**General Studies – Extended Project qualification (EPQ) migration**

The assessment objectives, specification aims and main modules of GCE AS/A Level General Studies are listed below, together with opportunities for developing these same skills and elements by taking an Extended Project qualification (EPQ).

General Studies gives students the opportunity to extend their interests to a wide range of disciplines; recognise the interdependence of different areas of study and experience; think critically and logically; develop the skills of study, analysis and evaluation and provide clear, accurate and effective communication of information and evaluation.

EPQ gives students the opportunity to explore any subject of interest, work in an interdisciplinary way; develop the skills of research, evaluation, critical thinking and project management; effectively communicate ideas and to present ideas clearly.

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| General Studies specification aims | EPQ element or skill | EPQ |
| View issues from a wider range of perspectives than those offered by subject specialisms | EPQ encourages students to go beyond the curriculum of their chosen subject when choosing their project outcome | AO1 |
| Integrate knowledge from a range of disciplines in order to:   * Develop an understanding of the interrelationship between them * Encourage a broader and deeper understanding of issues | EPQs naturally encourage an interdisciplinary approach. A student might combine different approaches and/or areas of knowledge and interest in order to fulfil their project brief.  Depth of understanding of the chosen project theme should be demonstrated in conclusions drawn in research and final outcomes | AO3 |
| Think logically and creatively in order to:   * Assess the relative merits of evidence * Make informed decisions * Reach justifiable conclusions. | EPQ demands that students evaluate and critically assess their sources of information. These should be used to inform an effective final outcome. | AO2  AO3 |

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| General Studies Assessment Objectives (AO) | EPQ | EPQ |
| AO1 Demonstrate knowledge and understanding:   * Demonstrate relevant knowledge and understanding applied to a range of issues, using skills from different disciplines | Select a range of appropriate skills and use effectively in relation to the context of the project in order to solve problems, take decisions and achieve the planned outcome | AO3 |
| AO2 Analysis and Evaluation:   * Marshal evidence and draw conclusions; select, interpret, evaluate and integrate information, data, concepts and opinions | Gather research and interpret data.  Demonstrate a sophisticated and perceptive understanding of connections between different types of resource.  Collate information from a range of sources  Identify the main conclusions and explain their relevance to the stated aims of the project | AO2  AO4 |
| AO3 Understanding Knowledge:   * Demonstrate understanding of different types of knowledge, appreciating their strengths and limitations | Evaluate research material collected for suitability of purpose and quality.  Use a wide and appropriate range of sources of information | AO2  AO4 |
| AO4 Communication:   * Communicate clearly and accurately in a concise, logical and relevant way. | Select and use a range of communication skills to present outcomes clearly. | AO3 |

**General Studies teaching modules**

There are four teaching modules, three of which are knowledge-specific and the last of which is skills-based.

1. **The Social Domain**: Political processes and goals; social and economic trends and constraints; human behaviour; ideologies & values in society; law, society & ethics
2. **Culture, Arts and Humanities**: Beliefs, values & moral reasoning; religious beliefs; media and communication; creativity & innovation, importance of culture; aesthetics
3. **Science, Mathematics and Technology**: Understanding of the sciences; Understanding of scientific methods; mathematic reasoning; social, ethical & environmental implications; science objectivity, morals

An EPQ encourages students to go beyond their taught curriculum and to consider the wider implications of their chosen topic. The application of any of the above to a knowledge-based outcome would enable the student to extend their skills and knowledge, the application of their knowledge and to consider alternative outcomes.

1. **Thinking and analytical skills:** applying synoptic skills; thinking and analytical skills.

Thinking and analytical skills can be demonstrated throughout all outcomes of the EPQ.