

key stage ④ 2001

GCSE Business Studies & Economics (Nuffield-BP)

Edexcel has developed a revised GCSE in Business Studies & Economics (Nuffield-BP) in line with the revised criteria specified by QCA. This has been accredited by QCA for a teaching start of September 2001 and for first examination in June 2003.

Key Features

- A GCSE specification which integrates Business Studies and Economics seamlessly
- An active investigative problem-solving approach
- Emphasises the relevance of Business Studies and Economics to real world issues
- A wide range of high quality support materials to facilitate course delivery
- A range of teacher support meetings offered by both Edexcel and the Nuffield Foundation
- Coursework supported by exemplar material

Support and Materials

- Specimen papers
- Coursework guide
- Student guide
- Teachers' resource pack from Harper-Collins
- Student book from Harper-Collins
- Newsletters
- Edexcel's regional network provides subject support at a local level.
- Support from the Nuffield Foundation - www.nuffieldfoundation.org

INSET

- Half-day meetings around the country introducing the new specification from autumn 2000 and continuing in 2001
- Planning meetings for the new specification start early in 2001

These INSET meetings will look at the new GCSE Business Studies & Economics (Nuffield-BP) specification in detail. You will also have the opportunity to raise questions. Details are in our Business and Economics INSET guide and on our website. Also look out for the INSET updates which went into schools and colleges in December 2000.

You can find a full range of specifications, specimen assessment material and student guides on our website at www.edexcel.org.uk. If you prefer, or have not received the material that you require, you may order hard copies of materials from our Publications Department on 01623 467467.

Introduction

Edexcel's GCSE in Business Studies and Economics (Nuffield-BP) is a unique joint specification in the areas of Business Studies and Economics. The underlying principles of the specification are those of progression, integration and investigation. These principles establish a structure for the effective learning of valuable concepts and ideas in real world contexts and define the distinctive contribution of this specification to the National Qualifications Framework.

Investigative work should drive the course; this ethos is reflected in the questioning style of the specification. The investigative nature of the course is demonstrated particularly through the Portfolio, which is the coursework element of the specification.

Summary of Content

The specification is divided into 6 units of content, each of which is sub-divided into 5 enquiries. Each enquiry aims to encourage students to take a questioning approach to the specification content. Topics are introduced early on in the specification and then built upon as they reoccur later.

Unit title	Content summary
Make or break?	This unit reflects upon the role of enterprise and entrepreneurs in the economy.
Work or what?	This unit explores employment and productivity from the point of view of the employee and the employer.
Risk or certainty?	This unit looks at ways in which risk can be minimised.
Big or small?	This unit investigates the strengths and weaknesses of large and small-scale operations and how they overcome problems.
Create or destroy?	This unit looks at the need for individuals, firms and governments to behave in ways that take account of their actions.
Winners or Losers?	This unit aims to investigate how winners are created and how assistance and protection are provided for those who need them.

Summary of Scheme of Assessment

The scheme of assessment is in two tiers. Foundation tier candidates take Papers 1, 2 and 5. This tier is targeted at grades C to G. Higher tier candidates take Papers 3, 4 and 5. This tier is targeted at grades A* to D. In the table below, F = Foundation and H = Higher.

Paper	Mode of assessment	Weighting	Length
1F and 3H	Written	35%	1h 15m
2F and 4H	Written	40%	1h 15m
5	Coursework	25%	2 pieces of Portfolio work

Futher Information

Edexcel also offers GCSE courses in Business & Communication Systems (formerly Information Studies) and both short and full courses in Business Studies. If you are interested in these or any other Edexcel qualification, please contact our Customer Response Centre on 0870 240 9800, fax 020 7758 6960, or email enquiries@edexcel.org.uk.