

BUSINESS STUDIES at AS/A2 LEVEL

EXAMINATION BOARD: OCR

WHY STUDY BUSINESS STUDIES?

Business Studies is a subject which will link equally well with either the Arts or the Sciences. It is eclectic as there are many disciplines that need to be studied by serious and committed students to develop the necessary investigative and problem-solving approach.

As well as understanding the internal workings of firms and organisations students are encouraged to be aware of the perspective of a range of stakeholders. They also need to demonstrate an understanding of the economic, environmental, ethical and international issues which arise in the processes of business behaviour and to be able to interpret and evaluate the significance of these issues.

Business Studies is a practical subject based in the real world and as such it is designed to make students aware that whatever plans are made by a business owner there are external forces at work which can affect any outcome.

Successful candidates acquire a range of transferable skills including the ability to work in a team, communication and presentation competence and the facility to make decisions in the light of evaluation based on quantification and management of information.

ENTRY REQUIREMENTS

In addition to providing a suitable route for progression for candidates of GCSE Business Studies, the course of study can also reasonably be undertaken by candidates beginning their formal education in the subject at post 16 level.

HIGHER EDUCATION AND CAREER CHOICES

The study of Business Studies is useful if you wish to go on to study:

A general Business Studies course or one specialising in Finance, Marketing, Accounts or Operations.

Almost any subject can be combined with Business Management with numerous options from French to Social History via Physics.

Accountancy
Economics
Politics
Sociology
Law

Or to follow a career as:

A Manager in any area of business, an Accountant, an Administrator in the private or the public sector or be self-employed, the list of possibilities is extensive

SUBJECT SPECIFICATION

AS level is taken in Year 12. It is comprised of two modules:-

Unit	Level	Name of unit	Duration	Mode of Assessment	Weighting	
					AS	A2
F291	AS	An Introduction to Business	1 hr	short-answer and data-response five questions. 60 marks	40%	20%
F292		Business Functions	2 hrs	two sections Section A: one six-part question. Section B four questions based on pre-released case study 5 Questions in all	60%	30%

The first module is taken in January the second in the summer.

A2 is taken in Year 13. This is also made up of two modules:-

Unit	Level	Name of unit	Duration	Mode of Assessment	Weighting
					A2
F293 F294 F295 F296	A2	Options (One from): Marketing Accounting People in Organisations Business Production	All 2 hrs	All based on unseen case studies Six compulsory questions partly synoptic 60 marks	20%
F297		Strategic Management	2 hrs	Pre-issued case study, four compulsory questions one of which will include a specified numerical element 90 marks This unit is synoptic	30%

The optional module is sat in January and the Strategic Management in the summer. There is also the opportunity to re-sit modules in order to improve grade/point scores.

FURTHER INFORMATION

Students or parent requiring further details are most welcome to contact Mrs G Richards, Head of Business Studies.