

Why study this course?

Economics is an exciting and dynamic social science which explores the concept of scarcity and the problem of resource allocation. We aim to provoke your logical thinking and develop your confidence and independence.

What will I learn on this course?

Economics falls into two distinct areas – microeconomics and macroeconomics.

Microeconomics looks at the decisions made by firms and how their actions can be affected by the structure and the characteristics of the industry in which they operate. Particular emphasis is placed on 'the economic problem', price determination in a competitive market, production, costs, and revenue. You will also examine competitive and concentrated markets, the market mechanism and market failure, and government intervention in markets.

Macroeconomics looks at the big picture of the national and international economy. You will build knowledge of developments in the UK economy and government policies over the past 15 years and also examine the developments in the world economy, including the European Union and how these have affected the UK. You will critically analyse and evaluate the effectiveness of government intervention, such as demand and supply-side policies and how, for instance, they can improve employment levels and economic growth as well as reduce inflation and inequalities in society.

What specific skills will I learn?

We will help you build a variety of skills relevant to your future career and life. These include the presentation and interpretation of data in order to analyse current economic problems and the application of economic theory and models that will be useful to you as citizens, consumers and producers. You will become a well-rounded student and develop skills to think critically about the impact of your opinions and recommendations.

What career paths could this course lead to?

Economics is highly regarded by admissions tutors for a wide range of courses at university. A degree in Economics might lead to careers in the City and other financial areas. Economics can also help to unlock opportunities in the public sector, such as a career in public policy making, HM Treasury, the GES, education... the list is endless! The study of Economics will also develop the analytical skills necessary in careers such as journalism or law.

How is the course structured?

A level:

Unit 1 - Markets and market failure

Exam: data response and essay questions.

Unit 2 - National and international economy

Exam: data response and essay questions.

Unit 3 - Economics principles and issues

Exam: data response and essay questions.

Extra opportunities

You will have the opportunity to participate in revision workshops held each autumn and spring by the very best economists in education. You also take part in the 'Target 2.0' competition held by the Bank of England, which involves a team adopting the role of the Bank's Monetary Policy Committee, determining the UK's interest rate.



“I’ll always be grateful to the teachers who helped me out when I needed an extra push to succeed”



Sandbach College

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