Core Mathematics level 3 qualification

Course outline

The mathematical and statistical content of this qualification is valuable for students preparing for a variety of technical and professional roles. You will learn about mathematical modelling, costing, risk and the use of spreadsheets. Financial problem solving, which is important for all students no matter what their future ambitions, is also a feature. You will look into tax and national insurance calculations, VAT, student loans and mortgages, but also Fermi estimations, analysing and representing data.

Mathematical Studies aims to prepare you for the mathematical demands of higher education and work where there is a distinct mathematical or statistical element, but where the mathematical demands do not stretch to a requirement for A-level mathematics.

How you will be assessed?

The exam consists of 2 papers, each lasting 90 minutes and contributing 50% to the final grade.

Paper 1 is compulsory.

Paper 2 gives students the following three choices: Paper 2A (Statistical techniques), Paper 2B (Critical path and risk analysis) or Paper 2C (Graphical techniques). There is no coursework element.

Entry requirements: Five grades 9 - 4 (including grade 4 in GCSE Mathematics)

Where could the course take you?

Core Maths has been designed to maintain and develop real-life mathematical skills. What you study is not purely theoretical or abstract; it can be applied on a day-to-day basis, whether in work, study or life.

Most Core Maths courses will include a financial mathematics element and can help with other A level subjects, in particular with science, geography, business studies, economics and psychology.

Mathematical skills are becoming increasingly important in the workplace and in higher education - studying Core Maths will help you to keep up these essential skills.