



Blessed George Napier Catholic School

EXTENDED PROJECT QUALIFICATION

LEVEL 3

Become a critical, reflective and independent learner



P301

Dissertation

This type of Project is a university-style dissertation on any topic which can be researched and argued about - for example, a controversial biological, historical, ethical, philosophical, psychological, economic or environmental issue. The dissertation uses secondary research sources to provide a reasoned defence of a point of view, with consideration of counter-arguments. (Edexcel)

P303

EXTENDED PROJECT

“Designed to develop learners’ critical, reflective, problem-solving and independent learning skills, the Extended Project supports students with the transition to higher education or into the world of work.” (Edexcel)

What types of projects are there?

Dissertation

This type of Project is a university-style dissertation on any topic which can be researched and argued about - for example, a controversial biological, historical, ethical, philosophical, psychological, economic or environmental issue. The dissertation uses secondary research sources to provide a reasoned defence of a point of view, with consideration of counter-arguments. (Edexcel)

Performance

This type of Project involves the development of performance skills and techniques in a creative process leading up to a performance before a designated audience - for example, a performance of music, drama or sport. It can take the form of a response to a brief or performance commission.

Artefact

This type of Project involves a process of research, design and the application of creative skills in developing and realising a piece of work in response to a client brief. Types of artefact project include creating a painting or sculpture, designing a piece of furniture or a garment, creating a website, solving an engineering or construction problem or producing a piece of graphic design.

Important Deadlines

There are two specific deadlines that all pupils are expected to meet as part of the criteria set by the exam board Edexcel:

-to complete the draft version of the Literature Review –

April (Year 12)

-to complete a draft version of the Analysis -

June (Year 12)

In addition to this, pupils are expected to hand work in for checking when requested to by RE teachers.

Hand in all parts of the project for checking –

Last week in September (Year 13)

Make improvements and prepare for presentations

October (year 13)

Hand in all parts of the project for Internal Moderation

November (year 13)

So what will I have to do?

Extended Project Outline

P301 Dissertation P303 Performance P304 Artefact

AO1 Project Proposal Form and Activity Log (all types of projects)

9 marks

AO2 Bibliography, Footnotes and research (all types of projects)

12 Marks

AO3 Develop and Realise 24 marks

Dissertation: Literature Review – 3000 words Analysis of research – 2000 words;
Conclusion – 350 words

Artefact: Research, development of ideas, draft designs, final design/product made.

Performance: Research, development of ideas, rehearsals, final performance.

AO4 Evaluation (350 words) and Presentation (all types of projects)

9 marks

Total marks/54

Extended Project Grade Boundaries- June 2019

Level 3 Extended Project										
Unit grade boundaries			Max Mark	a*	a	b	c	d	e	u
P301	Level 3 Extended Project Dissertation	Raw	54	50	44	39	34	29	24	0
P302	Level 3 Extended Project Investigation/Field Study	Raw	54	47	42	37	32	27	22	0
P303	Level 3 Extended Performance	Raw	54	47	42	37	32	27	22	0
P304	Level 3 Extended Project Artefact	Raw	54	49	43	38	33	28	23	0
Overall grade boundaries			Max Mark	A*	A	B	C	D	E	U
ZPJ30	Level 3 Extended Project	Raw	28	24	20	16	12	8	4	0

What makes a good project?

These descriptions are at the boundary of A/A* and are adapted from the information provided by the Office of Qualifications and Examinations Regulator.

AO1 Manage the project

- Candidate personally develops the project title, phrases it as a clearly focused question, and provides a clear rationale for the project.
- Candidate personally identifies appropriate strategies, tasks and objectives, justifies choices and engages with them
- Work is well-planned, well-organised, coherent and includes appropriate independent review and adaptations where necessary

AO2: Use resources

- Candidate uses a rich and varied range of sources of information critically and effectively, and appropriately
- Candidate shows evident and well developed research skills, technical language and/or specialist vocabulary and shows clear understanding of the complexities of the topic.
- Candidate shows evidence of synthesis by making relevant links to related areas.

AO3: Develop and Realise

- Candidate gives considered response to guidance and shows evidence of critical reflection and appropriate action on guidance.
- Candidate references problem encountered and justifies action taken to address these.
- Candidate shows evidence of the development of skills, including underpinning ideas and concepts where appropriate and of clear understanding of the topic area
- Candidate achieves a high quality and appropriate outcome that realizes most of the intentions of the project.

AO4: Review

- Candidate carries out an in-depth evaluation in relation to stated objectives and to their learning and performance.
- Candidate identifies reasons for any non-realisation of objectives and any flaws in the original objectives

- Candidate clearly presents the outcomes of the project, including explicit commentary on findings and conclusions clearly related to the original objectives.
- Candidate makes use of a range of appropriate presentation skills.
- Candidate responds well to questions and displays a clear and in-depth knowledge and understanding of the topic area.

Summary: Extended Projects are assessed using four assessment objectives. Examiners look at the project as a whole rather than just the final outcome.

What is the examiner looking for?

- The examiner will expect you to develop some project management skills and to plan the project in advance.
- They will be looking for evidence of your ability to plan thoroughly and to foresee problems and make contingency plans before things go wrong.
- The examiner will be looking to see that you are able to communicate confidently with others in building your plan

It is important to plan your project carefully as project management skills are assessed. You need to keep evidence of your planning in the Activity Log.

How should I manage the project?

AO1 Manage the project

Project Proposal Form and Activity Log

Marks in this section are awarded for the Project Proposal Form and the Activity Log.

Total marks: 9

For AO1 you are required to develop your ideas and plan your project independently. You also need to monitor and keep detailed records of your progress throughout your project so the Activity Log needs to be kept up to date regularly.

What do I need to do first?

Students can either choose an area that extends or expands on their current studies (by linking into one of their A levels) or, along with their teachers, choose a topic that they have a personal interest or passion in.

- **Choose your research topic.**

All Extended Projects need a clear starting point in the form of a research question, aim or brief.

- **Can I link Extended Project to one of my A-level subjects?**

Your Project title can relate to a current area of study such as A level, allowing you to study a specific area in more depth. (Edexcel) Try this link on the Edexcel website for further ideas on how to link your topic with one of your A-level subjects.

<https://qualifications.pearson.com/en/qualifications/edexcel-project-qualification/teaching-support/links-with-subjects.html>

- **Can I link Extended Project to the course I might like to follow at university?**

The Edexcel Extended Project can't be used against a grade offer (such as AAA), but some universities may offer an alternative for candidates studying the Edexcel Extended Project (such as ABB instead of AAB, provided that you get an A in your Edexcel Extended Project qualification). Universities are also recognising the Edexcel Extended Project qualification as a valuable part of a student's profile on their UCAS application. You can use your Edexcel Extended Project to show your interest in an area of study at a university interview. (Edexcel)

- **What do universities say about Extended Project?**

University of Warwick

"Applicants presenting the Extended Project are encouraged to discuss their research in their personal statement and reflect on how undertaking the project will help prepare them for studying their chosen degree at Warwick. Where a department typically makes offers which include a fourth subject at AS level the Extended Project will normally be considered in lieu of this requirement."

University of Manchester

"The skills that students develop through the Extended Project are excellent preparation for university-level study. Students can refer to the Extended Project in their UCAS personal statements and at interview to demonstrate some of the qualities that universities are looking for.

"As a research-intensive university, The University of Manchester is very supportive of the skills the Extended Project encourages learners to develop. We have been involved in working with local schools and colleges since the Extended Project Qualification was first piloted.

"The University of Manchester has developed a series of bespoke workshops designed by experienced researchers, specifically to support students who are studying for their Extended Project Qualification (EPQ)."

Newcastle University

"We value the skills of research and independent learning that the Extended Project is designed to develop. We welcome applications from students offering the Extended Project alongside A levels. As the Extended Project is optional it is not a requirement for application. If you offer an Extended Project, it will be taken into account. Your offer may be varied as a result, in recognition of the level of study skills you will have developed."

University of Oxford

"Where applicants have undertaken the Extended Project (EP), the University will not make this a condition for an offer (as the EP is not a compulsory element of post-16 study) but recognises that the EP will provide an applicant with the opportunity to develop research and academic skills relevant for study at Oxford. Candidates are encouraged to draw upon their experience of undertaking the project when writing their personal statement, particularly if the topic is allied to their chosen degree course."

[These are the UCAS points awarded per grade.](#)

UCAS points

Grade	UCAS points
A*	28
A	24
B	20
C	16
D	12
E	8

What do I need to do after I have decided on my topic of research?

Once the research topic has been chosen, a title has to be decided upon. This must be in the form of a question (only dissertations). The title should be clear and focused.

For example: **Is the money spent on space travel justified?**

OR

Will racism in sport ever be eradicated?

Artefact: my brief is to design and create a website/Hindu wedding dress/piece of art/write and illustrate a book

Performance: To compose and perform a song/ to plan and hold an event/ to direct a play/ create a film. How can live performance engage an audience in the current technological age?

- What role does comedy have in serious culture?
- Can Brechtian techniques be successfully applied to today's social and political issues?
- Is music effective as a tool for motivating workers?
- How can we make classical texts popular to new audiences?
- How can we express the rhythm of eastern cultures and communicate them to a western audience?

After this....

a **Project Proposal Form** will need to be completed with the help of your teacher and handed in for checking.

What is a Project Proposal Form?

This is a form that outlines the research question or objective and explains how you plan to go about answering it. This is one of the most important parts of the project.

Start to write the plan when you have done some initial research and gathered enough material to develop some ideas or interesting questions.

This includes: main objectives for the research, reasons why the project was chosen, activities to be carried out, resources used.

What should a good Project Proposal Form include?

Section 1

- Well defined and clearly focused research question.
- Five Objectives explained (5 things I want to do/find out/answer/)
- State whether it is an individual or group project.

Project Proposal form

Learner Name	<u>P. Turner</u>	Learner number	<u>XXXX</u>
Centre Name	<u>Projects High</u>	Centre Number	<u>XXXXX</u>
Teacher Assessor	<u>Mr Smith</u>	Date	<u>18/10/2012</u>
Unit	<u>P301</u>		
Proposed project title	<u>Is the mind the same as the brain?</u>		

BGN.School

Section One exemplar

Project Objectives

Proposed project title Is the mind the same as the brain?

Section One: Title, objective, responsibilities

Title or working title of project (in the form of a question, commission or design brief)

Is the mind the same as the brain?

Project objectives (eg, what is the question you want to answer? What do you want to learn how to do? What do you want to find out?):

- I want to research the different theories relating to the mind/body problem
- I want to explore the way in which thinking about the human mind has changed over time
- I want to find out how scientific ways of studying the brain are affecting the way we think about the mind
- I hope in my project to see how a question can be studied which has links to several different subject areas

BGN.:
Intern

Section two – Reasons for choosing the topic - exemplar

Clear and thoughtful reasons for choosing the topic – give at least 5 - (why it interests me, if it is relevant in society today/ what I am going to get out of it eg personal interests, future plans knowledge/skills I want to improve.)

Section Two: Reasons for choosing this project
Reasons for choosing the project (eg, links to other subjects you are studying, personal interest, future plans, knowledge/skills you want to improve, why the topic is important):
I am studying biology and psychology A levels, and an AS in philosophy. I would like to go on to study psychology at university and feel that this question will help me prepare for this. I find the topic of the human mind extremely interesting and enjoy reading about how it is studied both by psychologists and philosophers. In psychology, we have learned about some theories relating to the mind (behaviourism and cognitive psychology) and the theories of dualism and materialism have been discussed in our philosophy classes. This project will give me a chance to explore the background to the development of these theories and to decide on what I think. The topic is important because how we think about the mind affects how we treat issues like mental illness. It is also important because it is all

Section Three – Activities and timescales

- This should be a detailed chronological plan (which can be in bullet points) of the main tasks/ activities you are going to carry out to complete the project.
- Each task/activity must have an appropriate time span allocated to it

Your plan must include the following **tasks**:

- a. Attend lessons to develop project research skills.
- b. Research topic – at least 25 sources(eg 8 BOOKS; 5 NEWSPAPER/JOURNAL ARTICLES;3 FILMS/DOCUMENTARIES; 8 RELIABLE WEBSITES)
- c. Interview School Chaplain/RE teacher/expert in the chosen field
- d. Design and carry out Questionnaire.
- e. Write email or tweet 5 outside agencies. Keep copy of the correspondence.
- f. Include a plan for your dissertation which should be broken down into the following sections:
 - Write introduction.
 - Write ‘Literature Review’ 3,000 words under **5 sub headings**;

- 1 Current relevance / History of the topic
- 2 Religious teaching on the topic
- 3 Ethical approaches; Situation Ethics/Utilitarian/Natural Law/Virtue Ethics
- 4 Case Studies examples of my topic
- 5 UN Human rights / laws around the world

g. Final draft of Literature Review

h. Write 'Analysis' 2,000 words: Use the same sub-headings

- 1 Current relevance / History of the topic
- 2 Religious teaching on the topic
- 3 Ethical approaches; Situation Ethics /Utilitarian/Natural Law/Virtue Ethics
- 4 Case Studies examples of my topic
- 5 UN Human Rights / laws around the world

i. Final draft of analysis

j. Write Conclusion 250 words

k. Complete Front Cover (Title, Name, Candidate Number, Centre Number)

l. Write Evaluation

m. Prepare and deliver presentation (6 slides) to a panel.

Section Three: Activities and timescales	
Activities to be carried out during the project (eg, research, development and analysis of ideas, writing, data collection, numerical analysis, rehearsal techniques, production meetings, production of final outcome, administration, evaluation, preparing for the presentation, etc):	How long this will take:
Lessons on project skills and how to produce my EP Start Activity Log	Ongoing Ongoing
Research of background information relating to different questions relating aspects of my project. Consolidate the main themes. Draft version of literature review using the sub-headings: What is the internet, why was it created and how did it become what it is today? What problems has widespread access to the internet solved?_ case studies. How is the internet used now and what ethical issues do widespread and easy access the internet cause? How is the internet restricted and how could it be better regulated?	40 hours 20 hours
Final version of the literature review. Draft versions of the analysis and discussions under the same sub-headings. Final version of the Analysis.	22 hours 2 hours
Conclusion Evaluation and prepare presentation Bibliography and evaluate Deliver presentation	4 hours Ongoing 15 minutes

Section 4

- List the resources required to complete project
- List the different areas your research will cover.

Next....

Start the Activity Log...

What is that?

This is a log to keep a record of what you have done towards the project.

This form should be used to record the process of your project and be submitted as evidence with the final piece of work.

You may want to discuss:

- what you have done (eg, from one week to the next)
- if you are working in a group, what discussions you have had
- any changes that you have or will need to make to your plans
- what resources you have found or hope to find
- what problems you are encountering and how you are solving them
- what you are going to do next

Here is an example of log entries:

1/10/2012	We have been having lessons as preparation for our Extended Project and have just been asked to start thinking about our project titles. I have various ideas and I need to do some research to help decide on exactly what I should do. I am mainly interested in doing something relating to the mind as this has been the most interesting thing I have studied this year at school.
8/10/2012	We have had a session in the library and I have had my first tutorial with Mr Smith. He advised me that I have to choose a specific question for my project. I was thinking I could use the title 'What is the mind?' but this seems to be too broad. He advised me to do some research online to find out what topics people are arguing about.
16/10/2012	We have just had a lesson where the whole structure of the project has been explained to us. This has been really helpful and I have started to fill in my project proposal form, even though I've still not made up my mind about my title. I'm getting a bit worried about this as other people seem to know exactly what they are doing. Over half-term I shall try to find some books and articles to get some more ideas.
23/10/2012	I found a really useful website called 'closer to truth' which has interviews with lots of scientists and philosophers. I've been watching several of the talks about consciousness. I think that I could focus on the question of the mind/ body problem. I've looked on Amazon for books written by some of the people in the interviews and I've ordered a book. I've now finished my project proposal form. I've also ordered the student guide for the EPQ.

What should a good Activity Log include?

A week by week account of progress made:

- keep clear and detailed records
- monitor your progress against your Project Proposal Plan
- assess how well you are managing your time
- note any decisions or changes to the plan with reasons for making them
- evaluate the success of aspects of your project as you go along
- attach hyperlinks to keep track of online resources you have used
- keep a record of discussions with your tutor
- what problems you are encountering and how you are solving them
- what resources you have found or hope to find
- keep records of emails, phone numbers and appointments for future use
- what you are going to do next
- use the school VLE to keep your records up to date

AO2 12 marks: Bibliography and Referencing of sources

Marks in this section are awarded for the Bibliography, use of Footnotes and evaluation of resources used.

What should good footnotes and a good Bibliography include?

- In your Extended Project, you are expected to research a number of different sources, at least 20 different ones.
- The examiners need to be able to check each source, to make sure that it is appropriate, and that you have used it properly. This means that you must reference the sources appropriately in footnotes and a Bibliography.

Footnotes

- Footnotes are included in your Literature Review when you quote from a source or refer to a source.
- With every source that you quote from, insert a footnote and then record the resource you got it from
- Write footnotes in this order:

Author – Surname first, First Initial, Title, ,_Publisher_, Date_of publication,(or in the case of a website, on what day you accessed it); page number

- Make clear and concise links between your sources and footnotes
- An explanation of why you think this is a **reliable** source, and can be trusted to give accurate information that you can use in your project.
- Evaluate the reliability of your sources and make a distinction **between fact, speculation and subjective opinion in** evaluating the reliability of sources

Genesis 1:28, The New Jerusalem Bible , Darton, Longman and Todd Ltd, 1990– All Biblical quotations are taken from the Jerusalem Bible which is the most accurate and scholarly translation of the Bible.

Bibliography

The Bibliography records all the different sources that you used in your research for your project. Even if you do not quote exactly from each of the sources, you can still include any resource that you consulted in your Bibliography.

- Use a wide range of sources – at least 25 different types (8 books, 5 Newspaper/Journal articles; 3 Films/documentaries;8 reliable websites)

List your sources in an appropriate and consistent format:

1. Books– Bible, Catechism of the Catholic Church. Textbooks, Other books on your topic, Dictionary,
2. Journals – Medical journals
3. Newspaper articles
4. TV programmes watched – record the name of the programme, TV channel, Date you watched it.
5. Websites with the dates accessed and URL address

Sharkey, P. N., 2012. *BBC*. [Online]

Available at: <http://www.bbc.com/news/technology-18475646>

[Accessed 23 February 2017]. The BBC is a well know and respected sources of information, with journalists and editors who ensure the source is reliable to cite.

Smith, A., 2016. *Odyssey*. [Online]

Available at: <https://www.theodysseyonline.com/artificial-intelligence-from-myth-to-reality>

[Accessed 25 March 2017]. This is an online crowd funded news source, it may not contain accurate information

Solon, O., 2016. *The Guardian*. [Online]

Available at: <https://www.theguardian.com/technology/2016/oct/21/how-to-disable-google-ad-tracking-gmail-youtube-browser-history>

[Accessed 5 August 2017]. The Guardian is a well know and respected sources of information, with journalists and editors who ensure the source is reliable to cite.

Stone, Z., 2017. *Forbes*. [Online]

Available at: <https://www.forbes.com/sites/zarastone/2017/11/07/everything-you-need-to-know-about-sophia-the-worlds-first-robot-citizen/#3978823846fa>

[Accessed 10 November 2017]. Forbes is a well know and respected sources of information, with journalists and editors who ensure the source is reliable to cite.

You may also use an online web citer which helps you to reference your sources appropriately.

One example is: citethisforme



AO3 – The Dissertation 24 Marks

Marks in this section are awarded for the writing up of the Literature Review, Analysis and Conclusion.

What should a good dissertation include?

Layout of your dissertation.

Header: Include your name and the title of your project

Footer: insert **page numbers** on the Right hand side of the bottom of the page

Write in a **clear neat font:** Write in 12' **font**, use 16' font for main headings and 14' for subtitles. Bold and underlined.

Use **double spacing** between the lines

Sections in your Literature Review:

1. Complete **Front Cover** (Title, Name, Candidate Number, Centre Number)

2. Write **introduction** – include in the introduction the reasons for choosing your research topic, the areas you will research, that you will analyse your research and evaluate your dissertation.
3. Write **‘Literature Review’** - 3,000 words under 5 sub headings; about 600 words per section:
 - 1 Current relevance / History of the topic
 - 2 Religious teaching on the topic
 - 3 Ethical approaches; Situation Ethics/Utilitarian/Natural Law/Virtue Ethics
 - 4 Case Studies examples of my topic
 - 5 UN Human rights / laws around the world

You should include footnotes in your Literature Review where you have quoted directly from a source or referred to a source.

Analysis – Discussion

What should a good analysis include?

Write an analysis of 2000 words - write **counter arguments**- look at the strengths and weaknesses of each of your sections and write about 400 words per section. You could refer to books and websites to help you critically analyze your research:

Guidance from the Specification for the analysis

The content shows a thorough and perceptive understanding of the topic area and a clearly argued and well-thought out argument that answers the research question and is supported by several lines of reasoning. Counter arguments or alternative interpretations are considered carefully and systematically in the discussion.

- n. Write the final version of the Analysis ensuring that you check SPAG of the whole project.

Write Conclusion - 250 words

What should a good conclusion include?

Write a clear conclusion which summarizes the argument and the research question and makes suggestions for further work.

Guidance from the Specification.

There is a clear and well-developed conclusion that proficiently summarises the point of view and the case that has been made. There are well-thought out suggestions for further work and an awareness of any wider implications.

AO4 – Review

How should I review the project?

Write an Evaluation of the whole process of completing the project and prepare and deliver a presentation of your research to a panel.

What does the Specification state?

Overall the learner shows a high level of insight and self-awareness in evaluating the project and the extent to which they have achieved their aims. The learner is highly adept at identifying and analysing in detail and limitations of their project's methodology and interpretations.

The learner explains and justifies ideas for what they could do differently next time. They have drawn clear and perceptive conclusions about the process of researching and writing a dissertation that could help them in future.

Write an evaluation of how well you think you have met the objectives you stated in the Project Proposal Form Section one. This is also where you can demonstrate the skills you have mastered or learned and how they will help you in your future studies.

Follow the guidance from the specification to guide you.

Prepare a presentation of your research.

What makes a good presentation?

- Main ideas of the project research are clear.
- The structure of the presentation is logical and link with all the parts.
- Well-paced- not too fast or too slow
- Audible and no reading only of the content off the notes/slides.
- Visual aids are relevant and clearly visible and not over-crowded.
- Engage with the audience – make eye contact, smile
- Handle questions calmly and confidently showing good subject knowledge.
- slides is sufficient if you are using power point.
- A PowerPoint presentation is not essential – if you use cue cards they will need to be included as part of the project.
- Try not to make slides too busy – you can include a short video, pictures, music if relevant to your project.
- Include an evaluation slide of how you feel your project went, what you would improve next time, whether you think you have answered your research question.

An Example of a power point presentation.



1



2



3



4



5



6