

## **AQA Business Studies A Level**

The following GCE course helps students on a clear pathway of progression, building on the GCSE programme of study and course they have studied, or enabling those who have not previously studied a GCSE Business Studies course.

### **Aims**

Courses based on these specifications should encourage students to:

- Develop an enthusiasm for studying business
- Gain holistic understanding of business in a range of contexts
- Develop a critical understanding of organisations and their ability to meet society's needs and wants
- Understand that business behaviour can be studied from a range of perspectives
- Generate enterprising and creative approaches to business opportunities, problems and issues
- Be aware of the ethical dilemmas and responsibilities faced by organisations and individuals
- Acquire a range of relevant business and generic skills, including decision making, problem solving, the challenging of assumptions and critical analysis
- Apply numerical skills in a range of business contexts.

In order to be able to develop their skills, knowledge and understanding in business, students need to have acquired competence in the quantitative skills that are relevant to the subject content and which are applied in the context of a business A-level, including:

- Calculate, use and understand ratios, averages and fractions
- Calculate, use and understand percentages and percentage changes
- Construct and interpret a range of standard graphical forms
- Interpret index numbers
- Calculate cost, revenue, profit and break-even
- Calculate investment appraisal outcomes and interpret results
- Interpret values of price and income elasticity of demand
- Use and interpret quantitative and non-quantitative information in order to make decisions
- Interpret, apply and analyse information in written, graphical and numerical forms.

The assessment of quantitative skills will include at least Level 2 mathematical skills as a minimum of 10% of the overall A-level marks.

These quantitative skills may be assessed across the assessment objectives.

### Assessment overview (Paper 1: Business 1)

- Written examination: 2 hours
- 100 marks in total
- 33.3% of A-Level

### Three compulsory sections:

- Section A has 15 multiple choice questions (MCQs) worth 15 marks
- Section B has short answer questions worth 35 marks
- Sections C and D have two essay questions (choice of one from two and one from two) worth 25 marks each

### Assessment overview (Paper 2: Business 2)

- Written examination: 2 hours
- 100 marks in total
- 33.3% of A-Level

Three data response compulsory questions worth approximately 33 marks each and made up of three or four-part questions.

### Assessment overview (Paper 3: Business 3)

- Written examination: 2 hours
- 100 marks in total
- 33.3% of A-Level

One compulsory case study followed by approximately six questions.

Topics Covered per Half Term

Term	Year 12
Autumn 1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Teacher 1 – Managers, Leadership and Decision Making</li><li>• Teacher 2 - What is Business?</li></ul>
Autumn 2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Teacher 1 – Managers, Leadership and Decision Making</li><li>• Teacher 2 - What is Business?</li></ul>
Spring 1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Teacher 1 – Decision Making to Improve Operational Performance</li><li>• Teacher 2 – Decision Making to improve Marketing Performance</li></ul>
Spring 2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Teacher 1 – Decision Making to Financial Performance</li></ul>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Teacher 2 – Decision Making to improve Human Resource Performance</li> </ul>
<b>Summer 1</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Exam Revision and Preparation</li> </ul>
<b>Summer 2</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Teacher 1 and 2 – Choosing Strategic Direction</li> </ul>

<b>Term</b>	<b>Year 13</b>
<b>Autumn 1</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Teacher 1 – Analysing the Strategic Position of a business</li> <li>Teacher 2 – Strategic Methods: How to pursue strategies</li> </ul>
<b>Autumn 2</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Teacher 1 – Analysing the Strategic Position of a business</li> <li>Teacher 2 – Strategic Methods: How to pursue strategies</li> </ul>
<b>Spring 1</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Teacher 1 – Analysing the Strategic Position of a Business</li> <li>Teacher 2 – Managing strategic change</li> </ul>
<b>Spring 2</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Teacher 1 – Analysing the Strategic Position of a Business</li> <li>Teacher 2 – Managing strategic change</li> </ul>
<b>Summer 1</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Exam Revision and Practice</li> </ul>
<b>Summer 2</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Final Examination</li> </ul>