

A Level Economics



Exam Board: Edexcel

Studying Economics will give you an understanding of the UK economy and the role of government economic policy within this, as well as the development of the study skills required for higher education.

Economics is also highly regarded by many employers. Through the activities carried out in class and outside, students will also gain literacy, numeracy, presentational and team working skills. Economics combines well with most other subjects but in particular with History, Geography, Sociology and Mathematics.

Course summary:

In Theme 1 and Theme 2 you will be introduced to the nature of economics, how markets work and why they fail. You will also consider the role of government and the UK economy.

In Theme 3 and Theme 4 you will explore how businesses grow and compete, the labour market and how the government intervenes to make markets work better. You will also explore international trade, inequality within and between countries, emerging and developing economies, and the public finances.

You will also have an opportunity to consider the role and impact of the financial sector.

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Assessment:

Paper 1 Short-answer, data response and essay questions on markets and business behaviour – this is the content you study in Theme 1 and Theme 3.

Paper 2 Short-answer, data response and essay questions on the national and global economy – this is the content you study in Theme 2 and Theme 4.

Paper 3 The questions in the exam – data response and essay questions – cover concepts and theory from the whole course.

Entry requirements:

6+ in GCSE Mathematics and English is preferred. We recommend that students take Core Maths to support their understanding of the maths elements of this course.

Who is the course for?

- Students who wish to undertake further education courses in Economics and other related studies such as accountancy.
- Students who want to enter the workplace post-18 and who need some knowledge of the economy and the role of government.

Economics A is the right subject for you if you enjoy:

- debating economic issues such as inequality, immigration, how we should pay for healthcare
- using and interpreting data to analyse economic problems
- discussing alternative courses of action keeping up to date with national and international trends

Career pathways

Studying economics will help you develop transferable skills that will prepare you for studying at university or moving into the world of work. These include skills in data interpretation and essay writing. Suitable higher education courses include economics degrees or degrees in applied economics such as environmental economics, labour economics, public sector economics or monetary economics. You might choose to study business economics, econometrics or a business and management degree. Economics students can follow a wide range of careers in industry, commerce, finance and the civil service.

"Economics is about so much more than high finance – it touches every aspect of our lives. Essentially, it's about how you, your family, the firm where you work on a Saturday and your Government choose to use the resources available (time, money, skills, buildings or land, for example) to maximum effect. Look at how and why these decisions are made and you'll soon have a much greater understanding of the way the world works".