

Business A Level

Board: Edexcel, 9BS0

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Why consider Business?

A good level of interest in the business world is necessary to succeed in this course. It will allow you to gain a practical understanding and knowledge of how businesses work and it is well regarded as a qualification by employers and higher education institutions.

The Pearson Edexcel Level 3 Advanced GCE in business is structured into four themes and consists of three externally examined papers.

You will be introduced to business in Themes 1 and 2 through building knowledge of core business concepts and applying them to business contexts to develop a broad understanding of how businesses work. Breadth and depth of knowledge and understanding, with applications to a wider range of contexts and more complex business information, are developed in Themes 3 and 4, requiring you to take a more strategic view of business opportunities and issues.

You will be encouraged to use an enquiring, critical and thoughtful approach to the study of business, understanding that business behaviour can be studied from a range of perspectives, and challenge assumptions.

Theme 1: Marketing and people

You will develop an understanding of:

- Meeting customer needs
- The market
- Marketing mix and strategy
- Managing people
- Entrepreneurs and leaders.

Theme 2: Managing business activities

You will develop an understanding of:

- Raising finance
- Financial planning
- Managing finance
- Resource management
- External influences.

Theme 3:

Business decisions and strategy

This theme develops the concepts introduced in Theme 2. You will develop an understanding of:

- business objectives and strategy
- business growth
- decision-making techniques
- influences on business decisions
- assessing competitiveness
- managing change.

Theme 4:

Global business

This theme develops the concepts introduced in Theme 1. You will develop an understanding of:

- Globalisation
- Global markets and business expansion
- Global marketing
- Global industries and companies (multinational companies).

Assessment is by means of three two-hour exams, all taken in the final summer of the course:

- Paper 1 is based on Themes 1 and 4
- Paper 2 is based on Themes 2 and 3
- Paper 3 is based on a pre-released case study and covers all four themes.

Other activities

Work experience can be an excellent enrichment activity for someone on an A Level business studies course. We aim to organise visits and trips to enrich and enhance the whole experience.

Where next?

The business course is ideal preparation for employment, further and higher education in a wide range of careers and courses. The course is good preparation for working in a business environment or for studying a business related course such as marketing or management.

