



Extended Project Qualification (EPQ)



Specification
7993

<https://www.aqa.org.uk/subjects/projects/project-qualifications/EPQ-7993>

Subject Specific Entry Requirements

There are no entry requirements for this subject other than an ability to work independently and have an interest in a topic that you want to research and investigate.

“The EPQ has challenged me to improve my organisational skills and to motivate myself to produce a piece of work not dissimilar to that of an undergraduate”

Georgia

Overview

The Extended Project Qualification gives students an opportunity to develop their abilities beyond the scope of the A-levels and BTEC courses. It is increasingly used by universities to help them to choose students who will be ready for the demands of an undergraduate course and to help them to find students who are ready for the independence associated with undergraduate courses. Students choose a topic, research it and set themselves a question to answer. Most students write a 5000 word dissertation about the topic they've researched. They are supported by an EPQ supervisor who checks on the quality of the research and written work.

Assessment

Assessment of the EPQ	
Manage: Identify, design, plan, and carry out a project, applying a range of skills, strategies and methods to achieve objectives.	20%
Use Resources: Research, critically select, organise and use information, and select and use a range of resources. Analyse data apply relevantly and demonstrate understanding of any links, connections and complexities of the topic.	20%
Develop and Realise: Select and use a range of skills, including, where appropriate, new technologies and problem-solving, to take decisions critically and achieve planned outcomes.	40%
Review: Evaluate all aspects of the extended project, including outcomes in relation to stated objectives and own learning and performance. Select and use a range of communication skills and media to present evidenced project outcomes and conclusions in an appropriate format.	20%

Progression and Career Opportunities

The EPQ is worth half an A-level (an A* would therefore be worth 28 UCAS points) and would need to be taken alongside at least three other A-levels in order to be able to apply for a university course. Recently, numerous students taking the EPQ have been given a lower offer if they complete the EPQ and gain an A* or A in the qualification. In 2022-23, 100% of those taking the EPQ gained an A* or A grade.