A Level Economics Edexcel A



What is Economic?

Economics is the decision-making process used by bankers to make money. It is the choice of young people to attend school. It is the government's decision to subsidise childcare. It is the NHS. It is our armed forces. It is the smoking ban and sugar tax. It is everywhere and under pins so much of our everyday lives.

Economics is about choice and the impact of our choices on each other, the choice that people have, the choices firms have and the choices the government must make. It relates to every aspect of our lives; from the decisions we make as individuals or families to the structures created by governments and firms.

Why study Economic?

Economics is the perfect combination of numbers and words, problems and essays, calculations, and interpretations. It is both an art and a science subject. Students have the opportunity to build models which give insights into the real world, and then to critique these models on the basis of their assumptions.

Students ultimately enjoy economics because of its relevance and application.

About the course

Economics will intrigue minds that challenge and question knowledge and principle. Good written and numerical skills are essential, but also a real interest in how the economy works and current economic affairs. This is a favoured course at Russell Group universities where economists are, at present, the highest paid graduates. Careers options include economist, investment banker, corporate lawyer, politician, international relations and accountancy.

Year 12

Initially you will study basic economic concepts and theories such as supply and demand, the operation of markets for goods, services and labour, reasons why as unemployment, inflation, and economic growth, which will help you to understand, and comment upon, government policy.

Year 13

Key topics in the second year of the course are business economics and the labour market. You also examine the global economy, including financial markets, and the role of the state in the macro-economy. You then examine and explore the economies of developing countries and consider wider issues such as poverty, aid, and debt.

Assessment

Assessment is by 3 written exam papers. The exams are multiple choice, data response and extended open response questions. Exams take place in year 13.

Entry criteria

It is recommended that students wishing to pursue A Level Economics achieve grade 6 or above in GCSE Maths and English. No prior knowledge of Economics or Business is required.

Outside the classroom

Independent learning skills are essential to be successful on this course; students need to be forward thinking and be intrinsically motivated to read about global current affairs and current UK government policy.



