



Post 16 Prospectus: Extended Project Qualification

EPQ Advanced Level (A-Level)

Examining Board: AQA

AIM

The EPQ is a standalone qualification designed to extend and develop your skills in independent research and project management. It is a well-recognised qualification by universities, apprenticeships and employers and gains you UCAS points worth half an A-Level. The Extended Project will develop and extend from one or more of the student's study areas and/or from an area of personal interest or activity outside their main programme of study. It will be based on a topic chosen by the student(s) and agreed as appropriate by the centre. This self-directed project requires students to take responsibility for the choice, design, planning and completion of an individual Project.

COURSE CONTENT

| Advanced Level 3 Qualification | |
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| | Students will: |
| 1 | Identify, design, plan and complete an individual project, applying a range of organisational skills and strategies to meet agreed objectives |
| 2 | Obtain, critically select and use information from a range of sources; analyse data, apply it relevantly and demonstrate understanding of any appropriate linkages, connections and complexities of the topic |
| 3 | Select and use a range of skills, solve problems, take decisions critically, creatively and flexibly, to achieve planned outcomes |
| 4 | Evaluate outcomes both in relation to agreed objectives and own learning and performance. Select and use a range of communication skills and media to present evidenced outcomes and conclusions in appropriate format. |
| A2 ASSESSMENT | |
| <p>The EPQ is 100% evidence based - meaning there are NO EXAMS. There are three main elements in the EPQ that are assessed holistically. The evidence for assessment will comprise the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• The completed Production Log and Assessment Record including the Project Proposal Form, Presentation Record and Candidate Record Form• The project product including a 5000-word written report or Project Artefact and any other evidence, as appropriate, depending on the topic or subject area chosen.• The live presentation which should be for a non-specialist audience and use media appropriate to the type of project. The presentation may involve the use of flipcharts, posters, Prezi, PowerPoint or short excerpts of video material. The presentation evidence will include examples of questions asked by supervisors following their performance and the student's responses to these. | |

SUBJECT ENRICHMENT

We give students the opportunity to visit Leeds University Campus and work with the Education Outreach Programme who deliver a series of bespoke research skills workshops. Students are given unique access to resources in the universities Special Collections, libraries and subscription-only journals. They explore the skills needed to implement and conduct a research project and learn how to work with a variety of sources, critically evaluating the information they collect.



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SUBJECT SPECIFIC ENTRY REQUIREMENTS

General entry requirement for Post-16: 5 grade 4s at GCSE, including English and/or Maths. Specific entry requirements: None

A UNIVERSITY'S PERSPECTIVE



Durham University sees the EPQ as a valuable addition to A-Levels or alternative post-16 qualifications. As a research intensive University, Durham supports the skills that the

Extended Project Qualification helps to develop and sees them as beneficial to improving transition from year 13 to Higher Education.



The EPQ gives A-level students excellent preparation for university-level study, and may help boost their UCAS application. The skills that students develop through the Extended Project are directly relevant to and useful for university-level study. Students can refer to the Extended Project in their UCAS personal statements and at interview to demonstrate some of the qualities that universities are looking for.

A STUDENT PERSPECTIVE

"The skills that you develop are exactly the skills you need at university. I went into my interview at Oxford with knowledge in my subject beyond my A Level syllabus and it meant that I could talk about something that I was passionate about and really enjoyed doing and I think that genuine passion and enthusiasm comes across at interview." **Now a Physics undergraduate at Oxford University**

"I believe the EPQ will really help me to stand out when applying to universities because I am not just going through the motions and doing the A Levels that many other students across the country are doing but I have chosen to do something above and beyond, and each extended project is unique so no one else will have done or had the experience that I have."

SUCCESS STORIES

| OUTSTANDING 2018-19 RESULTS | |
|-----------------------------|------------|
| Grade | Percentage |
| A* | 50% |
| A* - B | 100% |