

# AS/A2 Level ECONOMICS



## Course Guide

Level 3 Two-year course

2010/11

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Economics can be studied with any combination of subjects. It is particularly accessible to scientists because of its theoretical approach, but it is also useful to linguists who are interested in the UK economy and how economic decisions are made.

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### Subject introduction

“To have a working understanding of economics is to understand the largest part of life.”

J K Galbraith

Economic issues are central to the understanding of the real world. These courses will allow you to develop an understanding of economic concepts and theories through the study of current economic issues, problems and institutions.

### Year 1 study outline

The units of assessment for AS are:

**Markets in Action** – How firms and consumers make decisions, competitive markets and how they work, and why markets fail and how government addresses these problems.

**The National and International Economy** – Government economic policy objectives and the indicators of economic performance. The methods the government may use to achieve its objectives and interaction of Aggregate Demand and Aggregate Supply.

**International trade** - Why international trade takes place and how and why it may be restricted.

### Year 2 study outline

The units of assessment for A2 will be:

**Transport Economics** – An opportunity to study trends, problems, issues and the role of government in transport.

**The Global Economy** – Issues in global economics including macroeconomic performance, trade and integration, development and sustainability, and globalization.

### Methods of study

Lessons will take a variety of forms, including the use of newspaper articles, journals and television programmes.

SEE WHAT'S NEXT

Students are encouraged to analyse economic problems, using theoretical tools and develop their own views on a wide range of current economic issues. This will be supported by the use of modern textbooks, resources and websites.

### Subject combinations and careers

Economics combines well with most subjects, including Maths, sciences, English and foreign languages. It is also examined as part of the professional examinations in Banking, Accountancy and Financial Advice. Economics graduates are amongst the best paid of all subject specialists.

### Success stories

A high proportion of A Level Economics students have continued their interest at degree level.

Many are now enjoying lucrative careers in the City with top companies such as Shell, Clifford Chance and HSBC.