

POST 16 SUBJECT OVERVIEW

Name of Subject - Extended Project Qualification (EPQ)

Which Examination Specification is Studied for this Course?

AQA

Why should I study this course? -

The EPQ is a valuable option to consider while studying at the Post 16 centre. The research and independent study skills developed through producing an EPQ are valued by all Universities in the UK. Many of the top UK universities reduce their offers to EPQ students in recognition of the positive impact in preparing students for higher education.

You can use your current studies as a springboard to further exploration, research aspects of a future career or pick a topic that has piqued your interest. An EPQ can be used as a talking point in interviews and personal statements as a way of making your university application stand out from the crowd.

Your project will be assessed by your EPQ supervisor and they will guide you through the process and help you develop a range of skills including research, planning, project management, academic referencing, essay writing, presentation skills and critical reflection.

The EPQ is graded from A* to E/U and carries UCAS points equivalent to half an A level. Most students opt to produce a 5000 word essay but some favour producing an artefact. Students must also complete a logbook and deliver a presentation to a small non-specialist audience.

Who is suitable to study this course? -

The EPQ is suitable for any student studying at level 3.

What GCSE Qualifications Support the Study of this Course?

A broad range of GCSE's will prepare students for taking an EPQ.

What are the Qualification Requirements for this Course?

5 GCSEs at level 4 or above.

How is the Course Delivered? -

You will be allocated a supervisor to guide and support you through the process. We run our EPQ sessions during two timetable lessons each week but you will be expected to work on your project in your own time. Initially lessons will be taught lessons to help you improve your research skills, but gradually lesson time will more often take the form of “drop in sessions” to help you as your work develops.

Subject Overview		
Half Term	Year 12	Year 13
Autumn 1	Initial Research and Planning	Initial Research and Planning
Autumn 2	Project proposal submitted Research	Project proposal submitted Research
Spring 1	Writing/ completing your essay/ artefact	Writing/ completing your essay/ artefact
Spring 2	Presentations and Logbooks	Presentations and Logbooks
Summer 1	May or November Submission	May or November Submission

How is the Course Assessed?

The EPQ is marked out of 50. The mark are awarded as;

Assessment Objective 1 - Planning and project management (out of 10 marks)

Assessment Objective 2 - Research (out of 10 marks)

Assessment Objective 3 - Realising your project (out of 20 marks)

Assessment Objective 4 - Review/ Reflection (out of 10 marks)

Students produce three aspects to be submitted.

- An essay and/or an artefact.
- A logbook that allows you to reflect on the advice from your supervisor and monitor your overall progress.
- A short presentation to a small non specialist audience about your key findings and lessons learnt from completing your project.

Future learn courses: doing your research project - The University of Southampton.

EPQ - Nuts and bolts by the University of Bath.

