Extended Project Qualification

Course outline

The Extended Project Qualification (EPQ) offers students the opportunity to undertake a research project of their own choice. Students choose their topic, set their own question and complete a dissertation or investigation independently. The project requires students to plan and organise their research plan, keep a detailed diary (log) of the research journey, conduct background research for their literature review, fully reference sources, discuss and evaluate their findings and the process. Students write up their project in the format of an academic report of around 6,000 words. When the project is complete students deliver a presentation on their research.

How you will study and be assessed

The majority of the work for the project is independent research, but the project co-ordinator will also provide a programme of lessons on research skills, report writing, referencing and presentation skills. You will also be offered one-to-one appointments with the project co-ordinator and relevant subject specific teachers.

You will be assessed on your ability to manage, use resources, develop and realise and review your project. These skills will be evidenced in the project activity log, the written report and the presentation. The project is internally assessed by the project co-ordinator and externally moderated by the exam board. The Extended Project is graded A* to E and is equivalent to half an A level.

Who would suit the course?

The extended project is an excellent choice for those who enjoy independent work and researching topics of their own choice. It is also useful for those who wish to develop their research skills, develop critical awareness and improve their analytical skills. Undertaking the project qualification can allow students to demonstrate their commitment when applying for competitive courses and careers, such as medicine, dentistry, physiotherapy and law and it can also help to boost a student's grade profile to enhance their applications to university and apprenticeships. It is therefore suitable for all ability levels.

Possible career pathways

Any careers that value originality of thought, independent decision making, research, commitment, analysis, reflection. The project qualification has been designed specifically to enhance the skills required for higher level study at university and in the workplace.

For further information see

https://qualifications.pearson.com/en/qualifications/edexcel-project-qualification/level-3.html



