

So You've Chosen to Study GCE Advanced Level Business?

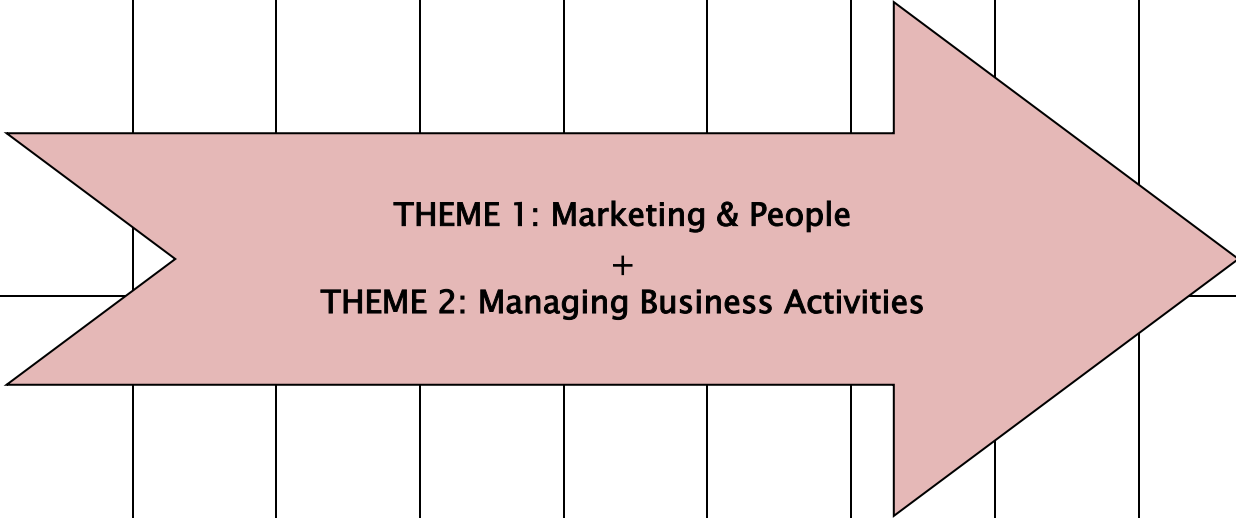
Well done. Business is a very dynamic subject and there are few areas of employment it isn't good preparation for. You will learn about the internal organisation / structure and external influences – on decision-making and success (or otherwise) and the growing interdependency of global economies. You will develop skills in evidence-based and subjective decision-making, numerical application and analysis, and written communication skills including essay writing. You will discuss, debate and learn how to apply these skills to a vast range of organisations – private sector and public sector – at a local, national and global level.

Firstly, it doesn't matter whether you have studied Business at GCSE level or not, although clearly students who have previously studied the subject should consolidate their work as part of their preparation for advanced study. Students with no previous experience may have to spend a little more time ensuring they are confident with key subject specific terminology. When you start in September 2020, we will provide you with a textbook for the 2 years, specifically designed for your course (Edexcel GCE Advanced level Business).

Preparation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Keep interested in your studies. The more you look into a given topic, the more interesting it usually is. Or – you may already have an interest in a business / industry / market e.g. the environmental stance of firms has become increasingly important over recent years. Innocent (smoothies) is a great firm to investigate – showing how objectives and ownership change over time. The UK supermarket market is also relevant and interesting. Do some research – delving into whatever you are learning about & / or interests you. Don't worry that this will likely raise more questions than answers – that is part of the joy of studying. ✓ Contemporary issues – or 'What's in the news?' Keeping up with current affairs is a great way to gain depth and breadth of knowledge relevant to your studies. Think about the objectives behind decisions, the impact on resources (staff, finance etc) and the market perception. Clearly at the moment, the impact of the coronavirus is dominating news stories – look into this from a Business viewpoint: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Project Pitlane – 7 UK based Formula 1 firms working together nationally and internationally, to help develop ventilators to help people hit with the virus to avoid intensive care. Find out more – https://www.formula1.com/en/latest/article.uk-based-fl-teams-unite-around-project-pitlane-to-assist-with-ventilator.7G8gQu9v8j6aSgqk3P52fp.html ○ Dyson – recently moved much production overseas – is involved in 'Vacuums to Ventilators'. Find out more – https://www.popularmechanics.com/science/health/a31943465/dyson-ventilators/ ○ Economic impact – including employment, business survival / growth impact, interdependency (globally) – whatever interests you – investigate. ✓ See the short term focus below. Also, keep on top of subject specific terms you come across (start your business definitions) and also number work – % changes or differences comparisons are really good for showing the significance or magnitude of any variance.
Overview of course	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Exam Board – Pearson Edexcel https://qualifications.pearson.com/en/qualifications/edexcel-a-levels/business-2015.html ✓ External exams – available at end of Year 12 (AS Level) or Year 13 (full A Level) ✓ Themes, Exams, Assessment details and Timelines – detailed below for Year 12 (AS work) and Year 13 (full A Level)
Short term focus: Theme 1	<p>Visit the exam board website. This PDF gives you an overview of the course. For your short term focus, read pages 14–25 (Theme 1) – a few times – consider the issues covered. If you find something you are unfamiliar with, do some extra research on it. Also – look for interesting examples to back up and add depth to your academic studies.</p> <p>https://qualifications.pearson.com/content/dam/pdf/A%20Level/Business%20Studies/2015/teaching-materials/GCE_Getting_Started_Business.pdf</p> <p>Theme 1, which we study September – December of Year 12, focuses on Marketing and People. You will study Marketing with one teacher and People with your other teacher. This means that you should start looking at the information relevant to both areas. I recommend you alternate: 1 hour Marketing one session, 1 hour of People the next etc.</p> <p>Write down anything you don't understand – and DO ASK when we start lessons.</p>

AS Business – Year 12

	September	October	November	December	January	February	March	April	May
<p>Paper 1: Marketing and People (We study: Theme 1: Marketing, the market, managing people & entrepreneurs and leaders. ALSO: Theme 2: Financial planning, sources of finance, resource management and external influences) 50% 1 ½ hours, <u>unseen</u> case, 80 marks</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❑ Section A – one data response q (Marketing and People) 2+2+4+4+8+10 ❑ Section B – one data response q (Marketing and People) 2+2+4+4+8+10 ❑ Section C – one extended open-response 20 mark q (Marketing, People and Managing business activities – Theme 2) <i>“A well-judged recommendation” “A solution proposed”</i> 	Late Sep Reflection		Early Nov PP(1) Report		Mock Exam	EarlyFeb Full report PP(2) Early Feb INT or EXT exam?			Internal / External exam
<p>Paper 2: Managing business activities (We study: Theme 2: Financial planning, sources of finance, resource management and external influences_ ALSO: Theme 1: Marketing, the market, managing people & entrepreneurs and leaders) 50% 1 ½ hours, <u>unseen</u> case, 80 marks</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❑ Section A – one data response q (Managing business activities) 2+2+4+4+8+10 ❑ Section B – one data response q (Managing business activities) 2+2+4+4+8+10 ❑ Section C – one extended open-response 20 mark q (Managing business activities – Theme 2 + Marketing & People – Theme 1) <i>“A well-judged recommendation” “A solution proposed”</i> 					Mock Exam				Internal / External Exam



Full A Level Business – (builds on Year 12 work – 4 themes assessed across 3 papers) – Year 13

	September	October	November	December	January	February	March	April	May	June
<p>Paper 1: Marketing, People & Global business (Assesses: Theme 1: ALSO: Theme 4: 35% 2 hours, 100 marks, <u>unseen</u> context</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> 2 Sections – both include – one data response q – broken down. PLUS one extended open–response 20 mark q. (4, 4, 10, 12, 20) x 2</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">THEME 3: Business Decisions & Strategy + THEME 4: Global Business</p>									
<p>Paper 2: Business activities, decisions and strategy (Assesses: Theme 2: ALSO: Theme 3: 35% 2 hours, 100 marks, <u>unseen</u> context</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> 2 Sections – both include – one data response q – broken down. PLUS one extended open–response 20 mark q. (4, 4, 10, 12, 20) x 2</p>										
<p>Paper 3: Investigating business in a competitive environment (Assesses: Theme 1 + 2 + 3 +4): 30% 2 hours, 100 marks, broad context based (Nov) New Quantitative & qualitative evidence will be given in exam.</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Section A – broad context – one data response q – broken down. PLUS one extended open–response 20 mark q. (8, 10, 12, 20)</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Section B – strand of context – one data response q – broken down. PLUS one extended open–response 20 mark q. (8, 10, 12, 20)</p>										