

# New A Level Business Studies

## H030 and H430 replacing 3811 and 7811

Information for OCR centres transferring to **new specifications for first teaching in September 2008**

This document maps the current A Level Business Studies specification to the new specification for first teaching in September 2008. It includes information on the changes, support available and an outline of the new specification. It is intended to help ease the transition for Heads of Department and Teachers involved in the teaching of Business Studies.

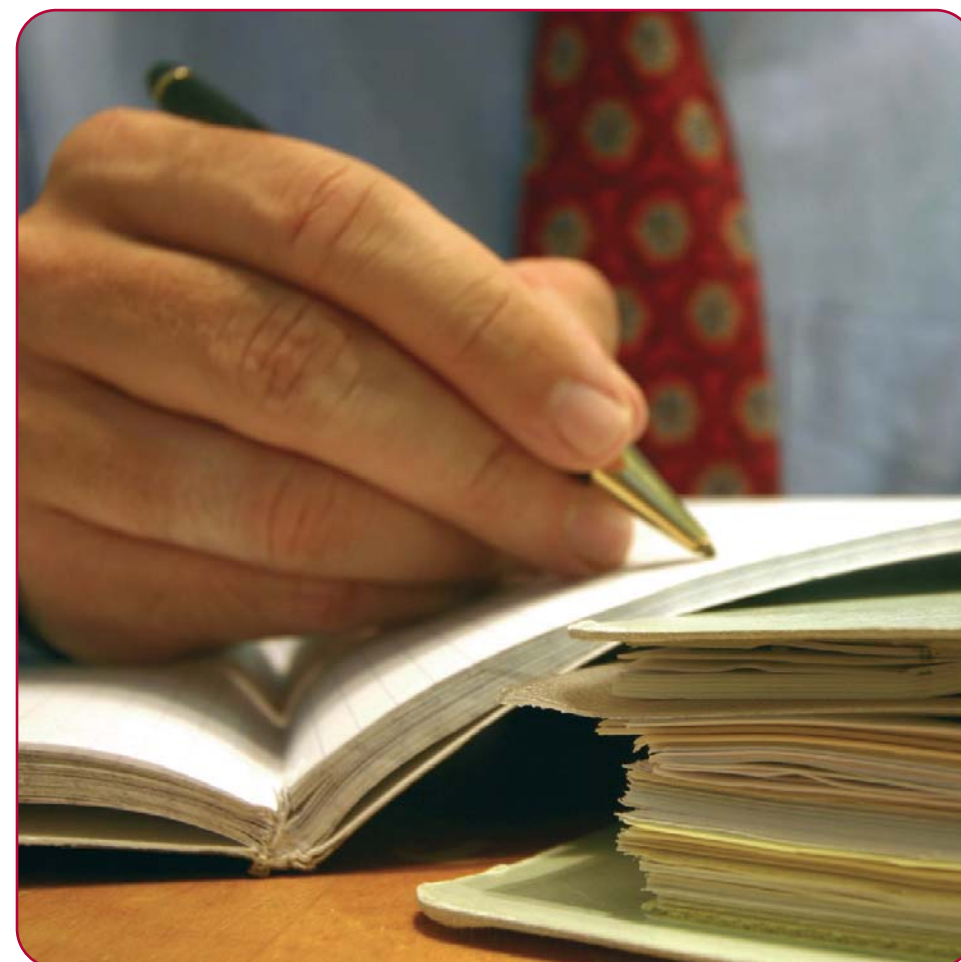
The full specification is available online along with a short questionnaire enabling you to share your comments on the specification and help shape the materials developed to support it. For more information including answers to frequently asked questions visit [www.ocr.org.uk/14-19alevels](http://www.ocr.org.uk/14-19alevels)

**Current specification – mapping the changes** **pages 2-3**

**Outline specification for first teaching September 2008** **pages 4-5**

**QCA have stipulated that:**

- Number of units required to achieve GCE A Level Business Studies is to be reduced from six to four
- All coursework to be removed from Business Studies
- Stretch and Challenge style questions to be introduced into A2 assessment



# Mapping the changes to the A Level Business Studies specification for first teaching September 2008

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Existing specification						
	Current unit title	Unit code	What remains the same?	What is changing?	Why is it changing?	Guidance
AS	<b>Businesses, their Objectives and Environment</b>	<b>2871</b> Mandatory 30% (AS) 15% (A Level) 1 hr written exam	The F291 content retains a familiar feel.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Unit title becomes An introduction to business.</li> <li>New unit code F291.</li> <li>A reduction in content; macro economic <i>external influences</i> and the section of work entitled <i>planning</i> (2871) are now covered in Strategic management (F297).</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Achieve a reduction in content at AS level.</li> </ul>	
AS	<b>Business Decisions</b>	<b>2872</b> Mandatory 30% (AS) 15% (A Level) 45mins written exam	The F292 content retains a familiar feel.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Unit 2872 and 2873 are combining.</li> <li>New unit code F292.</li> <li>A reduction in content within <i>People in organisations</i> (2872/2873).</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Achieve a reduction in content at AS level.</li> </ul>	
AS	<b>Business Behaviour</b>	<b>2873</b> Mandatory 40% (AS) 20% (A Level) 1hr 15mins written exam	The F292 content retains a familiar feel.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Unit 2872 and 2873 are combining.</li> <li>New unit code F292.</li> <li>A reduction in content within <i>People in organisations</i> (2872/2873).</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Achieve a reduction in content at AS level.</li> </ul>	
A2	<b>Further Marketing</b>	<b>2874</b> Optional 15% (A Level) 1hr 30 mins written exam	The F293 content retains a familiar feel.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Unit title becomes Marketing.</li> <li>A synoptic element within the final question. This will be a decision making type question.</li> </ul>		
A2	<b>Further Accounting and Finance</b>	<b>2875</b> Optional 15% (A Level) 1hr 30 mins written exam	The F294 content retains a familiar feel.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Unit title becomes Accounting.</li> <li>A synoptic element within the final question. This will be a decision making type question.</li> </ul>		
A2	<b>Further People in Organisations</b>	<b>2876</b> Optional 15% (A Level) 1hr 30 mins written exam	The F295 content retains a familiar feel.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Unit title becomes People in organisations.</li> <li>A synoptic element within the final question. This will be a decision making type question.</li> <li><i>Management of change</i> (2876) has been replaced with a section entitled <i>work-force performance measurement criteria</i> (F295).</li> <li><i>Management of change</i> is now covered in Strategic management (F297).</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The content has been reviewed and updated.</li> </ul>	

Existing specification		3811 and 7811			
Current unit title	Unit code	What remains the same?	What is changing?	Why is it changing?	Guidance
<b>A2</b> Further Operations Management	<b>2877</b> Optional 15% (A Level) 1 hr 30 mins written exam.	The F296 content retains a familiar feel.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Unit title becomes Business production. A synoptic element within the final question. This will be a decision making type question.</li> </ul>		
<b>A2</b> Business Project	<b>2878</b> must take 2878 or 2879 15% (A Level) Coursework.		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Unit no longer available.</li> </ul>		
<b>A2</b> Business Thematic Enquiry	<b>2879</b> must take 2878 or 2879 15% (A Level) 1 hr 30 mins written exam.		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Unit no longer available.</li> </ul>		
<b>A2</b> Business Strategy	<b>2880</b> Mandatory 20% (A Level) 2hr written exam.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The unifying theme in F297 remains choosing and justifying strategy.</li> <li>Candidates are expected to demonstrate an analytical and evaluative approach to the content introduced in this module and to the content introduced in F291 and F292.</li> <li>The content currently found within 2880 will be carried forward into F297. Candidates may still respond to narrative questions within the examination with an emphasis on their chosen A2 option specialism.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Unit title changing to Strategic management. More numerate content has been added including the content previously found within units 2871, 2872, 2873 (as detailed above). The addition of this content provides scope for a 'different type' of examination question e.g. a requirement for candidates to complete a network diagram.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>QCA have stipulated that A2 specifications must cover a core of knowledge, understanding and skills.</li> <li>Achieve a reduction in content at AS level.</li> </ul>	

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	New unit title	New unit code	Benefits to me and my learners	Support
AS	An introduction to business	<b>F291</b> Mandatory 40% (AS) 20% (A Level) 1 hr written exam This question paper consists of short answer and data response questions candidates answer five questions	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>This unit provides candidates with an awareness of aspects of the external business environment. In particular, candidates consider the extent to which the market provides opportunities for, and imposes constraints on, the pursuit of short-term and long-term objectives.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>INSET, Scheme of work, Exemplar candidate work, Sample lesson plans.</li> </ul>
AS	Business functions	<b>F292</b> Mandatory 60% (AS) 30% (A Level) 2 hr written exam This question paper has two sections: Section A: Candidates are required to answer one six part question. Section B: candidates are required to answer all four questions based on the pre-release case study stimulus material	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>This unit builds upon the knowledge and skills acquired in the study of Unit F291. Candidates will develop an awareness of the interrelationships that exist between each of the four main behavioural functions of business and appreciate that for an organisation to be a success in a dynamic and challenging environment, decisions have to be taken in the context of both organisation's objectives and its resources.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>INSET, Scheme of work, Exemplar candidate work, Sample lesson plans.</li> </ul>
A2	Marketing	<b>F293</b> Optional 20% (A Level) 2 hr written exam Six Questions based on case study stimulus material. Candidates have to answer all questions	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>This unit builds upon the content of the AS Units F291 and F292. Candidates will be introduced to specific issues relating to the marketing aspects of business not covered at AS. The candidate will develop a critical awareness of theories, concepts and decision making tools which are integral to marketing and will use them in solving problems and/or making decisions.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>INSET, Scheme of work, Exemplar candidate work, Sample lesson plans.</li> </ul>

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A2	Accounting	<b>F294</b> Optional 20% (A Level) 2 hr written exam Six Questions based on case study stimulus material. Candidates have to answer all questions.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>This unit builds upon the content of the AS Units F291 and F292. Candidates will be introduced to specific issues related to the accounting aspects of business not covered at AS. Candidates will develop a critical awareness of theories, concepts and decision making tools which are integral to accounting and will use them in solving problems and/or making decisions.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>INSET, Scheme of work, Exemplar candidate work, Sample lesson plans.</li> </ul>
A2	People in organisations	<b>F295</b> Optional 20% (A Level) 2 hr written exam Six Questions based on case study stimulus material. Candidates have to answer all questions.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>This unit builds upon the content of the AS Units F291 and F292. Candidates will be introduced to specific issues related to the production aspects of business not covered at AS. Candidates will develop a critical awareness of this area of business activity. Candidates will apply the concepts learned in order to solve problems and/or make decisions.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>INSET, Scheme of work, Exemplar candidate work, Sample lesson plans.</li> </ul>
A2	Business production	<b>F296</b> Optional 20% (A Level) 2 hr written exam Six Questions, based on case study stimulus material. Candidates have to answer all questions.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>This unit builds upon the content of the AS Units F291 and F292. Candidates will be introduced to specific issues related to the production aspects of business not covered at AS so as to develop a critical awareness of this area of business activity. Candidates will apply the concepts learned in order to solve problems and/or make decisions.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>INSET, Scheme of work, Exemplar candidate work, Sample lesson plans.</li> </ul>
A2	Strategic management	<b>F297</b> Mandatory 30% (A Level) 2 hr written exam Four Questions, one of which will include a specified numerical element. The questions will be based on pre-release case study material. Candidates must answer all questions.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Candidates will develop an awareness of business strategy, its nature, development and implementation. Candidates will apply these concepts with a view to critically evaluating specific organisational and business situations in order to solve problems and/or make decisions. Candidates will be expected to develop and demonstrate an integrated understanding of the subject and will learn to approach situations from the perspective of different stakeholders.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>INSET, Scheme of work, Exemplar candidate work, Sample lesson plans.</li> </ul>