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About Edexcel

Edexcel is one of the UK's largest providers of qualifications, with the widest portfolio of academic and vocational qualifications.

Regulated by the Qualifications and Curriculum Authority (QCA) to offer qualifications, Edexcel works with over 5,500 education partners in over 110 countries.

GCE O Level

The classic school standard

delivered locally, recognised globally

London Examinations



The O Level is the classic award for recognising academic achievement in school. It has an enviable tradition and remains the standard by which others are compared.

London Examinations from Edexcel International maintain the O Level standard in a modern world.

A reputation for quality

In a competitive global environment only the best will do. By focusing on a final examination, the O Level sets the standard that has been rigorously maintained since it first appeared in the UK in 1951.

Tradition with vision

London Examinations O Levels have changed with the times but have never lost touch with the traditions that have made them such a popular and well understood qualification. With the innovative spirit of Edexcel International, institutions and students can rely on the preservation of academic standards with a modern focus.

With over 160 years' experience of assessment, London Examinations have impressive roots. In June 2003 Edexcel became part of Pearson, the leading education organisation, bringing a new vision to the quality and innovation of its qualifications. Schools and colleges in over 110 countries now take London Examinations as their preferred choice.

Students who achieve higher grades at O Level are well prepared for the next step up to A level. Syllabus revisions, more accessible support material and clear links between O Levels and A Levels ensure that students can progress effectively.



A comprehensive range of qualifications

GCE O Levels cover a wide and varied range of subjects. Some of the most popular with students worldwide include:

Accounting, Commerce and Economics

These subjects provide a solid grounding for further study or for employment, and have been recently revised and modernised to include international content. For teachers, there is a CD-ROM outlining interactive lesson plans for Accounting and a Teachers' Guide for Commerce.

Chemistry, Biology and Physics

The examinations in these areas assess a student's investigative skills as well as their subject knowledge. Successful students make rapid progression to AS and A Level.

English Language and English Literature

The English Language examination provides students with lively and accessible colour texts in a themed paper. The English Literature examination provides a free anthology of texts for study. Students who achieve grade C or above in English Language can demonstrate the confidence and ability in English needed for further study or employment. The Edexcel International website contains a student textbook and also has model answers to support teachers.

Mathematics

A pass in this widely respected qualification indicates competence across the wide range of mathematical skills needed for progression to AS and A Level study.

How do O Levels work?

London Examinations O Levels are clear and concise. In most cases, subjects have one or two examination papers at the end of the course, which count for 100% of the final mark.

Examinations

O Levels have one tier of examination which is taken by candidates of all abilities. Grades range from A to E, with U being unclassified. O Levels provide a solid foundation for further study, whether at AS or A Level or an equivalent level of study, such as a BTEC National.

Coursework

O Level Computing is the only subject with externally assessed coursework as part of the overall grade. Teachers of all O Level subjects may, however, find it useful to provide students with opportunities to work on their own projects during the school year. This will help students to gain subject skills which will be assessed in the examinations. The coursework for O Level Computing is assessed by Edexcel International's External Examiners.

Assessment

Students gain credit for demonstrating the knowledge that they have acquired throughout the course, as well as for reflecting on and evaluating what they have learned.

An important principle of O Levels is that of 'positive marking'. This means that students are given credit for what they know, understand and can do rather than being penalised for what they do not know. This encourages students to achieve their full potential.

Which subjects are available?

International GCE O Levels are available in the following subjects:			
Accounting	Computing	Human Biology	Pure Mathematics
Art and Design	Economics	Islamiyat	Religious Studies
Bangladesh Studies	English Language	Languages	Sikhism
Biology	English Literature	Mathematics	
Chemistry	Geography	Pakistan Studies	
Commerce	History	Physics	

The Edexcel International Framework

Level	London Examinations	BTEC Qualifications
5		BTEC Diploma in Management Studies
4		BTEC Foundation Degree BTEC Higher National Diploma BTEC Higher National Certificate BTEC Certificate in Management Studies
3	AEA GCE A level GCE AS level VCE	BTEC National Diploma BTEC National Certificate BTEC National Award
2	GCSE/IGCSE (grades A* to C) GCE O Level (grades A to C) Intermediate GNVQ	BTEC First Diploma BTEC First Certificate
1	GCSE/IGCSE (grades D to G) GCE O Level (grades D and E) Foundation GNVQ	BTEC Introductory Diploma BTEC Introductory Certificate
Entry	Entry Level Certificate	BTEC Life Skills, Skills for Working Life

Teacher support

London Examinations O Levels are supported across a range of media, from paper syllabuses to CD-ROMs of artwork and subject reports on our website. There are also a number of subject-specific teacher training events that take place each year around the world.

O Levels are also supported by online teacher training. Teachers from around the world are able to participate in a virtual discussion with the Chief Examiner in London, and exchange ideas as well as examples of best practice.

Next steps

Edexcel has an extensive network of offices worldwide which are available to help you in becoming an Edexcel centre. If you are interested in becoming an Edexcel approved centre or would like to find an approved centre in your country, contact our International Customer Relations team on +44 20 7758 5656 or email international@edexcel.org.uk

To find out more about Edexcel International qualifications visit our website www.edexcel.org.uk/international



Unparalleled breadth, unparalleled quality

Edexcel International has the widest range of academic and vocational qualifications available to schools, colleges and organisations worldwide. Edexcel is approved by the Qualifications and Curriculum Authority, so our centres can be confident of meeting rigorous standards of achievement giving students the educational and professional progression of their choice.