

Economics

Exam Board: WJEC

Economics A Level is a popular choice at Radyr, largely due to the fact that it is a relevant and useful subject to study. During the course many topical issues are covered such as Unemployment, Inflation, the Single European Currency and the National Minimum Wage, and many questions will be considered such as ‘Why do footballers earn so much more than nurses?’ ‘How can the problems of underdeveloped countries be solved?’

Minimum Entry Requirements

- A minimum of 6 A* to C grades at GCSE with **B** grade in English and **A** in Mathematics.

If you have any queries, please contact Mrs E Williams (Head of Business and Economics).

The AS course

During Year 12 students will study AS Economics and this will include looking at the working of a free market economy, the National Minimum wage, Government control of the economy and problems of Unemployment and Inflation. Learners will consider major economic issues that have taken place since 1990 to the present day.

Unit 1: Introduction to Economic Principles (AS Level 37.5% / A Level 15%)

- One hour 15 minutes.
- Multiple Choice and structured questions.

Unit 2: Economics in Action (AS Level 62.5% / A Level 25%)

- Two-hour paper
- Two compulsory data response questions

The A2 course

In Year 13 the A2 section of the course develops many of the areas covered in the AS and also introduces new topics such as the behaviour and objectives of business, understanding the way that prices and output are set in a variety of competitive and non-competitive situations. Macroeconomic performance will be considered in a global context, with content including international trade, the study of non-UK economies and understand the obstacles to, and solutions for, sustainable economic development among less economically developed countries.

Unit 3: Exploring Economic Behaviour (A Level 30%)

- Two-hour paper
- Structured questions based on A2 content, one compulsory data response question.

Unit 4: Evaluating Economic Models and Policies (A Level 25%)

- Two-hour paper:
 - Section 1 – Microeconomics
 - Section 2 – Macroeconomics
 - Section 3 – Trade and Development

Both papers cover all A2 Level content

Progression Routes

Economics can be combined with a variety of other A/AS Levels such as Mathematics, Computing, Geography or History, and Universities throughout the UK offer degree courses in Economics and related areas such as Business, Finance, Accountancy, Economic History and Statistics.

Career Opportunities

Economics can lead to a number of career paths such as Banking and Finance, Law, Accountancy, the Civil Service, Business and Management, and it is part of the training in several of these careers, many of which are well paid.