

# 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 optional course which the Lower Sixth can choose to complete alongside their main A-levels. They have a double lesson each week as part of the Key Skills programme and learn the skills needed to complete their research in this time. The final project is submitted in October of 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. 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

## Academic Performance

**100% A\*-C**

**84% A\*-B, 73% A\*-A, 49% A\***  
2023 Results

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

University of Manchester:

## What topics have been studied?

In past years the titles have included:

- Have developments in the Hukou system in China decreased systematic discrimination from the rule of Mao to today?
- Creating a kit for easy at home micro-propagation of plants – Artefact
- Should there be restrictions or bans on DLC content and microtransactions in videogames?
- Are lockdowns necessary for preventing an epidemic of a respiratory based virus, in developed nations?
- Should access to state funded IVF be limited for women over the age of 40?
- A Collection of Medical Drawings drawn in the style of Leonardo da Vinci - Artefact

