

Extended Project

Level 3

Exam board: Edexcel

Entry requirements: Grade 5 in either English Language or English Literature

Course content: The Extended Project Qualification (Level 3) or EPQ is the equivalent of half an A Level. It is typically studied across one year, and is expected to take 120 hours of research/writing/execution. EPQs take one of four forms: a dissertation (6000 word extended essay), an investigation/field study, a performance, or an artefact. They are equally weighted, but have slightly different mark schemes (see assessment). The majority of FSG students follow the dissertation route.

Assessment: There are four assessment objectives for the Edexcel Level 3 Extended Project. The assessment objectives are as follows:

- Manage (9 marks / 17%);
- Use resources (12 marks / 22%);
- Develop and realise (24 marks / 44%);
- Review (9 marks / 17%).

Why choose Extended Project Qualification:

The EPQ allows learners to study a topic area which extends their learning in their area of study. Students should plan a project topic which expands their learning in their field of study, in a related area, or that is relevant to their own personal interests. The EPQ is worth up to 70 UCAS points. This can be used towards a points offer from a university (for example, 350 points). The EPQ grade cannot be used against a grade offer (such as AAA), but some universities may offer an alternative for candidates studying EPQ (such as ABB instead of AAB, provided that you get at least an A in your EPQ). It would be a good idea to contact universities you have applied to in order to see whether this is the case – they will be glad to hear from you. Universities are also recognising the EPQ as a valuable part of a student's profile on their UCAS application. You can use your EPQ to show your interest in an area of study at a university interview.

Skills and progression:

The EPQ will give you the opportunity to develop the following:

- Become more independent and resilient learners;
- Become an 'expert' on your chosen question/topic: this is a great opportunity to pursue in greater depth something about which you are passionate;
- Become more skilled in critical thinking about the world around you;
- Become more confident in your ability to formulate, see through and present in a scholarly manner a more substantial research/creative project than you may ever have undertaken.