

SUBJECT GUIDE:

Exam Board - EDEXCEL
Duration - 1 year

This is a one-year course which prepares candidates for Pearson Edexcel Level 3 Advanced GCE in Economics A (9ECO). Students will sit three, two-hour papers in June for the full A-level. It is expected that students will already have taken a first-year Sixth Form course or AS course in Economics, but not necessarily with Edexcel. Students with no prior experience of Economics can join both the Lower Sixth (Year 1) and Upper Sixth (Year 2) classes in Economics and take the full A-level in one year. Students taking the A-level Intensive course will join the Upper Sixth Economics class. They will receive the same tuition as the other students from Regent College who are continuing their studies in Economics from last year. They will have nine 45-minute periods each week (six and three-quarter hours) over three days. The courses in microeconomics and macroeconomics run in parallel. At the start of the year, the timetable is divided into two, and students can see which periods are devoted to each side of the course.

The topics in Year 2 are sequenced to build on the economic concepts introduced in Year 1, and are examined in more depth as the course progresses. Students must have their own copy of Alain Anderton's book, the full title of which is Edexcel AS/A Level Economics 2015: Student Book + ActiveBook (Edexcel GCE Economics 2015). This must be **the sixth edition** because students are directed to do very specific tasks based on the chapters. Further details of this and other resources are available on the Economics book and resource list.

A textbook provides a useful resource for economic theory, but students must follow current events are expected to read newspapers and magazines, such as The Economist, and to follow the media, such as BBC's Newsnight. Questions in the A-level are topical and usually reflect the domestic and world economies of a year or so before the date of the examination.

Most of the course will have been completed by February half term (2018). This enables recapitulation, extension and revision of the whole course from then on. Considerable emphasis at this stage is placed upon practising quantitative techniques applied to economic data across the whole of the specification. Questions on mathematical analysis are worth at least 20 percent of the new A-level, that is, up to two grades. The assessment of quantitative skills will test only Level 2 (GCSE) mathematical skills, but students need to know how to interpret their results.

The A-level intensive course is very demanding and students must show a strong commitment to doing several hours of work a week outside the timetabled lessons. They will be set homework each week in both microeconomics and macroeconomics. Additionally there will be regular, frequent formal, graded assessments to ensure that students and their parents can see their progress.

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May 2017