Edexcel A Level Economics

Course Introduction and Summer Work

2026

Teachers:

Mrs Kerali - PKerali@bwsgirls.org– Head of Department

Ms Gater – cgater@bwsgirls.org – Assistant Headteacher

Mrs Aryiku jaryiku@bwsgirls.org – Teacher of Business and Economics

Introduction to the course

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

Students build knowledge and understanding of core economic models and concepts in Themes 1 and 2, and then build on this and apply their knowledge to more complex concepts and models in Themes 3 and 4.Students will need to apply their knowledge and understanding to both familiar and unfamiliar contexts in the assessments and demonstrate an awareness of current economic events and policies.

In May/June 2028 your final assessments will consist of 3 x 2-hour exam papers, with the first two counting 35% and the final paper 30% of the total qualification. Currently we do not offer an AS level on this course and as such you must complete both years of study to gain a qualification.

Paper 1: Markets and business behaviour	*Paper code: 9EC0/01
• Externally assessed • Availability: May/June • First assessment: 2017	**35% of the total qualification**
Overview of content Paper 1 will assess microeconomics and questions will be drawn from Themes 1 and 3.	
Overview of assessment • Written examination. • The paper comprises three sections. Students answer all questions from Section A and Section B, and one from Section C. • Section A comprises a range of multiple-choice and short-answer questions. • Section B comprises one data response question broken down into a number of parts. • Section C comprises a choice of extended open-response questions; students select one from a choice of two. • Duration: 2 hours. • 100 marks available.	

Paper 2: The national and global economy	*Paper code: 9EC0/02
• Externally assessed • Availability: May/June • First assessment: 2017	**35% of the total qualification**
Overview of content Paper 2 will assess macroeconomics and questions will be drawn from Themes 2 and 4.	
Overview of assessment • Written examination. • The paper comprises three sections. Students answer all questions from Section A and Section B, and one from Section C. • Section A comprises a range of multiple-choice and short-answer questions. • Section B comprises one data response question broken down into a number of parts. • Section C comprises a choice of extended open-response questions; students select one from a choice of two. • Duration: 2 hours. • 100 marks available.	

Paper 3: Microeconomics and macroeconomics	*Paper code: 9EC0/03
• Externally assessed • Availability: May/June • First assessment: 2017	**30% of the total qualification**
Overview of content Paper 3 will assess content across all four themes. Students are required to apply their knowledge and understanding, make connections and transfer higher-order skills across all four themes.	
Overview of assessment • Written examination. • The paper comprises two sections. • Each section comprises one data response question broken down into a number of parts, including a choice of extended open-response questions; students select one from a choice of two. • Duration: 2 hours. • 100 marks available.	

Theme 1: Introduction to markets and market failure	Theme 2: The UK economy – performance and policies
This theme focuses on microeconomic concepts. Students will develop an understanding of: • nature of economics • how markets work • market failure • government intervention.	This theme focuses on macroeconomic concepts. Students will develop an understanding of: • measures of economic performance • aggregate demand • aggregate supply • national income • economic growth • macroeconomic objectives and policy.
Theme 3: Business behaviour and the labour market	**Theme 4: A global perspective**
This theme develops the microeconomic concepts introduced in Theme 1 and focuses on business economics. Students will develop an understanding of: • business growth • business objectives • revenues, costs and profits • market structures • labour market • government intervention.	This theme develops the macroeconomic concepts introduced in Theme 2 and applies these concepts in a global context. Students will develop an understanding of: • international economics • poverty and inequality • emerging and developing economies • the financial sector • role of the state in the macroeconomy.

Link to above resources:
https://qualifications.pearson.com/content/dam/pdf/A%20Level/economics a/2015/specification-and-sample-assessment-materials/A_Level_Econ_A_Spec.pdf

Published resources

Below are the recommended published resources we refer to throughout the course. You will not be disadvantaged by not owning any of the following, but they will certainly help with your independent learning.

Textbooks:

Edexcel A level Economics A Book 1
Publisher: Hodder Education
Author: Peter Smith
Book
ISBN: 9781471830006

£25.99

Edexcel A level Economics A Book 2

Publisher: Hodder Education

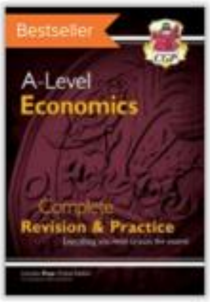
Author: Peter Smith

Book

ISBN: 9781471830051

£25.99

Link to above resources: https://qualifications.pearson.com/en/qualifications/edexcel-a-levels/economics-a 2015.resources.html?filterQuery=category:Pearson-UK:Publisher%2FPearson



Quick View

New A-Level Economics: Year 1 & 2 Complete Revision & Practice (with Online Edition)

EKHR72

Due in April

Retail Price: £19.99

School Price: **£10.00**

1 | Pre-order Now

Find links below to books, websites, and videos to enjoy in addition to the tasks!

Websites

https://www.tutor2u.net/

https://www.economicshelp.org/

https://www.economicsonline.co.uk/

https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/business/economy

https://www.economist.com/

https://www.ft.com/

https://www.discovereconomics.co.uk/

Books

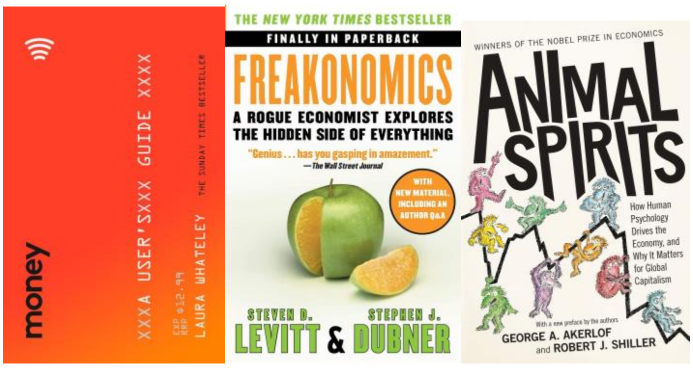
Money: A users guide - Laura Whateley

Freakonomics – Steven D.Levitt and Stephen J.Dubner

Thinking fast and slow – Daniel Kahneman

Undercover Economist – Tim Harford

Animal Spirits – George Akerlof and Rober Shiller



Videos

https://www.tutor2u.net/economics/videos

https://ed.ted.com/lessons?category=business-economics

<u>Task 1 - What is Economics?</u>

Find and write down the definitions of the following key terms.

1. Economic Problem
2. Microeconomics
3. Macroeconomics
4. Scarcity
5. Factors of production
6. Government objectives
7. Unemployment
8. Inflation
9. Economic Growth
10. Balance of Payments
11. Current Account
12. GDP
13. Fiscal Debt
14. Interest Rates

Find and write down how the following are measured in the UK

1. Economic Growth
2. Inflation
3. Unemployment

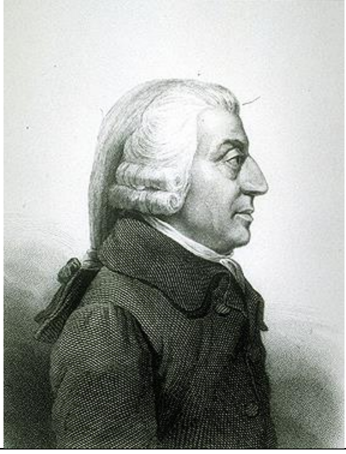
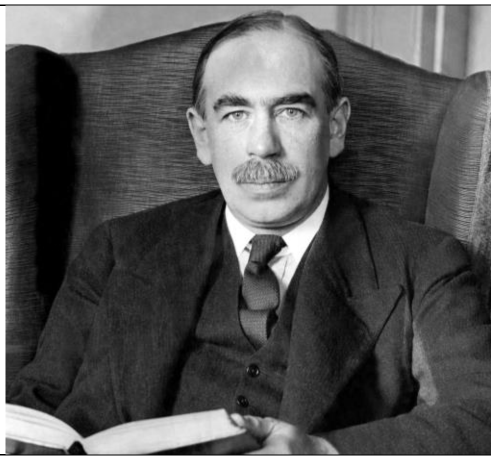
Find out the most recent figures for the following in the UK; - Use Trading Economics to help you - Economic Indicators | List By Country

1. Economic Growth (input time period)
2. Unemployment
3. Inflation
4. Interest rates
5. National Debt (Input year)

Task 2 - History of Economics

School of thought – a set of ideas opinions about a matter that are shared by a group of people

In Economics, there are two main 'schools of thought': Classical and Keynesian economics.

	
Classical Economics – Adam Smith	**Keynesian Economics – John Maynard Keynes**

Using the internet, **research and write a short biography about the two pioneers of these two schools of thought**.

The biography of each should include the following information;

- Background
- What does their school of thought believe?
- What are some of the issues with their school of thought?

Now find an economist of your choice and write a biography!

Task 3 - Impact of coronavirus on the UK economy

You need to put together a PowerPoint presentation explaining the impact of the Coronavirus on the UK economy. The PowerPoint should include the following information;

Section 1 - Background

- What is the coronavirus?
- What was the state of the UK economy prior to the coronavirus pandemic?

Section 2 - Implications on the macroeconomic objectives

Analyse, using evidence the impact on the following macroeconomic objectives

- **Economic growth** – what is forecasted to happen to growth in the coming quarters?
- **Unemployment** – What type of unemployment is occurring? Which industries are been hit the hardest and why?
- **Balance of payments –** What is happening with our main trading partners? How will this impact the current account in particular?
- **Inflation –** What is likely to happen to prices of goods and services in the UK?

Conclusion

- Recommendations to the government as to how they should stabilise the economy over the coming months/years
- What do you think will be the long-term implications of this pandemic?

Resources

https://www.tutor2u.net/economics/reference/economics-of-the-crisis-micro-and-macro-aspects-head-start-in-a-level-economics