

Why study A Level Business?

(OCR - www.ocr.org.uk/qualifications/as-a-level-gce-business-h031-h431-from-2015)

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The Business A-Level course focuses on a problem solving approach to business designed to help students understand the nature and working of business organisations. Much of the learning is based around business case studies and focusing on how students can use their business knowledge to determine the success of a business. The aim is to encourage students to develop a critical understanding of different businesses, the context in which they operate, the markets they serve, and ultimately recommend actions that businesses should take to be successful. Students will be expected to immerse themselves in a business-like mindset and to pay attention to the world around them. For example, students would be expected to take note of relevant news items, which may be used as a basis for discussion and class-work.

• What skills will I gain from studying Business?

Students will develop a broad understanding of the range of activities businesses undertake to compete and be successful in the local, national and global economy. In addition, students will learn to analyse various business scenarios, identify the key issues facing different business and make recommendations as to what approach the business should take to achieve its objectives.

• Topics at A level will include:

- Business ownership
- Business functions: Finance, Marketing, People & Operations management
- Managing change
- Business investment decisions
- Business and international trade
- External influences on business
- Business Objectives & Strategy

• How will I be assessed?

The A level course is examined by three separate exam papers each two hours long:

- **Unit 1** consists of multiple-choice questions and longer written answers based around an unseen case study of a 'small' business
- **Unit 2** consists of short response questions and longer written answers based around an unseen case study of a UK 'national' business.
- **Unit 3** exam is based around the case study of a 'global' business and includes both data response questions as well as longer written answers

All exams are sat at the end of Year 13

A Level Business students achieve outstanding results and consistently outperform the national average:

- In 2016 - **54%** of A Level Business students achieved **A*-B** grades (12% higher than the national average!)
- **A level performance** by Business students (as measured by progress) was the **second best in the school** in 2016!