

GCE A-level trends

Table 1 Top GCE A-level subjects in 2015 by entry

Ranking	Subject	% of total	Number of candidates
1 (1)	Mathematics	10.9	92711
2 (2)	English	10.5	89499
3 (3)	Biology	7.4	63275
4 (4)	Psychology	6.7	57014
5 (6)	History	6.6	55848
6 (5)	Chemistry	6.2	52644
7 (7)	Art and Design Subjects	5.3	44864
8 (9)	Geography	4.4	37195
09 (8)	Physics	4.3	36287
10 (10)	Sociology	3.8	32258

(2014 ranking in brackets)

Figure 1 Top ten A-level subjects as a percentage of the total entry over the period 2006 to 2015

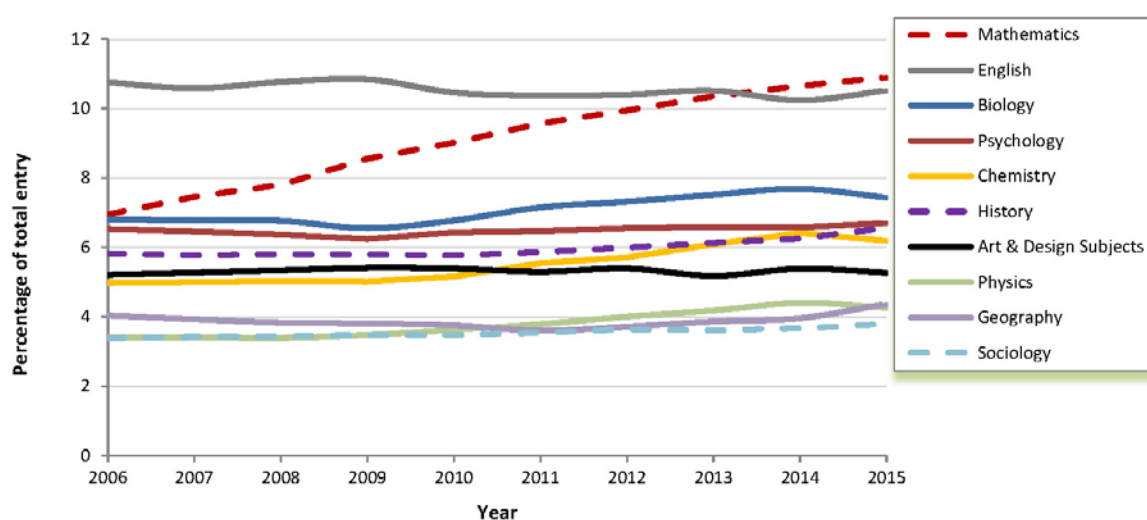


Table 2 Top GCE A-level subject increases (changes from 2014-2015)

Ranking		Subject	% change	2014 Number of candidates	2015 Number of candidates
1	(2)	Computing	29.1	4171	5383
2		Spanish	14.4	7601	8694
3	(10)	Geography	12.7	33007	37195
4		Political Studies	9.8	13761	15103
5		History	7.1	52131	55848
6	(8)	Mathematics (Further)	6.9	14028	14993
7	(3)	Religious Studies	6.4	24213	25773
8		Sociology	5.4	30594	32258
9		English	4.9	85336	89499
10	(9)	Mathematics	4.4	88816	92711

(2014 ranking in brackets. Subjects over 5000 candidates shown. Subjects having a year-on-year decrease in 2014 are shown as blank.)

Figure 2 Top GCE A-level subject increases, 2015

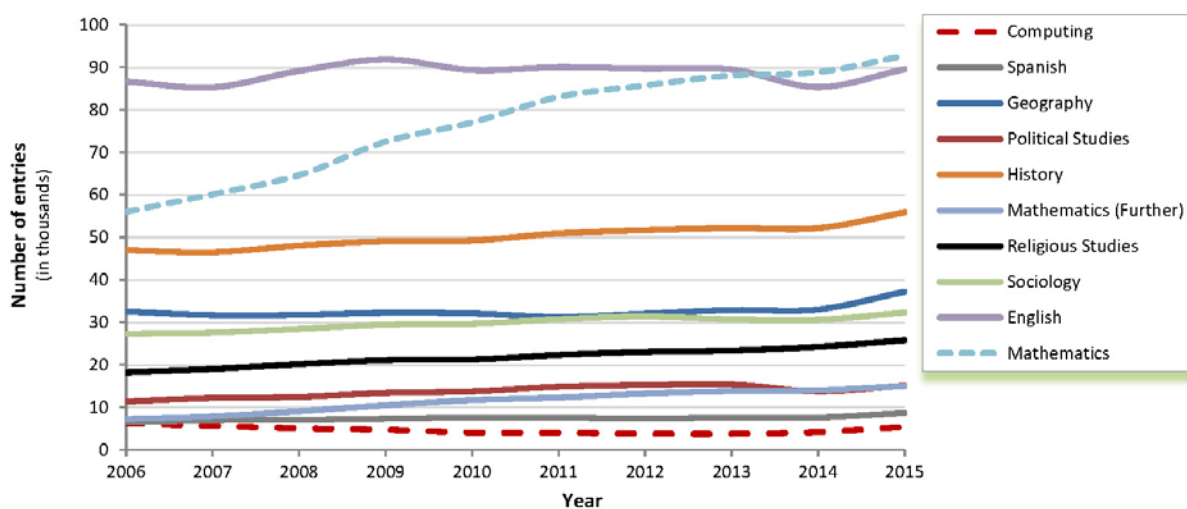


Table 3 GCE A-level subject decreases (changes from 2014-2015)

Ranking	Subject	% change	2014 Number of candidates	2015 Number of candidates
1 (2)	General Studies	-24.25	23884	18092
2 (11)	Music	-7.15	8375	7776
3 (7)	Law	-6.76	11517	10738
4 (18)	German	-4.25	4187	4009
5 (5)	ICT	-3.75	9479	9124
6 (12)	Design and Technology	-3.29	13691	13240
7 (3)	Physical Education	-2.78	12760	12405
8	All Other Subjects	-1.85	11936	11715
9	Chemistry	-1.62	53513	52644
10	Biology	-1.24	64070	63275

(2014 ranking in brackets. Subjects over 1000 candidates shown. Subjects having a year-on-year increase in 2014 are shown as blank.)

Figure 3 Top GCE A-level subject decreases, 2015

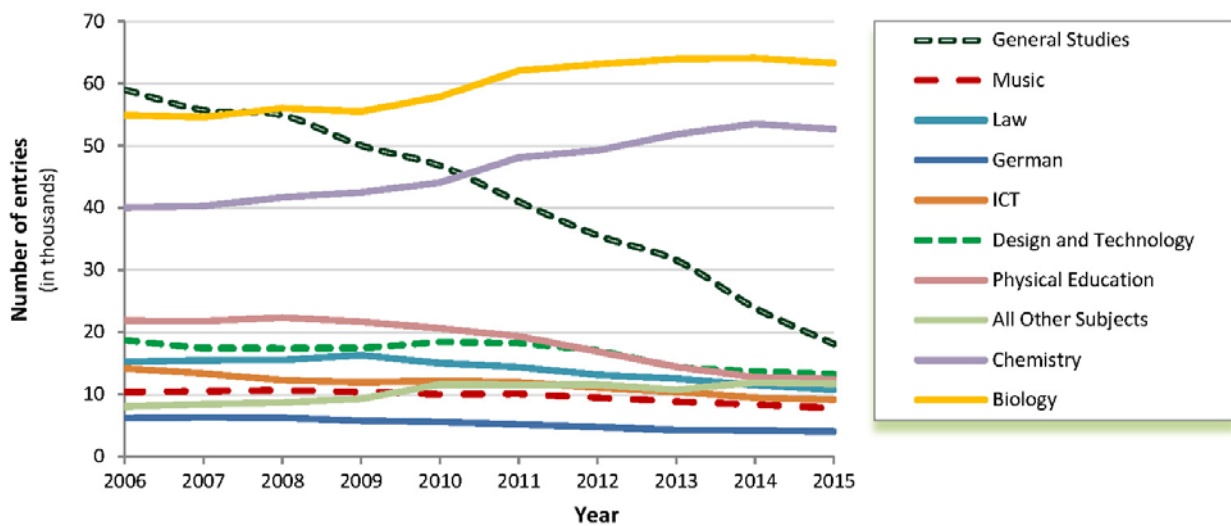


Figure 4 GCE A-level Sciences, 2006-2015

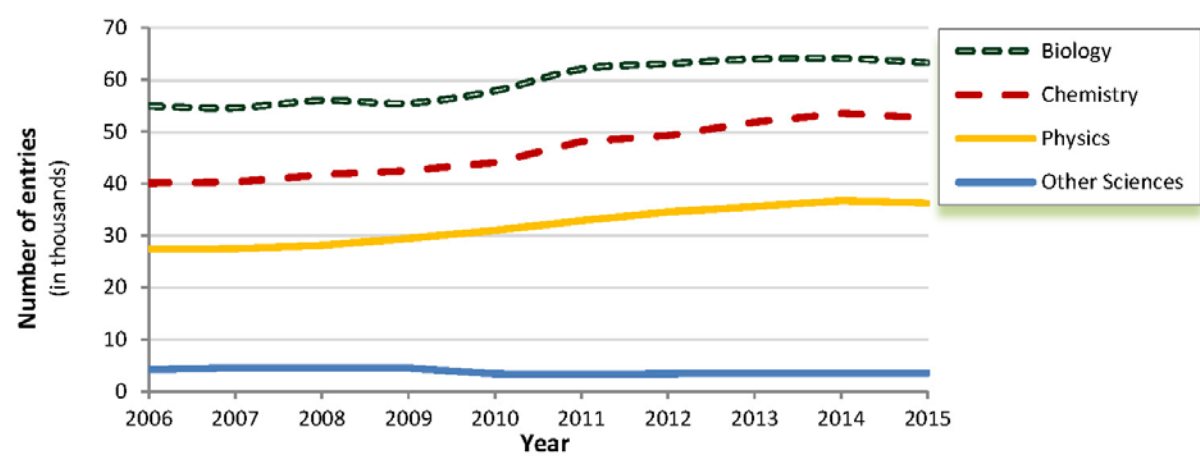
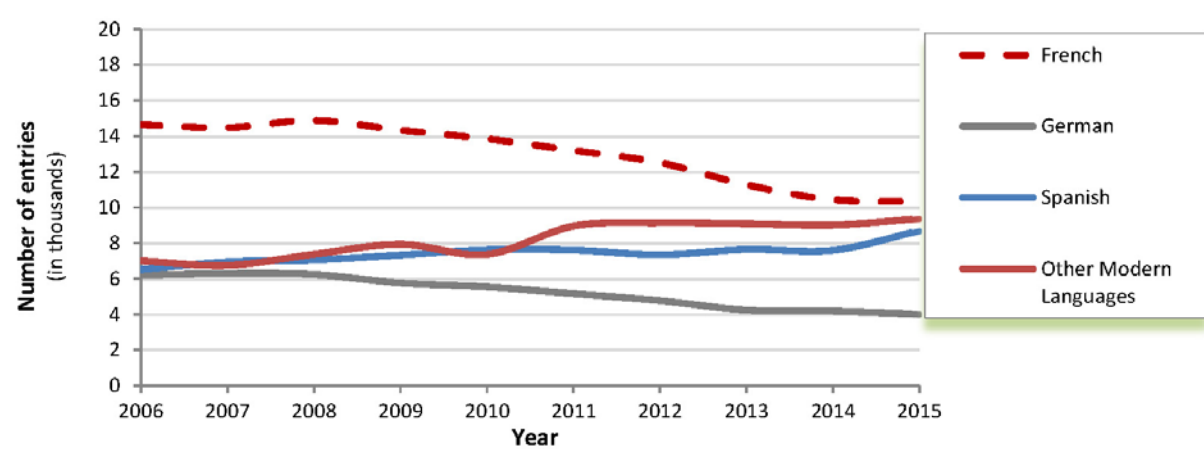


Figure 5 GCE A-level Languages, 2006-2015



GCE AS trends

Table 4 Top GCE AS subjects in 2015

Ranking	Subject	% of total	Number of candidates
1 (1)	Mathematics	11.93	165311
2 (2)	English	8.98	124452
3 (3)	Biology	7.49	103859
4 (4)	Psychology	7.47	103476
5 (5)	Chemistry	6.32	87621
6 (6)	History	5.82	80694
7 (8)	Physics	4.65	64377
8 (7)	Art and Design Subjects	4.50	62375
9 (10)	Sociology	4.16	57589
10 (9)	Geography	4.03	55801

(2014 ranking in brackets)

Figure 6 Top ten AS subjects as a percentage of the total entry over the period 2006 to 2015

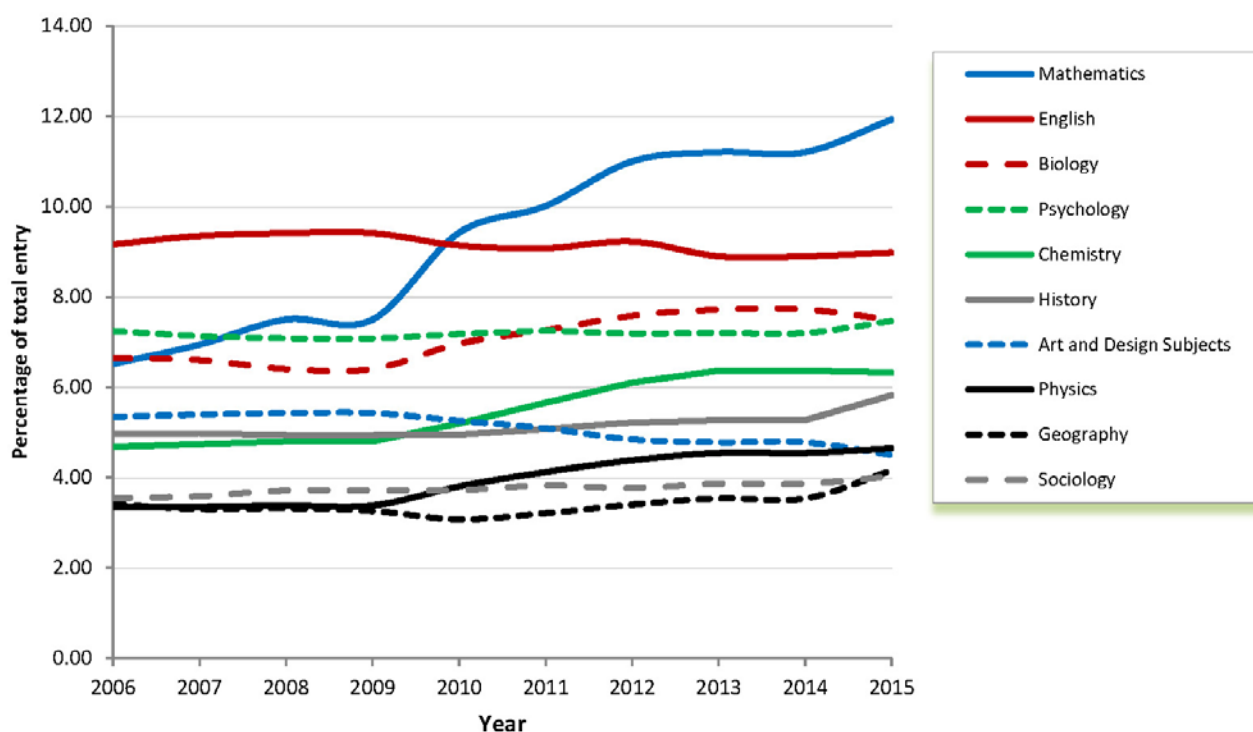


Table 5 GCE AS subject increases (changes from 2014-2015)

Ranking	Subject	% change	2014 Number of candidates	2015 Number of candidates
1 (1)	Computing	11582	13510	16.65
2 (10)	Mathematics (Further)	24530	27034	10.21
3 (9)	Economics	43812	46245	5.55
4 (12)	Sociology	55440	57589	3.88
5 (6)	Religious Studies	38927	40067	2.93
6 (14)	Business Studies	47262	48487	2.59
7 (7)	Political Studies	22335	22883	2.45
8 (11)	Mathematics	161711	165311	2.23
9 (16)	Psychology	101859	103476	1.59
10 (4)	Spanish	13958	14009	0.37

(2014 ranking in brackets)

Figure 7 GCE AS subject increases, 2015

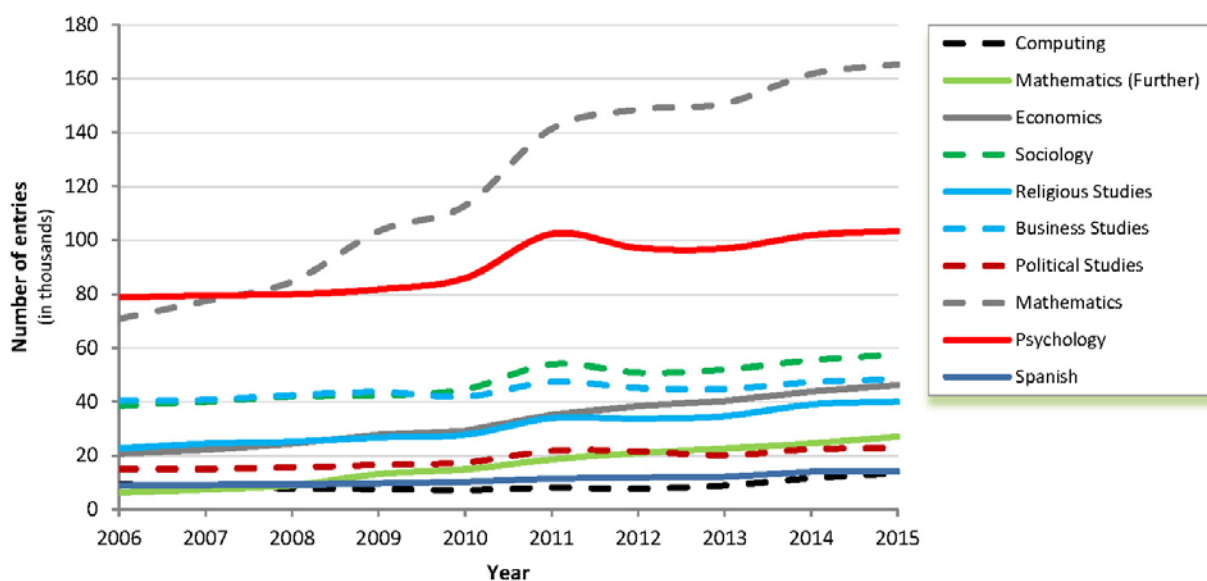


Table 6 GCE AS subject decreases (changes from 2014-2015)

Ranking	Subject	% change	2014 Number of candidates	2015 Number of candidates
1 (1)	Critical Thinking	-35.91	7436	4766
2 (2)	General Studies	-31.75	48380	33019
3	Performing / Expressive Arts	-14.98	4211	3580
4 (8)	Other Sciences	-11.89	6432	5667
5 (3)	Music	-9.27	12436	11283
6 (4)	All Other Subjects	-8.76	25097	22898
7	German	-7.62	7193	6645
8	Design and Technology	-6.65	23774	22193
9	Drama	-5.92	17967	16903
10 (5)	Communication Studies	-5.87	3187	3000

(2014 ranking in brackets. Subjects having a year-on-year increase in 2014 are shown as blank. Subjects with over 1000 entries shown.)

Figure 8 GCE AS subject decreases, 2015

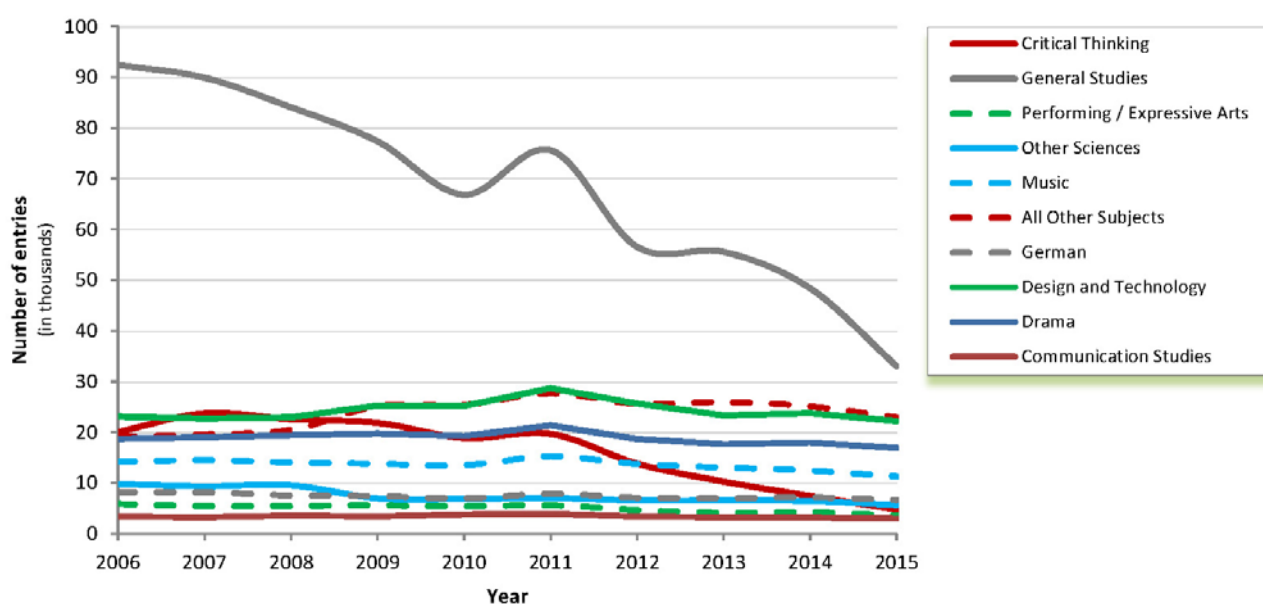


Figure 9 GCE AS Sciences, 2006-2015

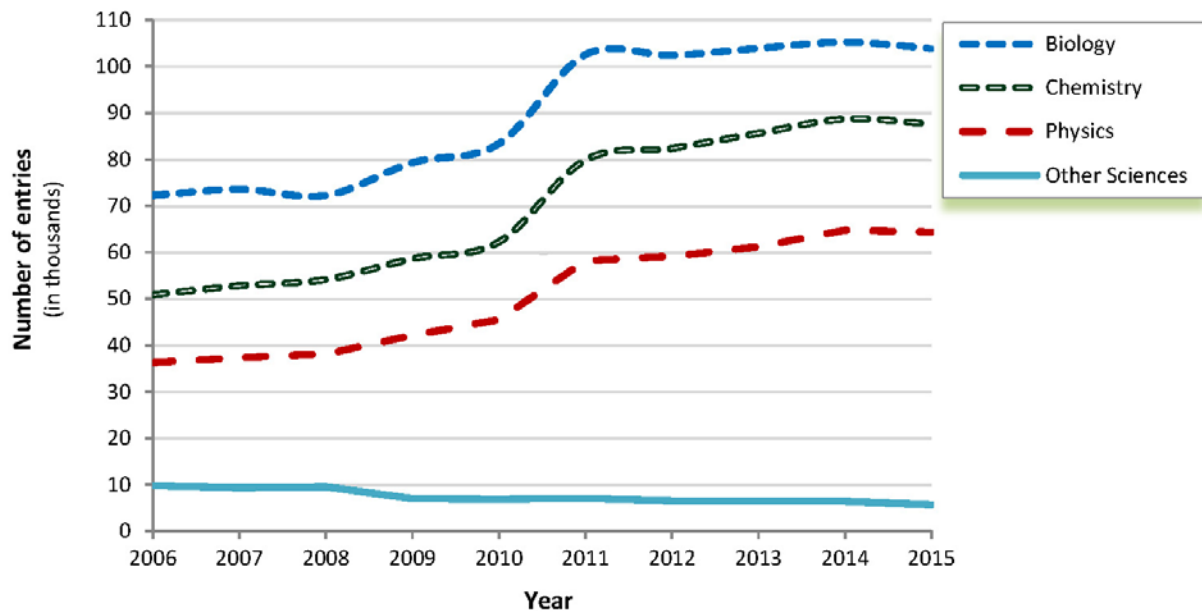
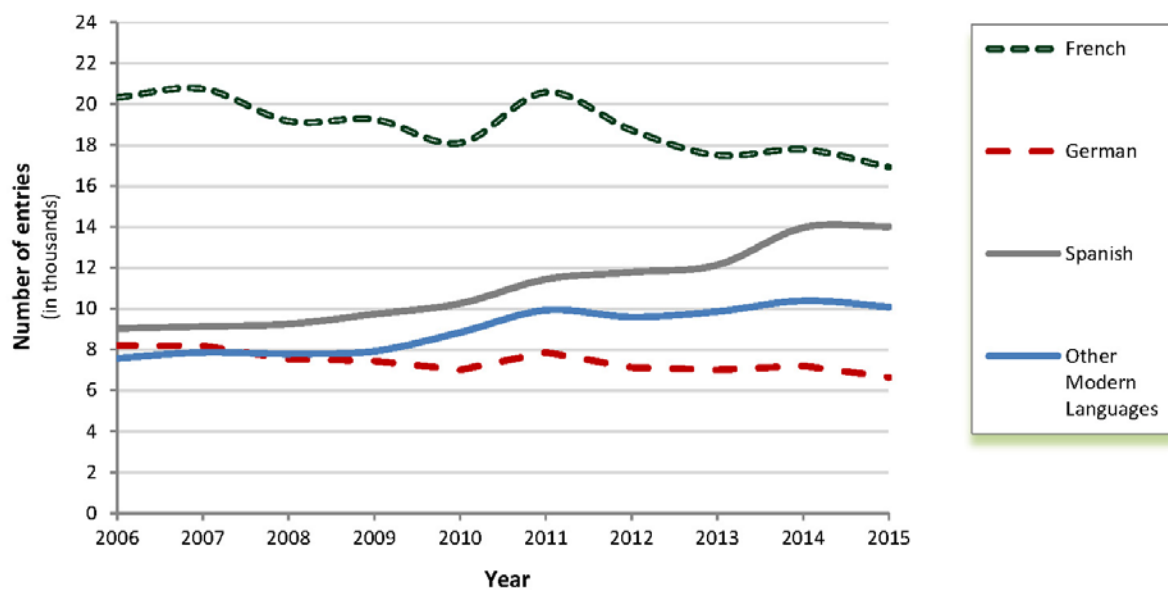


Figure 10 GCE AS Languages, 2006-2015



Level 3 Extended Project trend

Table 7 Changes from 2014-2015

Subject	% change	2014 Number of candidates	2015 Number of candidates
Extended Project	1.0	33245	33564

AEA trend

Table 8 Changes from 2014-2015

Subject	% change	2014 Number of candidates	2015 Number of candidates
AEA Mathematics	-7.9	899	828