



AS/A2 Economics (Level 3)

WHY TAKE THIS COURSE?

Do you fancy doing something different? Are you interested in current affairs? Have you ever wondered how entire nations such as Greece or Ireland actually run out of money? Why Wayne Rooney earns more than the Prime Minister or why cinema tickets are cheaper for students and OAPs?

Given the impact of economic forces on our daily lives, Economics will allow you to consider the topical and controversial issues of the day in a lively and analytical way. Economics is very much a subject that evolves every day and lessons will often feature news articles or TV clips from that week. Economics is not restricted to finance and the financial markets. It also gives you the opportunity to make judgements about vital real world issues such as the European Union, the environment, sport, leisure and the job market. Economic concepts underpin most if not all the decisions that we undertake.

WHAT WILL I STUDY?

To achieve the AS, you will need to complete two units; Markets in Action, and the National and International Economy. To achieve the A Level, you will need to complete two further units; Economics of Work and Leisure and the Global Economy.

HOW WILL I BE ASSESSED?

Your course will be assessed by external examinations. Exams are modular, with one being taken each January, and one each summer. The exams are predominantly short questions and essays based on case studies.

WHAT SKILLS AND SPECIAL QUALIFICATIONS DO I NEED?

You will need to have an interest in current affairs and enjoy reading appropriate newspapers and magazines. During the course you will learn how to distinguish between fact and opinion. Your own skills of judgement and analysis will also be developed. You will discover that economists disagree and that there are groups of economists with different views. The opportunities for debate are endless. There are no special qualifications needed to take this course.

WHAT CAN I DO NEXT?

Economists are highly sought after – they are the second most highly paid graduates. Those who have a good understanding of the economy will find rewarding occupations in banks and financial institutions, manufacturing and service companies, the media, government and international organisations such as the World Bank.

PRIESTLEY EXTRA

Economics students have the opportunity to visit Parliament and the financial institutions in London as well as an excursion abroad to gain an international perspective. A team of students will also enter the prestigious Target 2.0 competition organised by the Bank of England and Times newspaper.