

EPQ

What is EPQ?

The extended project qualification assesses a student's ability to plan, research and deliver an independent project. Most students complete a 5000 word dissertation on a subject or hypothesis which they are interested in. Some complete an artefact project where they do the research and then produce a piece of art or a short story for example. The EPQ is marked at A-level standard so can be graded as an A* and is worth half the UCAS points of a full A-level (and therefore more than an As level). It is an Elective which the Lower Sixth can choose to complete alongside their main A-levels. They have two double lessons each week and learn the skills needed to complete their research in this time. The final project is submitted at Christmas in the Upper Sixth.

Why do an EPQ?

The EPQ gives students a chance to learn valuable skills while studying a topic which they have chosen. It can impress University admissions tutors, and is mentioned in many of the online prospectuses and many Universities give reduced offers to students with an EPQ. Some examples are shown below:

“ For example at the University of Birmingham, we recognise the EPQ as valuable proof of your capacity for independent learning, as well as your passion for the subject you want to study at a higher level. So when we see it on your UCAS application, it shows us that you're serious.

University of Birmingham

“ Students could use their project at interview stage and/or in their UCAS personal statement. Certain courses at the University will count 'A' grades achieved in the extended project towards their entry criteria.

University of Southampton

“ The skills that students develop through the Extended Project are excellent preparation for university-level study.

University of Manchester

Academic Performance

100% A*-B

85% A*-A, 55% A*

2024 Results



What topics have been studied?

In past years the titles have included:

- Which of the current treatments for cystic fibrosis could be made more sustainable?
- What is the best method of communicating risk in healthcare to adolescents aged 14-17?
- Will the pay gap between male and female athletes in football be equal by the year 2050?
- Design a website and products suitable for selling baked goods locally
- Do gender stereotypes in Disney Princess movies contribute to the gender gap in the C-suite?
- Is cancel culture a modern manifestation of witch trials