

SUBJECT: AS/A2 Business Studies

QUALIFICATION: AS/A2 Business Studies

QUALIFICATION LEVEL: Level 3

QUALIFICATION TYPE: AS/A2

AWARDING BODY: OCR

CATEGORY: Business

Qualification Accreditation Number (QAN): 500/2275/1

DESCRIPTION

The Advanced Subsidiary GCE is both a 'stand-alone' qualification and also the first half of the corresponding A2 Advanced GCE. The AS GCE is assessed at a standard appropriate for candidates who have completed the first year of study (both in terms of teaching time and content) of the corresponding two-year Advanced GCE course. The AS GCE is made up of **two** mandatory units which are externally assessed and form 50% of the corresponding four-unit Advanced GCE. The Advanced GCE is made up of **two** mandatory units at AS and **two** further units at A2. These A2 units are also externally assessed.

WHAT WILL I LEARN?

The AS specification includes the following core knowledge, understanding and skills covering

- marketing;
- accounting and finance;
- people in organisations;
- operations management;
- business structures and objectives

The A2 part of the Advanced GCE specification includes the following core knowledge, understanding and skills:

- business objectives and strategy;
- external influences;
- business analysis (based on a selected functional area);

- change in business.

The content will cover a broad range of business types, sizes and areas of operation which will allow students to gain a full understanding of business within a number of situations. It will also develop a range of skills such as analysis and evaluation which will be of use for students within the world of work and within any further study undertaken.

WHAT ARE THE ENTRY REQUIREMENTS?

Students intending to study travel and tourism are expected to have a B grade in Business Studies at GCSE level, however students who can show that they have a good level of attainment within other subject areas can be considered as AS/A2 Business Studies does not require any prior knowledge in order to undertake the course.

HOW WILL I BE ASSESSED?

All modules studied will contribute towards the final grade at both AS and A2 level. All modules are based upon an externally sat examination which will be based on either a pre-released case study or stimulus material that is presented as part of the exam paper which is unseen by students until the examination. In order to prepare students for these examinations, a range of practice case studies and investigations will take place over the course of the year in order to prepare students for their final examinations.

WHAT ARE THE COSTS?

In terms of financial cost there may be trips and study visits organised in order to supplement the work that is taking place within each unit being studied. In terms of time costs it is expected that students are constantly working on their studies throughout the duration of the course in order to achieve the best possible mark for each module. This would therefore mean studying and completing work away from lessons in order to meet the regular deadlines that would be put in place.

FUTURE OPPORTUNITIES?

Through studying AS/A2 Business Studies students use this to either move directly into working within the sector or completing degrees in this and other related areas. Students have applied for and are undertaking degrees in Business and Business related disciplines, Event Management and other similar courses on a regular basis. Students choosing the employment route have gone into junior management or management training courses within a range of business organisations.

FURTHER INFORMATION

For further information contact the Heads of Business Studies at either Pensby High School for Girls or Pensby High School for Boys. Alternatively information about the qualification can be found at the following internet address:

http://www.ocr.org.uk/qualifications/type/gce/blt/business_studies/index.aspx

Feel free to contact us at any time with regards to this course.