

GCE Business Studies [new course for September 2008]

Exam Board: AQA Advance Subsidiary [1131]
AQA Advanced Level [2131]

Course Content:

The AS course requires candidates to demonstrate knowledge and understanding and ability to apply this to problems and issues in a business context. It covers the challenges and issues surrounding the starting up of a new business or enterprise. It looks at the financial concepts required, including costs, revenues, profits; use of break-even and cash-flow, use of budgets and how to improve cash-flow and profits.

It also looks at the people in business; organisation, recruitment, training and motivation as well as operations management of quality, customer service, dealing with suppliers and use of technology.

The A2 course builds on AS knowledge and understanding and requires students to be able to analyse and evaluate issues and situations and explores more long term strategic action. It covers in greater depth the functional areas that enable the business to meet its targets by looking at: financial strategies used, marketing strategies, operational strategies and human resource strategies.

It follows on by linking the work in these functional areas to the aims and objectives of the organisation, assesses how changes in the business environment can affect performance and how it can best manage these changes.

for further information please see AQA handout or log onto www.aqa.org.uk and look at 'qualifications', 'new GCEs'

Entry Requirements: 5 good GCSE passes (C or above) including Maths and English

AS Assessment: BUSS1 - **Planning and Financing a Business** (40%AS, 20% A2) - 1 hour 15 minutes examination, 60 marks
Short answer questions and extended response on mini case study.

A2 Assessment: BUSS 2 - **Managing a Business** (60% AS, 30% A2)
1 hour 30 minutes examination, 80 marks
Data response questions

BUSS3 - **Strategies for Success** (25% A2)
1 hour 45 minutes examination, 80 marks
Questions on unseen case study, requiring extended answers

BUSS4 - **The Business Environment and Managing Change** (25% A2), 1 hour 45 minutes examination, 80 marks
Based on pre-release research tasks leading to first section of examination. Second section has choice of essays.