

EXTENDED PROJECT QUALIFICATION (EPQ) (AQA)



Course content

For the Extended Project Qualification (EPQ), students undertake a piece of research on a topic and question of their own choosing. The project will result in a final product, which can be either an 'essay' on a question of their choosing or an 'artefact', e.g. a machine, a piece of art, a play, a piece of music, dance, etc. The projects must not overlap too much with modules they are studying in their other A levels. The EPQ is worth half an A level and is awarded 28 UCAS points.

Skills

Students do not need any prior experience of research in order to study this qualification. In completing the EPQ, students will:

- make a significant contribution to the choice and design of an extended project and take responsibility either for an individual task or for a defined task within a group project.
- develop and improve their own learning and performance as critical, reflective and independent students.
- develop and apply decision-making and problem solving skills.
- extend their planning, research, critical thinking, analysis, synthesis, evaluation and presentation skills.
- develop and apply skills creatively, demonstrating initiative and enterprise.
- use their learning experiences to support their aspirations for higher education and/or career development.
- transfer skills developed as part of their extended project to other areas of study.

Complementary subjects

The EPQ goes well with any subject since it develops research skills in any field in which students are particularly interested. All of the skills gained in an Extended Project Qualification are transferable.