

IGCSE BUSINESS STUDIES - 0450

Course Introduction

The Cambridge IGCSE Business Studies syllabus develops learners' understanding of business activity in the public and private sectors, and the importance of innovation and change. Learners find out how the major types of business organisation are established, financed and run, and how their activities are regulated. Factors influencing business decision-making are also considered, as are the essential values of cooperation and interdependence. Learners not only study business concepts and techniques but also enhance related skills such as numeracy and enquiry. The syllabus provides both a foundation for further study at Cambridge International A Level and an ideal preparation for the world of work. The Cambridge IGCSE Business Studies syllabus aims to:

- make effective use of relevant terminology, concepts and methods, and recognise the strengths and limitations of the ideas used in business
- apply their knowledge and critical understanding to current issues and problems in a wide range of business contexts
- distinguish between facts and opinions, and evaluate qualitative and quantitative data in order to help build arguments and make informed judgements
- appreciate the perspectives of a range of stakeholders in relation to the business environment, individuals, society, government and enterprise
- develop knowledge and understanding of the major groups and organisations within and outside business, and consider ways in which they are able to influence objectives, decisions and activities
- develop knowledge and understanding of how the main types of businesses are organised, financed and operated, and how their relations with other organisations, consumers, employees, owners and society are regulated
- develop skills of numeracy, literacy, enquiry, selection and use of relevant sources of information, presentation and interpretation
- develop an awareness of the nature and significance of innovation and change within the context of business activities.

Content

The Syllabus is divided into six sections. Each section contains several sub-topics. Main topics covered include:

1. Understanding business activity
2. People in business
3. Marketing
4. Operations Management
5. Financial information and decisions
6. External influences on business activity

Assessment Summary

All candidates take two components, Paper 1 and Paper 2.

Paper 1 – 1h30 - short answer & structured data – 50% of the total marks

Paper 2 – 1h30 - case study – 50% of the total marks