

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

Why an EPQ?

The EPQ is studied over one year and in addition to the three A Level subjects.

An EPQ is an excellent way to show universities and prospective employers your ability to work in a proactive, independent manner. It provides the opportunity to develop and apply decision making and problem solving skills. With an EPQ you pick the subject and the focus for your project so it allows you to tailor it to directly support your aspirations for further study and/or career development. Working with a supervisor, you are responsible for the management and development of the project from inception to completion. What better way to show how much you have to offer!

Research says that taking the EPQ enhances the odds of achieving a higher grade at A level (A* - B) by 29% (Ben Jones, Head of Standards, AQA).

Assessment

Three required elements which are all internally assessed and then moderated. An A* in EPQ is equal to 28 UCAS points.

1. Project Product
500 word essay OR artefact with supporting commentary
2. Production Log
3. Presentation

Recommended Reading

This must be specific to your EPQ focus, but expect to do a lot of it! It is expected that a wide variety of resources are accessed, considered and then utilised in the final project itself.

Research is the key to a successful EPQ.

Recommended Entry Requirements

Grade 5 GCSE English

Anyone can do an EPQ if they are committed to completing the independent study.

Future Pathways

Universities view the EPQ very positively and can decide to give a lower offer for a course if a candidate has an EPQ. Since you pick the topic and theme, the EPQ can be invaluable in setting you up for your future.

Complementary A Levels

Any! An EPQ can be completed with any academic focus from Aerospace Engineering to Events Organisation.

Extra & Super Curricular

Invitation to visit a Russell Group University to make use of their resources and learning environment. The taught element of the EPQ will be delivered in fortnightly lessons covering research skills, evaluation of sources and time management, all of which are transferable to A Level studies and beyond.

“Having complete control of your topic is so exciting. I have been able to tailor my project directly to my main interests, making me so much more motivated to work on it in my own time.”