

A selection of Russell Group recommendations regarding appropriate A levels to choose for degree subjects

Degree	Essential	Useful
Accountancy (Banking/finance/insurance)	Maths	Business, economics
Aeronautical engineering	Maths and physics	Further maths, DT
Archaeology	None	Geography, history, a science
Architecture	Art	Maths, DT, physics + own portfolio
Art & design	Art	DT + own portfolio
Biochemistry	Chemistry, biology	Maths, further maths, physics
Biology	Biology, chemistry	Maths or physics
Biomedical/medical sciences	Chemistry, biology	Maths, further maths, physics
Business studies	None	Maths, business, economics
Chemical engineering	Chemistry, maths	Physics, biology, further maths
Childhood studies	None	Psychology, sociology, health & social care
Computer games design	ICT	Maths, art, DT, ICT, computing
Computing	Computing	Maths, ICT, physics, philosophy
Dentistry	Chemistry and biology for most	Maths, physics, further maths
Drama	English and/or theatre studies	English literature, theatre studies
Economics	Maths	Economics
Engineering (General)	Maths, physics	Further maths, DT
English	English literature, English literature & language	History, philosophy, MFL
Environmental science	2 from biology, chemistry, geography	Physics, maths
French/German/Spanish	French/German/Spanish	Another language, English, history
Geography	Geography	1 from biology, chemistry, maths, physics
Geology	2 from maths, physics, chemistry, biology	Geography, geology
History	History	English literature, philosophy, politics, sociology, a language
Law	English	History, other facilitating subjects, preferably essay based
Management studies	Sometimes maths	Maths, economics, business
Mathematics	Maths	Further maths, physics
Mechanical engineering	Maths, physics	Further maths

Media studies (including communication studies)	English and/or media studies	English, media studies, sociology, psychology
Medicine	Chemistry and biology + 1 from maths or physics	Further Maths, a contrasting non-science subject
Music	Music + grade VII or VIII	At least one essay based subject
Nursing/midwifery	Usually biology	Health & social care, sociology, psychology
Occupational therapy	Some say biology	Biology, psychology, physical education, sociology or another science
Philosophy	None	Maths, classical civilisations, philosophy, RE/theology
Physics	Maths, physics	Further maths, chemistry
Physiotherapy	Most require biology, some also require a 2 nd science	Chemistry, maths, physics, psychology
Politics	None	Politics, history, philosophy, law, sociology
Psychology	1 from biology, chemistry, physics	Maths, psychology, sociology
Religious Studies/theology	None	Philosophy, English literature, history
Sociology	None	Sociology, psychology, geography
Sports science/physical education	1 from biology, chemistry, maths, physics – some treat PE as a science equivalent	Physical education, psychology
Surveying	None	Maths and physics for building surveying, most A levels considered for estate management
Teacher training (secondary)	At least 1 from English, geography, history, maths, music, physics, PE, RE, art, biology, chemistry, DT, drama, a language, ICT	A 2 nd subject from the list
Veterinary science	Chemistry and biology, plus 1 from maths or physics	Further maths