EXTENDED PROJECT QUALIFICATION (EPQ)

ENRICHMENT OPTION: EXAM BOARD - AQA

What is the Extended Project Qualification (EPQ)?

The EPQ requires students to create "a single piece of work, requiring a high degree of planning, preparation and autonomous working. The projects that students complete will differ by subject, but all will require persistence over time and research skills to explore a subject independently in real depth."

What is the EPQ worth?

The EPQ is worth a maximum of 28 UCAS points.



What is an Extended Project?

All projects must include a written report of at least 1000 words but the outcome of the EPQ can be almost anything: a dissertation (of 5000 words), an artefact or model, a performance, a short film, a website or piece of software, a design or blueprints, etc. Once their project is completed students must also give a short presentation on their project to a non-specialist audience.

What range of topics are available for EPQ?

Students may study any topic they wish; there is no requirement for students to study a topic within the range of subjects offered at A Level.

How do universities view the EPQ?

Universities view the EPQ very positively. The EPQ gives students the opportunity to develop independent learning skills (e.g. project management, decision-making, problem-solving, planning, research, critical thinking) that are important at university but which are underdeveloped during A-Level courses

How is the EPQ taught?

The EPQ course is taught over four terms. The first term is primarily concerned with developing the project title and the skills required to complete the project. During the the course they receive 30 hours of essential study skills to help them realise their projects under the supervision of their Project Supervisor.

How is the EPQ supervised and assessed?

The Project Supervisor will be responsible for overseeing the development of the project during regular meetings with the student and assessing the project once it is completed.

What are the requirements for the EPQ?

The EPQ is intended to be accessible to students with a wide range of abilities. Students undertaking the EPQ will need to demonstrate a great deal of commitment and motivation, and an ability to work independently. Students who have difficulty completing coursework or handing in work on time would be advised to consider other options.