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**Cambridge AICE Substitutions**

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**The Background:**

A local school district, Bradley County, is hoping to implement the Cambridge AICE program. In response, the Tennessee Department of Education has begun an in-depth look at the course content and requirements. As this program is somewhat new to Tennessee schools, we have requested a complete course alignment showing how current Tennessee standards may be met within the Cambridge course offerings. It is the opinion of the SDE's content specialist that more time is needed to study the program prior to recommendation for complete acceptance of the program in its entirety as was done for the International Baccalaureate Program. All indications are that this is a rigorous, high quality program and since Bradley County wishes to offer the courses beginning in the fall of 2011, we are proposing that the Board allow course substitution on a course-by-course basis pending SDE review and approval by the content specialists within the Department of Education.

Upon completion of the review the SDE will make a recommendation to the SBE regarding full acceptance of the Cambridge AICE program as a stand-alone path to high school graduation.

**Master Plan Connection:**

This item supports the Board's *Master Plan* by continuing the Board's commitment to rigorous curriculum standards and the goal of graduating students who are college ready upon graduation.

**The Recommendation:**

The Tennessee Department of Education recommends adoption of this item on final reading. SBE staff concurs with this recommendation

## **About Bradley Central High School**

Welcome to the Bradley Central High School Website. Bradley Central is a National School of Excellence with a rich heritage dating back over ninety years. The first Bradley Central High School graduating class in 1917 had only eight seniors. Today the senior class exceeds four hundred with a total student population of over seventeen hundred in grades 9 through 12.

Bradley Central High School is accredited by the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools and the Tennessee State Department of Education. As a comprehensive high school, Bradley Central offers both college preparation and career and technical education programs. In addition, college credit is possible through Advanced Placement exams and Dual Enrollment courses through Cleveland State Community College and Lee University. With sixteen career and technical education programs, Bradley Central provides an educational experience that is rigorous and relevant for students, and offers them opportunities to link with business and industry within the community. Our FFA Agriculture program has received Gold Star recognition for 40 consecutive years, more than any other program in America. Bradley's career and technical education programs are outstanding!

Bradley Central High School is home to thousands of proud alumni who are "Bradley Bears-Black and Gold" for life! They help and support our current students in so many ways, including the many sports and extracurricular activities that continue to build upon a long and great tradition of excellence. It is the commitment of our entire school family-faculty, staff, alumni and community-to provide our students with an opportunity to achieve their full potential as educated citizens. Our children are the future of Bradley County, and at Bradley Central High School, we are working to help them be the best they can be!

### **Mission Statement**

Students will leave Bradley Central High School with the academic, social, and emotional skills necessary to become self-directed lifelong learners and productive citizens in a diverse and ever-changing society.

### **Vision Statement**

Bradley Central High School will help its students develop a sense of pride, accomplishment, and self-worth. The shared vision will provide students the skills needed to succeed in furthering their education or joining the work force through data-driven, research-based programs that encourage students to become responsible, productive members of society.

## **Beliefs**

- Students should be provided with learning opportunities that will prepare them for employment in a global, technological society.
- Students can rise to higher levels of performance when challenged by higher instructional expectations
- The teacher can cultivate the student's desire to learn by acting as a guide and facilitator who applies a variety of teaching strategies, methods, and assessment techniques.
- Every student has worth, dignity, and the ability to learn.
- The student's self-esteem can be enhanced through positive relationships with staff, other students, parents, employers, and community members.
- Involvement in the decision-making process encourages student ownership of school policy.
- Extracurricular activities are important in the development of leadership, interpersonal skills, teamwork, and self-discipline.
- A balanced curriculum should include academics, vocational/technical training, fine arts, physical education, and wellness.
- Students should be exposed to a variety of learning styles that require active rather than passive involvement on the part of the student.
- The teacher makes the difference in the classroom.
- Students learn best in a safe, orderly, attractive, and enjoyable environment.

## **Statistical Profile**

### **Demographics**

White/Caucasian	93.7%
Hispanic/Latin American	3.1%
Black/African American	2.5%
American Indian	0.4%
Asian	0.1%
Native Hawaiian-Pacific Island	0.1%

### **ACT Composite Scores**

2006	21.5
2007	21.6
2008	21.4
2009	21.2

**Professional Staff**

**Director of Schools:** Johnny McDaniel

**Principal:** Todd Shoemaker

**Assistant Principals:**

Martha Frazier (9<sup>th</sup> Grade)

Terry McElhaney (10<sup>th</sup> Grade)

Greg Geren (11<sup>th</sup> -12<sup>th</sup> Grade)

Angie Neely (Academics)

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Anthony Clukey(10<sup>th</sup> Grade)

Robin Laxton (11<sup>th</sup> Grade)

Amanda Turner (12<sup>th</sup> Grade)

<b>Clubs and Organizations</b>	<b>Athletic Activities</b>
Bachelorettes Beta Club Character Education Choir Christian Crusaders Crossroads of East Tennessee DECA Drama Club Earth Club Election Commission FBLA FCA FCCLA FFA French Club HOSA N.A.R.F National Honor Society Ruritan Club Scribes Skills USA Student Council Yearbook	Football Basketball Volleyball Wrestling Cross Country Track Baseball Tennis Golf Softball Soccer Band Cheerleading Dance Bowling

At Bradley Central High School (BCHS) in Cleveland, TN the faculty and staff envision the students becoming productive, responsible citizens with the academic, social, and emotional skills necessary to succeed in furthering their education. With this in mind, the Cambridge Advanced International Certificate of Education (AICE) Program has been chosen to further this vision for the students at Bradley Central High School. This international, pre-university program was developed by the University of Cambridge in England. The first AICE was offered in the United States in 1995. The curriculum is designed as a preparation for college and university programs. By offering the Cambridge AICE diploma students are offered a broad, varied academic program with the flexibility to concentrate on intellectual interests. There are many benefits for the students at Bradley Central in pursuing the AICE Diploma. They include: increased GPA; additional way to qualify for college scholarships; possibility of earning college credit; college level preparation; exposure to different methods of assessments with emphasis on higher order thinking skills and writing; and international perspective necessary for tomorrow's leaders. The Cambridge AICE Diploma would be a complement to the Tennessee High School Diploma. It would, obviously, be mandatory for all students to meet the requirements of the Tennessee Diploma, but the students would surpass these expectations. A comparison of both has been completed. Both diplomas would require four English classes although students working towards a Cambridge diploma would take four honor classes. Five honor math classes would be required for Cambridge. The students will still take three science classes, but again the classes would be honor. The Social Studies requirements would surpass Tennessee requirements by two classes.

Further comparison was completed by educators of differing subject matter. This evaluation consisted of the actual standards in each core subject area. The Cambridge math curriculum exceeds the Tennessee standards. Within each theme of Discrete Math and Calculus there are more objectives covered within the Cambridge curriculum. The final assessment for English is a combination of nine papers with a comprehensive approach. Student must show a mastery of an abundant amount of standards by writing nine papers on a variety of literature, poetry, prose, research, and drama. Even though Cambridge is an international school, there are many similarities of the standards required for U. S. History. The students will have a broad access to international history as well. Pertaining to the 2 foreign language credits required, the Cambridge program consists of a more comprehensive program requiring the students to take more than two courses. In regards to Science, there are at least 15 different content items, mandatory to the Cambridge program that is not required by the State of Tennessee Chemistry I and II Standards.

The Cambridge ACIE program will bring a higher level of academic standards and expectations to the students at BCHS. This innovative and accelerated method of academic study will allow flexibility in class selection and timing for college. The Cambridge courses are equivalent to those offered at US university freshmen level or beyond. Its strengths lie in the flexibility and structure of the curriculum encouraging in-depth, working knowledge of each subject, and in essay-based examinations as assessment of that knowledge and skill mastery. The students at Bradley Central High School who participate this program will be eligible for advanced standing at the college or university level.

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Bachelorettes	Football
Beta Club	Basketball
Character Education	Volleyball
Choir	Wrestling
Christian Crusaders	Cross Country
Crossroads of East Tennessee	Track
DECA	Baseball
Drama Club	Tennis
Earth Club	Golf
Election Commission	Softball
FBLA	Soccer
FCA	Band
FCCLA	Cheerleading
FFA	Dance
French Club	Bowling
HOSA	
N.A.R.F	
National Honor Society	
Ruritan Club	
Scribes	
Skills USA	
Student Council	
Yearbook	

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UNIVERSITY OF  
CAMBRIDGE

# Cambridge ACIE Diploma

In conjunction with the Tennessee High  
School Diploma



# What is Cambridge AICE?

- ▶ An international, pre-university program developed by the University of Cambridge in England
- ▶ Examinations have been offered for over 50 years in more than 160 countries
- ▶ AICE first offered in the US in 1995
- ▶ Group certificate is based on competence in six subjects; however, students can be awarded for individual subjects
- ▶ Curriculum designed as preparation for college and university programs



# Focus of Cambridge AICE

- ▶ High academic standards
- ▶ Flexibility to pursue areas of interest and strengths
- ▶ International philosophy and approach
- ▶ Range of assessment techniques
- ▶ Recognition value (most major colleges and universities in the U.S. and worldwide)



# Benefits of Cambridge AICE

- ▶ Increased GPA
- ▶ Possibility of earning college credit
- ▶ College level preparation
- ▶ Exposure to different methods of assessment with emphasis on higher order thinking skills and writing
- ▶ Ability to direct student's educational interests
- ▶ International perspective necessary for tomorrow's leaders
- ▶ Ability to compete for admission to the most elite colleges and universities



# Curriculum

AICE curriculum is designed to be educationally varied and comprehensive. It is also designed to allow a student to tailor their studies to fit their strengths. For educational breadth and balance, students must choose and test in one full AICE level class from each of the following three groups of study:

- Group A: Mathematics and Sciences
- Group B: Languages
- Group C: Arts and Humanities

Students then must choose three additional AICE level classes from any area.



# Group A – Mathematics and Sciences

- ▶ Biology
- ▶ Chemistry
- ▶ Computing
- ▶ Design and Technology
- ▶ Environmental Management
- ▶ Mathematics
- ▶ Physics
- ▶ Psychology
- ▶ Thinking Skills



# Group B – Languages

- ▶ English Language and Literature
- ▶ Spanish Language
- ▶ French Language
- ▶ German Language



# Group C – Arts and Humanities

- ▶ Accounting
- ▶ Art and Design
- ▶ Business Studies
- ▶ Economics
- ▶ Geography
- ▶ History
- ▶ Music
- ▶ Psychology
- ▶ Sociology
- ▶ Thinking Skills



# Comparison of Requirements



By Subject

# English

## Tennessee Requirements

- ▶ English I
- ▶ English II
- ▶ English III
- ▶ English IV

## Cambridge Requirements

- ▶ Honors English I
- ▶ Honors English II
- ▶ ACIE English Language
- ▶ ACIE English Literature

# Math

## Tennessee Requirements

- ▶ Algebra I
- ▶ Geometry
- ▶ Algebra II
- ▶ Higher Level Math

## Cambridge Requirements

- ▶ Honors Algebra
- ▶ Honors Geometry
- ▶ Honors Algebra II
- ▶ Pre-Calculus
- ▶ AP Calculus paired with ACIE Calculus

# Science

## Tennessee Requirements

- ▶ Biology
- ▶ Chemistry or Physics
- ▶ Third Lab Science

## Cambridge Requirements

- ▶ Pre-ACIE Biology
- ▶ Pre-ACIE Chemistry
- ▶ ACIE Biology, ACIE Chemistry, or ACIE Physics

# Social Studies

## Tennessee Requirements

- ▶ World History or Geography
- ▶ U.S. History
- ▶ U.S. Economics / Government

## Cambridge Requirements

- ▶ Honors World Geography
- ▶ Honors World History
- ▶ AP American History
- ▶ ACIE International History
- ▶ AP U.S. Government

# Foreign Language/ Focus Electives

## Tennessee Requirements

- ▶ 2 years Foreign Language
- ▶ Focus Electives

## Cambridge Requirements

- ▶ ACIE Foreign Language
- ▶ ACIE Electives

# Number of Credits

- ▶ 4 English
- ▶ 4 Math
- ▶ 3 Science
- ▶ 3 Social Studies
- ▶ 2 Foreign Language
- ▶ 3 Focus Electives

Total: 19

- ▶ 4 English
- ▶ 5 Math
- ▶ 3 Science
- ▶ 5 Social Studies
- ▶ 2 Foreign Language
- ▶ 3 Focus Electives

Total: 22

Tennessee

Cambridge

# Additional Requirements

- ▶ 1 Wellness Credit
- ▶ ½ Physical Education Credit
- ▶ ½ Personal Finance Credit
- ▶ 1 Fine Arts Credit
- ▶ 6 Elective Credits

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- ▶ ½ Physical Education Credit
- ▶ ½ Personal Finance Credit
- ▶ 1 Fine Arts Credit
- ▶ 3 Elective Credits

Tennessee Diploma

Cambridge ACIE

# Why BCCHS Chooses Cambridge ACIE Diploma

- ▶ Colleges and universities look for students who take academically challenging courses throughout high school.
- ▶ Colleges and universities look for students who can demonstrate a directed pursuit of academic study.
- ▶ Colleges and universities look for students who show the kind of skills required to complete the AICE diploma.
- ▶ Scholarship committees look for students who have taken academically challenging coursework.

