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About Edexcel

Edexcel is one of the UK's largest providers of qualifications, with the widest portfolio of academic and vocational qualifications. Regulated by the Qualifications and Curriculum Authority (QCA) to offer qualifications, Edexcel works with over 5,500 education partners in over 110 countries.

Further copies of this publication are available from Edexcel Publications:

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Applied ICT

GCE

advancing learning, changing lives



GCE in Applied ICT

The Edexcel GCE in Applied ICT is a 'must-have' for every post-sixteen student. Highly motivating, it develops the knowledge and skills students need to be competent and informed ICT users and practitioners.

Why choose the Edexcel GCE in Applied ICT?

The Edexcel GCE in Applied ICT aims to produce effective, discerning ICT users who:

- can select and use appropriate ICT tools and techniques to help them carry out investigations, capture and handle data, solve problems, make decisions, and present and communicate information
- are aware of the benefits and drawbacks of ICT and its impact on the way in which people live their lives
- can plan and manage projects and work effectively with others.

The AS qualification has a broad appeal and develops students' communication and decision-making skills. These are harnessed to build and maintain an e-portfolio as a showcase for their achievements. The skills acquired through study for the AS level in Applied ICT will support further study in any subject area.

The Double Award qualification at AS and A2 level introduces students to key aspects of the ICT practitioner role, including:

- system design and installation
- software development
- website design and management
- technical support
- networks and communications
- working with end-users.

Progression

The GCE in Applied ICT qualifies for UCAS points. It gives students a wide choice of progression options into further study, training, or relevant employment.

Students who successfully complete the qualification will be well equipped to move onto degrees and BTEC Higher National Diplomas in related subjects such as ICT, Computer Science, Information Systems, Multimedia, Software Engineering, Computer Networking, e-Business and Information Management.

Those who opt for work-based training are likely to progress to IT User/Practitioner NVQs or vendor-specific qualifications.

Comprehensive support, every step of the way

• A wide range of tutor support materials will be available from spring term 2005. This will include a CD-ROM, assignment briefs, student work with commentaries and schemes of work.

• Free events introducing the new GCEs and training events to prepare for teaching the new qualifications.

• Further information is available from our regularly-updated website at www.edexcel.org.uk/gce.

We are constantly examining new ways to provide support and would welcome your suggestions.

Course structure

The qualification has an AS/A2 structure. It can take the form of:

- a Single Award AS GCE (3 units)
- a Single Award Advanced GCE (6 units)
- a Double Award AS GCE (6 units)
- a Double Award Advanced GCE (12 units)

AS GCE – Single Award

End-user focus:

Unit 1 (AS)

The Information Age (portfolio)

Unit 2 (AS)

The Digital Economy (portfolio)

Unit 3 (AS)

The Knowledge Worker (practical assessment)

Advanced GCE – Single Award

End-user focus:

Unit 1 (AS)

The Information Age (portfolio)

Unit 2 (AS)

The Digital Economy (portfolio)

Unit 3 (AS)

The Knowledge Worker (practical assessment)

Unit 7 (A2)

Using Database Software (practical assessment)

Unit 8 (A2)

Managing ICT Projects (portfolio)

Plus one of:

Unit 10 (A2)

Using Multimedia Software (portfolio)

Unit 11 (A2)

Using Spreadsheet Software (portfolio)

Unit 12 (A2)

Customising Applications (portfolio)

AS GCE – Double Award

End-user focus:

Unit 1 (AS)

The Information Age (portfolio)

Unit 2 (AS)

The Digital Economy (portfolio)

Unit 3 (AS)

The Knowledge Worker (practical assessment)

AS GCE – Double Award *Continued*

Practitioner focus:

Unit 4 (AS)

System Design & Installation (portfolio)

Unit 5 (AS)

Web Development (portfolio)

Unit 6 (AS)

Technical Support (portfolio)

Advanced GCE – Double Award

End-user focus:

Unit 1 (AS)

The Information Age (portfolio)

Unit 2 (AS)

The Digital Economy (portfolio)

Unit 3 (AS)

The Knowledge Worker (externally assessed)

Practitioner focus:

Unit 4 (AS)

System Design and Installation (portfolio)

Unit 5 (AS)

Web Development (portfolio)

Unit 6 (AS)

Technical Support (portfolio)

End-user focus:

Unit 7 (A2)

Using Database Software (externally assessed)

Unit 8 (A2)

Managing ICT Projects (portfolio)

Practitioner focus:

Unit 9 (A2)

Communications & Networks (externally assessed)

Plus any three of:

End-user focus:

Unit 10 (A2)

Using Multimedia Software (portfolio)

Unit 11 (A2)

Using Spreadsheet Software (portfolio)

Unit 12 (A2)

Customising Applications (portfolio)

Practitioner focus:

Unit 13 (A2)

Web Management (portfolio)

Unit 14 (A2)

Programming (portfolio)