Subject Choice

The Education Tripos is very broad and a wide range of skills are developed. We do not expect students to have studied any of the disciplines of Education before (Philosophy, History, Sociology and Psychology), but traditional academic subjects, particularly those involving essay writing and analytical thinking, provide the best preparation for the course.

It should also be noted that the presence of an essay based subject can be useful for those applying to combine Education with Biological or Physical Sciences. Whereas a student applying for the Natural Sciences Tripos would be advised to take all sciences and mathematics subjects, a student applying for Education with Biological or Physical Sciences would benefit from offering an essay based arts, humanities or social science subject alongside the chosen science and mathematics courses. It is however still important to retain a focus on the science subjects required for the combined course. Biology is required to combine Education with Biological Sciences, and Physics to combine with Physical Sciences. Mathematics is also useful for both of these courses, as is Chemistry.

For advice on subjects considered to provide the most effective preparation for Cambridge degrees, please see the ‘Subject Matters’ materials, available at: www.study.cam.ac.uk/undergraduate/events/subjectmatters.html