

O Level Business Studies (7115)

When are the examinations available?

The syllabus is available for examination in June and November each year.

How can I get in touch with other teachers of Business Studies?

We have an e-mail discussion group, which you may find useful. The discussion groups are based on e-mail technology. Sending a message or query to the group will mean that it is viewed by all members of the group. By being a member of the group teachers can share ideas, resources and ask subject related questions which will be seen by the CIE Product Manager and examiners but also by all other teachers who have registered on the group. For example, a teacher could ask how everyone is approaching a particular topic, what books they might recommend or simply find out who else is teaching their subject.

You can join the discussion group by e-mailing us at international@ucles.org.uk.

Are there any textbooks written specifically for the O Level Business Studies syllabus?

For the O level Business Studies syllabus there are 2 textbooks which follow the syllabus very closely:

IGCSE Business Studies, by Karen Borrington and Peter Stimpson, 2nd Edition, John Murray, ISBN 0719572681

IGCSE Business Studies, by Chris Nuttall, Cambridge University Press, ISBN 0521750954

Are there any changes to the syllabus for 2004?

The syllabus will be changing for 2004 both in terms of the scheme of assessment and in terms of the syllabus content.

From the June 2004 examination, there will be minor changes to the scheme of assessment. Both papers will now contain 100 marks; each paper will be worth 50% of the total marks available.

The content of the syllabus is similar to that of the 'old' syllabus and we hope that the syllabus is clearer and more specific in terms of what should be taught.

Is it acceptable for students to write their answers as bullet points?

Marking for O level Business Studies is not just a matter of counting the number of points made for a question worth 10 to 12 marks. A range of appropriate points should be identified and the more important points should be developed, with reference to examples. It would not be sufficient on a question worth 10 to 12 marks for a candidate to give a list of points with no explanation or development of ideas. In a 2 or 3 mark question an example would not strictly be required unless specifically asked for, although again students might wish to give an example. Students often find it easier to give an explanation to a question if they can illustrate their answer using an example. The example would be rewarded provided it enhanced the answer.

What support materials are available?

Syllabus

Specimen papers (for 2004 syllabus)

IGCSE Business Studies Standards Booklet (this contains student answers to IGCSE questions along with the mark scheme, marks and comments of a senior examiner; it is equally suitable for O level Business Studies)

Question papers for the past two years

IGCSE Business Studies Mark schemes from November 2000 onwards (equally suitable for O level Business Studies)

Reports on past examinations