



A LEVEL ECONOMICS EXAM BOARD: EDEXCEL

SUBJECT AREA OVERVIEW

The aims and objectives of the Pearson Edexcel Level 3 Advanced GCE in Economics A are to enable students to:

- develop an interest in, and enthusiasm for, the subject
- appreciate the contribution of economics to the understanding of the wider economic and social environment
- develop an understanding of a range of concepts and an ability to use those concepts in a variety of different contexts
- use an enquiring, critical and thoughtful approach to the study of economics and develop an ability to think as an economist
- understand that economic behaviour can be studied from a range of perspectives
- develop analytical and quantitative skills, together with qualities and attitudes that will equip them for the challenges, opportunities and responsibilities of adult and working life.

Course Content

- 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 and 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.
- Theme 3: Business behaviour and labour markets. 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.

Throughout the academic year there will be opportunities to develop key skills in the areas of group work, presentation skills, research and writing skills. Case studies will be used to help students develop their ability to analyse and interpret data.

Assessment

Students will sit for three external examinations, assessing themes 1-4 at the end of their two years of study. The type of questions will be a mixture of multiple choice questions, short answers, data responses, and essay questions.

Recommended Reading

The current course textbook is Hodder's My Revision Notes: Edexcel A Level Economics by Quintin Brewer (ISBN: 9781471842139). Students are also recommended to purchase student workbooks which are used for homework tasks.

Career Paths and Related Subject Areas

Studying economics can lead on to a wide range of courses at university, a career in fields such as Research, Trading, Banking, Marketing, Finance and HRM, and developing the student's skill set to future enterprise start up.

For further information: <https://qualifications.pearson.com/en/qualifications/edexcel-a-levels/economics-a-2015.html>