



Extended Project Qualification (EPQ)

Exam Board: AQA

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

Subject Content

- The EPQ is an extra stand-alone qualification to be completed in one year (equivalent to half an A level)
- The Extended Project Qualification must be an extension of your other subjects or *something completely personal*
- This qualification allows you to choose an area of interest and develop your own research and drive your own learning
- You will attend weekly skills workshops with the EPQ Coordinator and university tutors (approx. 30 hours)
- You will work independently researching and planning your project (approx. 90 hours)
- You will be supported by a dedicated 1:1 supervisor to meet and be in regular contact

Structure of the qualification

- Choose an area of interest
- Decide on a project type:
 - **Written Report** - a theoretical written research project on any topic presenting an argument, e.g. research into a biological, historical, ethical or environmental issue
 - **Artefact** - a practical product or creation. This could include items like models, artworks, performances, or digital media, accompanied by a shorter written report explaining its development and significance
- Decide on your title and aims
- Plan, research and carry out the project
- Attend weekly skills lessons and workshops run by Southampton University
- Reflect on your project development in the production log
- Present your project in a marketplace event

Assessments

Assessment objective marks

	Assessment Objectives	Weight
A01	Manage: Identify, design, plan and carry out a project, applying a range of skills, strategies and methods to achieve objectives.	20%
A02	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.	20%
A03	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.	40%
A04	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.	20%

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



Skills gained and enrichment opportunities:

Be seen by universities: worth half an A level in UCAS points, learn how to work independently, receive lower offers from some universities, discuss in university interviews, learn how to research and reference, increase chance of achieving A level grades in other subjects A*-B by up to 20%.

Be seen in the workplace: Gain CV worthy skills, improve your planning skills, learn how to interview, learn how to reflect on your work and suggest improvements, improve your time management, build your abilities in conducting research.

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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