

EXTENDED PROJECT QUALIFICATION (EPQ)

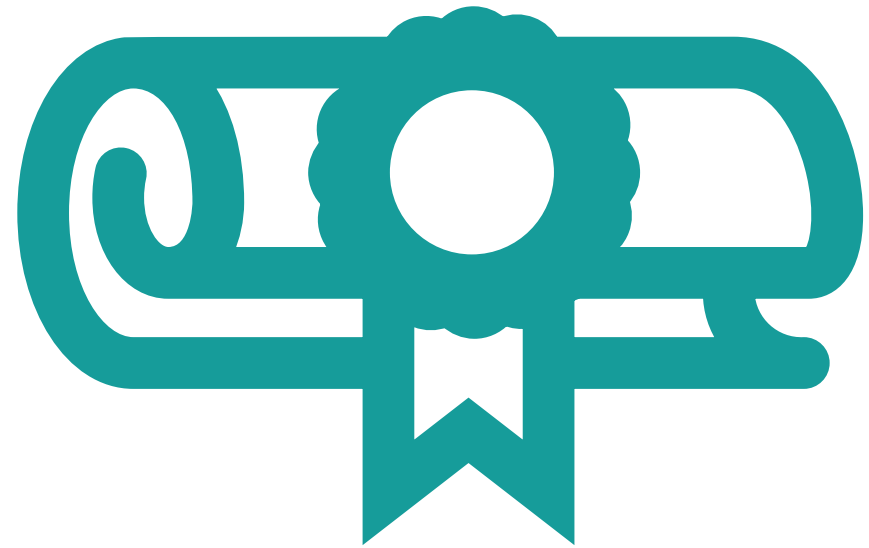
WHY CHOOSE IT?



- *An EPQ is a great way to boost your UCAS points and teaches you skills that you might not get from your usual A Level choices. It requires a high level of independent study and gives you the opportunity to explore a topic of your choice, making it a great, flexible qualification. It is a level three qualification and can earn you between 8 and 28 UCAS points, depending on which grade you get. As a result, it equated to roughly half an A Level and is often taken alongside them.*

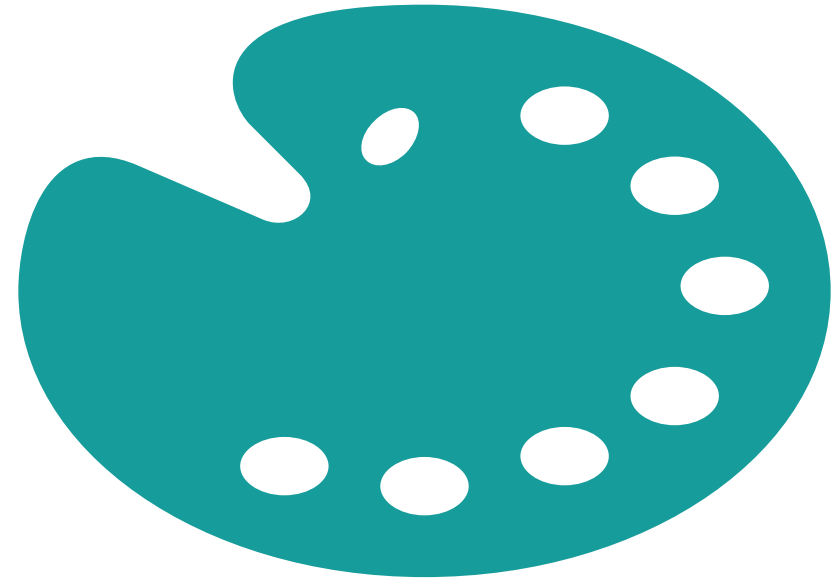
What is an EPQ?

- EPQ stands for Extended Project Qualification, it is a level three qualification and can earn you between 8 and 28 UCAS points, depending on which grade you get. As a result, it equated to roughly half an A Level and is often taken alongside them. While completing your EPQ, you will be asked to write a 5,000-word essay on a subject of your choice, giving you a degree of flexibility that reaches beyond the scope of your A Levels.



What is an EPQ?

- You do not even have to complete a long-essay if a more creative pathway such as a performance, artwork, or film has more of an appeal to you. Another element of this qualification is the presentation. For this you will need to prepare a 10-15 minute talk about your subject, many students use a PowerPoint to aid them in this effort.



How does it work?

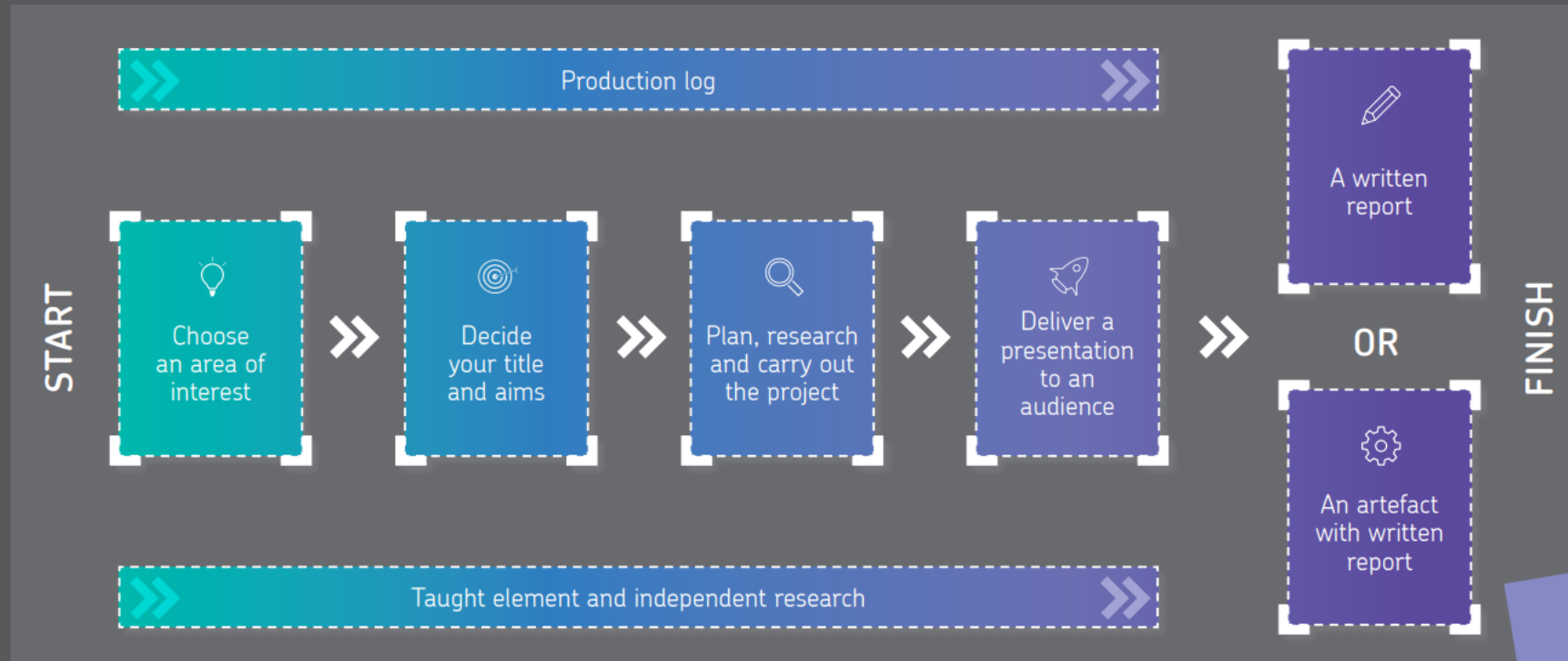
- After deciding to take an EPQ, you will be assigned a supervisor (teacher at your school) who will help you through the process. They might ask you questions which further your investigations, offer tips and guidance where appropriate and, crucially, make sure that you stick to deadlines.



Where the journey starts

The EPQ can take two formats – written or practical – so it's suitable for all students. The final piece will either be a written report of around 5,000 words, or an artefact with a written report, which could be, for example, a three dimensional piece of artwork, a play or musical composition, a robot, a model aeroplane, even a website.

How it works:



Extra information...

When you have decided on your topic, you can crack on with the essay or project. This makes up the largest percentage of your grade and is supposed to be the summation of everything you've done so far. Referencing is also required and you will be penalised for failing to do this. If you have not yet completed any coursework for your other subjects, it is likely that you have not become accustomed to the joys of referencing yet, but don't worry your supervisor can help.

At the end you will deliver a 10-15 minute presentation, evaluating your findings. The presentation will also be graded and will impact your final result, so devote ample time and attention to it.

After this you will hand in all your research and final project and your EPQ will be submitted for grading.

Why do an EPQ?

- If you are planning on applying to university, taking an EPQ on top of your A Levels is a very sensible idea. It shows admissions teams that you have interests and passions outside of academic studies and can be a great thing to mention in your personal statement when it comes to your UCAS application. Furthermore, to do well in this qualification, you need to be able to effectively manage your time and have a high level of independence – qualities that are especially looked for by university admissions teams.



UCAS points

Grade - UCAS points

A* - 28

A - 24

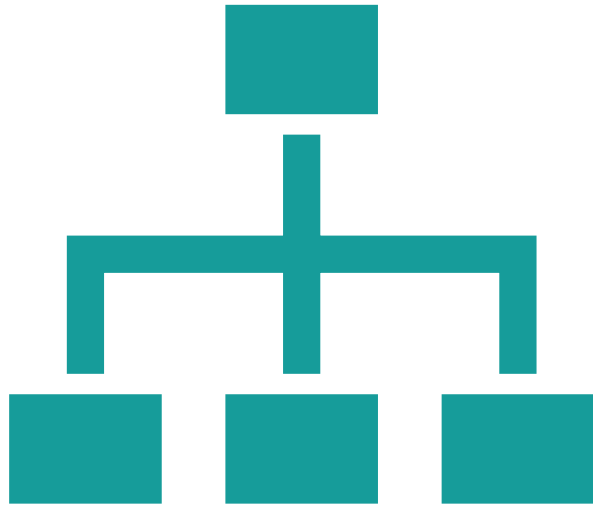
B - 20

C - 16

D - 12

E - 8

How is it graded?



- **AO1: Manage**
 - This is essentially the planning stage of your project and makes up 20% of your overall grade
- **AO2: Use Resources**
 - This pertains to the research of your work, how you analyse and log the sources that you use. It also makes up 20% of your grade
- **AO3: Develop and Realise**
 - This is the main section of your EPQ, your long-essay, performance, film, or artwork. It contributes to 40% of your grade.
- **AO4: Review**
 - This is your presentation in which you will describe your findings and suggest areas for further study. It makes up another 20% of your grade.

How hard is it to get an A in EPQ?



- An EPQ demands a lot of time and attention, you must diligently record each part of your planning and research in order to create a well-thought-out final piece which you are confident in and that you can evaluate with flair in your final presentation. It is not an easy qualification, but with the right help, it will be enjoyable and rewarding.