2007 I achieved grades A in Psychology, A in History and B in Politics. I am now at Queens University Belfast studying Psychology and hope to continue on to do a doctorate in clinical psychology after my first degree.

I can honestly say without exaggeration that the A-level course was one of the most rewarding experiences of my life and that not only did I gain academic skills but also valuable life skills and wonderful memories.

### May Chan



I really enjoyed my studies and appreciated being treated as an adult. The confidence I gained in the Institute helped me when I applied for a training post in the world renowned BBC in Belfast. I was lucky to be one of the ten successful candidates out of three hundred applicants.

For the past four years I have been employed by the BBC as a programme researcher gaining experience in a number of jobs. I have worked in the news room and I am at present a broadcast assistant with responsibility for recording and editing.

To widen my horizons I am back in college at nights studying Fashion and Design. I consider my studies at college as a vital step in my career I look back with fond memories to my two years of study in an adult and helpful environment.

### Kerrie Norton

I completed A Levels here from September 2005 to June 2007 getting Sociology Grade A, Psychology Grade A and Geography Grade B. At Belfast Metropolitan College I felt that I could approach all my tutors if I had any problems, and that they were always willing to give extra help to those who needed it. Smaller class sizes in comparison to those at school also meant that teaching was on a more personal level.

After completing my A Levels, I got offers from 5 different universities for 5 courses. I chose to study Geography at University of Ulster Coleraine which I absolutely love. I'm so glad I choose to go to Belfast Metropolitan College to do my A Levels as I could not have anticipated how enjoyable completing my A Levels could actually be!

### Greetings Students and Parents



My name is Pat Brown and I am the Centre Manager of the Two Year A Level Programme in the Belfast Metropolitan College. I have been involved with this course for over thirty years during which time I have seen it grow from around fifty students to the current enrolment of over five hundred students.

We cater for students from many different backgrounds – not just from Belfast - from other towns and cities in Northern Ireland and from the rest of the Island of Ireland but from throughout the UK and beyond. We have always been particularly pleased to have international students from other countries because we can learn so much about other cultures and economies but because these students have been dedicated to their studies and are committed to achieving the highest grades in their subjects. It has always been a joy to teach our international students.

We are proud of the wide range of subjects which we offer and the endless combinations which students can choose. It really is “designer” education. Students are taught by highly qualified and experienced teachers many of whom actually are examiners for the leading award boards. This means students are not only up to date on the knowledge they require but are fully aware of how best to prepare for actual exams. Each student is also given a personal tutor - someone who advises them on all matters throughout their two years.

It is not surprising therefore that our students do particularly well. The subjects currently on offer to International Students, for example, have high pass-rates- Information Communication **Technology (computing) 100%, Physics 100%, Business Studies 94%, Mathematics 92% and Chemistry 86%**. We hope to expand this choice for next year.

We organize events for students to have some fun as well! Each Christmas we have a Talent Show and a general knowledge quiz; students visit the theatre or local universities and there are also talks from visiting guest speakers.

We have considerable experience in helping students who are away from their home and their friends. We welcome contact from parents to find out about student progress. I feel this makes us a highly suitable choice of college for you - or your son and/or daughter.

I hope to hear from you soon.

*Pat*

*Centre Manager of the Two Year A Level Programme*

## COURSE INFORMATION

### Case Studies:

#### Amy Nga Man Poon



I am an international student from Hong Kong studying the second year of A-Level in Belfast Metropolitan College. The subjects that I study include Chemistry, Biology, Maths, Geography and Chinese. Last year, I obtained four As and one B in AS level exams. After finishing the A level course, I hope to return to Hong Kong to study Civil Engineering in university.

Being a non-English speaker, life in Belfast is challenging.

However, with the help and support from friends and teachers, I am able to overcome many difficulties I faced. During my study in BMC, I have had the opportunity to improve my English, Interpersonal Skills and academic results.

I have had a good time in BMC, and I really enjoy living in Belfast.

#### Doreen Mwendah

I'm originally from Kenya but I have been in the UK for eight years. I joined the A level course in 2005 studying A levels in Mathematics, Business Studies and ICT. I was delighted to gain three A grades in my A Level subjects and as a result I have gone on to take an Actuarial Science Degree at Cass Business School (City University in London). As it turns out the course is much harder than I thought. However, I'm enjoying the course so I have no regrets.

#### William Luney

Currently I am in the second year of my A level studies in Belfast Metropolitan



College. The decision to join this course is one which I have not regretted. In an environment including a quality teaching staff and diverse student body my personal and academic ability has really developed. The college combines both class work and independent learning, similar to the method of learning at universities and therefore ideal for students wishing to advance into Higher Education. I have got a grade A in History at AS, a B in Religious Studies and a B in Film Studies. I have an offer to go to Exeter University (England) to study Modern History in September 2008 and

whilst I will miss the College I am looking forward to going to such a prestigious university. In conclusion can I say that I would thoroughly recommend Belfast Metropolitan College to anyone considering taking A levels.

#### Niamh Scally



I joined the A level course in September 2006 studying four AS subjects. In June I gained A grades in Chemistry, Biology, Physics and Psychology. I really appreciate the resources available to me in the College. These include a quiet library, well equipped science labs, resource centres and an excellent careers guidance service. I have enjoyed my time in the college and appreciate the support from my subject teachers and personal tutor. Next year I hope to go to Aberdeen University (Scotland) to study medicine.

#### Ronny Southwood

I'll always remember my teachers. They cared about our progress and personally did a lot to mentor me and keep me going in the right direction. I didn't think I could ever get As and Bs, but my teachers gave me the encouragement I needed to get top grades. It simply wouldn't have happened without them.

The main thing for me is that it really helped to build my confidence. I was always shy and I was anxious about going to BMC but this experience helped me to become more sociable and I made good friends that I'm still close to.

I am now studying Business Management at Queen's University having achieved grades A in ICT, A in Politics and B in History.

#### Nafikahedi Fred Mboya



I came from Kenya to study at Belfast Metropolitan College. Currently I am studying A2s in Biology, Geography and Chemistry. The move to continue my studies at Belfast Metropolitan College has been a very positive move for my academic career. There is unique scope for independent learning coupled with a strong and invaluable support network offered by a dedicated staff. When I have completed my A level study I would like to go on to further my education at university in Australia.