

What is the EPQ?

The Extended Project Qualification (EPQ) is free standing qualification offered by AQA. It involves choosing a topic and carrying out some broad research into that particular area, then creating EITHER a 5,000 word report OR a 'product' + a 1,000 word report. After that, you must deliver a small presentation to a group of non-specialists about your topic, lasting from 5 - 10 mins.

It provides an opportunity for you to extend abilities beyond the A-level syllabus, stand out and prepare for university or your future career.

It can also be used to earn extra UCAS points

Southampton University will offer you lower entrance requirements if you gain an A for EPQ!

Why should I do it?

For your own sake. It allows you to develop your personal interests on a topic you feel genuinely passionate about. Plus, it helps when applying for university (especially competitive ones, such as Oxbridge), as you are set apart from all the other straight A candidates. It demonstrates your commitment to a subject, and allows you to develop the independent research skills needed for undergraduate study. If you are lucky enough to receive an interview from your desired university, it gives you something to talk about and really get your teeth into so you don't run out of things to say.

Summer work

Think about a subject you feel genuinely passionate about which can be anything but not replicating you have already studied.

For example;

- Is the death penalty ever justified?
- Does social networking (like Facebook) cause more harm than good?
- What is the impact of the media on size zero modelling and how does this affect young people?
- Is organ donation ethical?
- Is torture ever justified?
- Is euthanasia ever justified?

Create a list or mind map of factors that could be considered when doing your research.

Speak to Sarah Downes in the staffroom in L:002 for further details

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