



A Level Economics Course Outline

Overview

In Year 12 students build knowledge and understanding of core economic models and concepts in Themes 1 and 2. Students then build on this and apply their knowledge to more complex concepts and models during Year 13 through Themes 3 and 4.

Students will need to apply their knowledge and understanding to both familiar and unfamiliar contexts in the assessments and demonstrate an awareness of current economic events and policies.

Course Structure & Content

In Year 12, two Themes are studied. These are:

Theme 1: Introduction to markets and market failure

This theme focuses on microeconomic concepts. Students will develop an understanding of:

- nature of economics
- how markets work
- market failure
- government intervention.

Theme 2: The UK economy performance and policies

This theme focuses on macroeconomic concepts. Students will develop an understanding of:

- measures of economic performance
- aggregate demand
- aggregate supply
- national income
- economic growth
- macroeconomic objectives and policy.

In Year 13 at A level, students will build on the knowledge they have acquired with a further two Themes.

Theme 3: Business behaviour and the labour market

This theme develops the microeconomic concepts introduced in Theme 1 and focuses on business economics. Students will develop an understanding of:

- business growth
- business objectives
- revenues, costs and profits
- market structures
- labour market
- government intervention.

Theme 4: A global perspective.

This theme develops the macroeconomic concepts introduced in Theme 2 and applies these concepts in a global context. Students will develop an understanding of:

- international economics
- poverty and inequality
- emerging and developing economies
- the financial sector
- role of the state in the macroeconomy.

Assessment

Students will have the opportunity to gain an AS level qualification at the end of Year 12. This will be assessed through two written papers each lasting 1 hour 30 minutes.

The full A Level will be assessed in Year 13 and will cover material from all four Themes. The A Level comprises of three written papers, each lasting 2 hours.

Entry Qualifications

Students would be expected to have achieved at least a grade 6 in GCSE Maths. They should have a good level of achievement in a range of other GCSE courses including English, Maths and Humanities subjects. However, no prior knowledge of economics is necessary for students to undertake this course.

Career Prospects

This course is particularly applicable to any student who wishes to pursue a career in a number of different subject related areas of employment, in either the Public Sector, or Private Sector businesses such as Banking and Insurance.