



EXTENDED PROJECT QUALIFICATION

Exam Board: AQA

Why do an Extended Project qualification?

This is a one year Level 3 course for second or final year students. It provides opportunities for the development of critical, reflective, problem-solving and independent learning skills through the planning, research and evaluation of a self-selected project. It is a flexible qualification which can be incorporated within many different programmes of study. The Extended Project is worth up to 70 UCAS points for an A* which is equivalent to the second year of an A level.

What Students have said about the Extended Project?

"The Extended Project opens your mind and really sets you up for university study!"

"I think the Extended Project is a great new way to learn. I really like being able to choose my own topic and develop new ideas."

"The class atmosphere is great, you get to know everyone really quickly and that makes the class discussions easier and enjoyable."

"It taught me to do research independently, write a good dissertation and make a good presentation...a good head start for university"

What do Universities think about the Extended Project?

Universities really value the Extended Project qualification as an addition to the three core A levels, as it helps them to select students with a head-start in the independent learning skills that higher education demands and those that have a commitment to their chosen specialist area. The course is modelled on university-style learning and is tailored to support and challenge students at sixth form level. You will have the freedom to choose your own topic of study and will work under supervision to complete independent study, assessed through either a dissertation, investigation, performance or artefact, plus a presentation to an audience. You will finish the course with an excellent grounding in research, critical analysis, extended writing and presentation skills.

How will I be taught?

There are three lessons per week, which include both independent work and time for individual one to one support. Courses begin with a grounding in research and critical thinking skills, and you will be supported in choosing a topic. You will write a research proposal, and then focus on writing your dissertation, investigation, making your artefact or developing your performance techniques. Lessons involve discussion and debates as well as independent study. You will present your 'work in progress' at points throughout the year. Teachers will give individual support in class and online.

How will my work be assessed?

Depending on your choice of project you will submit the following:

Dissertation - 6000 words.

Investigation - 6000 words.

Performance - 3000 words, work book detailing development of techniques and the performance itself.

Artefact - 3000 words, work book detailing development of product and techniques and final product.

You also need to complete a project proposal form and a log of the research.