

ECONOMICS (AS/A Level)

About this course



The subject aims to develop understanding of concepts and theories through current economic issues, problems and institutions that affect everyday life. Students will learn to apply economic ideas to a range of contexts and develop outstanding data handling skills. The course encourages students to research topics using a variety of different materials and develops skills relevant to higher education or employment. Economics is a social science which combines well with all other subject areas while developing numerical, graphical and analytical skills, which will help you throughout your life. These skills are highly regarded by universities and employers. **You will need to possess strong numerical/graphical data handling skills.** There are two main sections of the course-

MICROECONOMICS- is the study of individuals, households and firms' behaviour in decision making and allocation of resources.

MACROECONOMICS- is the branch of economics that studies the behaviour and performance of an economy as a whole

Progression

Where could it lead? Economics develops excellent transferable skills, leading to a wide range of degree courses including Business Management, Accountancy, Economics, Marketing, Finance, Law, Journalism, Banking, Logistics & Teaching. In a recent survey, it was discovered that Economics Graduates and Chemistry Graduates gain the highest salaries after they leave University, and before the age of 30.

Assessment (no coursework, all exam based)

Paper 1 (75 minutes, 55 marks) Paper 1 combines **multiple-choice** questions (15 questions, 15 marks) with **short answers** (40 marks). The former allows for rigorous testing of underlying economic theory and quantitative skills. The latter allows the testing of these skills in a series of applied contexts. **Strong Mathematical skills needed on this paper.**

Paper 2 (120 minutes, 80 marks) Paper 2 involves two compulsory **data response** cases. These will be drawn from anywhere within the specification and are looking to test learners' ability to apply what they have learned to more complex economic situations than is possible through the short answer section. Learners will also have to write at greater length and **possess strong data handling skills.**

Paper 3 (120 minutes, 80 marks) Paper 3 combines **structured questions**, based on the A2 content and one compulsory **data response** which covers all A level content. The combination allows for rigorous testing of underlying economic theory and quantitative skills and the application of economic theory in context. **Strong Mathematical skills needed on this paper.**

Paper 4 (150 minutes, 90 marks) involves **three essays** drawn from three subsections of the specification. There will be a choice of two essays from each subsection and each essay will be split into two parts.