

The Extended Project Qualification



Hannah Coy



Course Aims

The Extended Project is a Level 3 qualification which provides students with a unique opportunity to choose a topic in which they are interested and conduct their own research. Each student will:

- choose an area of interest;
- plan, research and carry out the project.

Expectations

Identify, design, plan and complete an individual project to meet stated objectives; obtain and select information from a range of sources, and analyse data; select and use a range of skills, including new technologies where appropriate, to solve problems, to take decisions critically, creatively and flexibly, to achieve planned outcomes; and finally evaluate outcomes including own learning and performance.

Course Structure

The Extended Project Qualification (EPQ) is a single piece of work of student's own choosing that requires evidence of planning, preparation, research and independent working. It carries the same UCAS points as an AS Level (20 for a grade E, up to 70 for a grade A*).

The course has a core taught element which involves research methodology, and developing Personal, Learning and Thinking skills. Students will be supervised by course supervisors who will give guidance during the completion of the research project; however the emphasis is on the student conducting his/her own research.

The EPQ is designed to extend and develop beyond the programme of study that students have a genuine curiosity about and would like to gain the skills to satisfy that curiosity. Students can choose *either* a 5000 word research report or create an artefact together with a shorter written research report (minimum 1000 words).

Exemplar research project titles:

- To design and deliver a series of British Sign Language lessons aimed at Year 6 children.
- The effect of Polyclinics on patient care in St. Albans.
- Emperor Hadrian's influence on Western Civilisation.
- Was the Spitfire more instrumental than the Hurricane in winning the Battle of Britain?
- Should I become vegan? An investigation into the claimed personal and environmental benefits of a vegan diet.
- Can listening to music improve cognitive function?
- The legacy of 2012 Olympics and its effect on the school curriculum.
- Renewable energy, the lessons for schools.
- Why has MRSA proved so difficult to combat?
- To create a set of desserts with a low sugar content, designed for people with type 2 diabetes.