Extended Project Qualification (EPQ)

SCAN ME

Exam Board: Edexcel

Entry requirements: None, but must have the ability to work independently

Subject Content

- Select a topic/area of interest for an in-depth study that provides opportunities to develop skills, knowledge and understanding, and to negotiate with their tutor/ assessor the scope of that project
- Select a topic that is agreed by the centre
- Identify and draft an objective(s) for their project (e.g. in the form of a question, hypothesis, problem, challenge, outline of proposed performance, issue to be investigated or commission for a client) and provide a rationale for their choice
- Produce a plan for how they will deliver their intended outcome
- Conduct research as required by the project brief, using appropriate techniques
- Develop the intended outcome using selected tools and techniques safely, demonstrating the ability to pursue an extended project through to completion
- Share the outcome of the project, including an evaluation of the outcome and their own learning and performance with another or others, using appropriate communication methods

Structure of the qualification

The qualification consists of four units, one of which should be selected. All are equally weighted. All units are internally assessed then sent to the exam board for moderation.

Learners must not select more than one unit.

1. Dissertation
2. Investigation/Field Study
3. Performance
4. Artefact

The projects would differ by subjects, but require persistence over time and research skills to explore a subject independently and in real depth.

A detailed bibliography is required to support all research.

Assessments

Assessment objective marks

Criteria	Mark	Percentage
AO1 Manage, identify, design, plan and carry out a project, applying a range of skills, strategies and methods to achieve objectives.	9	17%
AO2 Use resources, research, critically select, organise and use information, and select and use a range of resources. Analyse data, apply relevantly and demonstrate understanding of any links, connections and complexities of the topic.	12	22%
AO3 Develop and realise, select and use a range of skills, including, where appropriate, new technologies and problem solving, to take decisions critically and achieve planned outcomes.	24	44%
AO4 Review, evaluate all aspects of the extended project, including outcomes in relation to stated objectives and own learning and performance. Select and use a range of communication skills and media to present evidenced project outcomes and conclusions in an appropriate format.	9	17%
Total	54	100%

It is worth half an A Level (28 UCAS points) so can be used to earn extra UCAS points.

Skills gained and enrichment opportunities:

Independent thinking - Self discipline - Self motivation - Critical Analysis - Research skills

We have an established link with Southampton University who help guide students through their projects, offering workshops on key skills and 1-2-1 tutorials. Students are given the opportunity to engage with guest speakers and specialists within their area of focus, and are able to share their findings with friends, family and the general public in a final exhibition.

Progression/career opportunities:

Reducing the level of an offer. Giving your application preference, on highly selective courses over students who have not undertaken *EPQ*. Providing a focus for valued content within your personal statement. Providing a major focus for interview discussion.

Further information contact

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