

A LEVEL **NEW: OCR A-LEVEL PHYSICS: BOOSTING PERFORMANCE IN PAPER 1 AND 2**

CODE **8379**

ABOUT THIS COURSE

This new course is intended for teachers of OCR A-level Physics who want to develop strategies to help both the low and high achievers in their classes to improve the examination performance.

The course will provide guidance on how you can diagnose the causes of learners' poor attainment in exams and helping them to address these issues through developing practical and mathematical skills and improving exam technique.

The course focuses on OCR A-level Physics Specification A but will be useful for teachers teaching similar specifications.

PROGRAMME

TIME

Learning from previous exams, reviewing and evaluating examples of student answers 10.00 – 11.10am

- Review and evaluate examples of student answers and mark schemes from 2019, from paper 1 and 2 A-level OCR specification
- Identifying key areas of weakness which impact the achievement of exam candidates, especially the lower attainers
- Identifying subtle changes and methods that can increase the grades of high achievers
- Review of sources of data on student performance

Discussion: coffee break

11.10 – 11.25am

Developing learners' skills to overcome weak areas 11.25 – 12.40pm

- Using mark scheme analysis to help students improve exam strategies
- Developing the mathematical skills which underpin exam performance throughout the course
- Tackling multiple choice questions well – and using MCQs to differentiate learning
- Command words, types of exam questions – how to introduce the language of examinations into your teaching and assessments from day 1
- Stretch and challenge – ideas for top students to go further

Lunch and informal discussion

12.40 – 1.40pm

Challenging Content: Exploring how to build the right kind of student responses to aim high and achieve in tough questions 1.40 – 3.00pm

- Apply techniques from the morning session to exam questions
- Exploring the more challenging content in the two papers and thinking about ways to build the right kind of student responses:
 - Fields – Electric and Electromagnetic
 - Circuits – Resistors and Capacitors
 - Motion – Circular and Harmonic

Techniques and methods to prepare students for 2021 assessment in an extraordinary year 3.00 – 3.40pm

- Review teaching methods and ideas for helping students to prepare for the 2021 examinations
- Obtain and evaluate useful take-away resources – ISAAC Physics, videos and IoP resources
- Discussion of ideas gained from the session

Summary and Final Q and A 3.40 – 4.00pm

LOCATION/DATE

Online

Thursday 18 March 2021

Monday 05 July 2021

COURSE LEADER

Tony Dunn is a current examiner in A-level Physics for a major awarding body. He has taught for over 30 years in secondary schools and sixth form colleges, mainly in inner city areas, specialising in A-level Physics. Since the new A-level curriculum was introduced, he has had 100% pass rates with all his A-level Physics groups, whilst working at an inclusive college in a deprived borough. He was a Head of Science for 12 years and also spent several years training Physics teachers in SE Asia.

WHO SHOULD ATTEND?

- Heads of Physics
- All OCR A-level Physics teachers
- Heads of Science

BENEFITS OF ATTENDING

- Review and evaluate examples of student answers
- Take away subtle changes and methods that can increase the grades of high achievers
- Gain strategies for developing students skills' to overcome weak areas
- Develop strategies for helping students improve their exam technique