



## AS/A2 Economics

### **WHY TAKE ECONOMICS?**

Do you fancy doing something different? Are you interested in current affairs? Do you ever wonder what all the fuss is about regarding the credit crunch? Why Cristiano Ronaldo earns more than the Prime Minister? Why food surpluses are not given to the poor?

Studying Economics offers a fascinating challenge as it allows you to consider the topical and controversial issues of the day in a lively and analytical way. Economics does not solely revolve around wealth creation and the peaks and troughs of the financial markets. It also gives you the opportunity to make informed judgements about vital real world issues such as the European Union, the environment, sport, leisure and the job market. If any issue involves money or resources and how to use them, it is Economics.

Economists are highly sought after – they are the second highest paid graduates. Those who have a good understanding of the economy will find rewarding occupations in banks and financial institutions, manufacturing and service companies, the media, government and international organisations such as the World Bank.

### **WHAT ARE THE KEY AREAS OF STUDY?**

To achieve the AS, you will need to complete two units; Markets in Action, and the National and International Economy. To achieve the A Level, you will need to complete two further units; Economics of Work and Leisure and the Global Economy.

### **WHAT SKILLS WILL I NEED AND DEVELOP?**

You will need to have an interest in current affairs. During the course you will learn how to distinguish between fact and opinion. Your own skills of judgement and analysis will also be developed. You will discover that economists disagree and that there are groups of economists with different views. The opportunities for debate are endless.

### **ARE THERE ANY SPECIAL QUALIFICATIONS I NEED?**

There are no special qualifications needed to take this course.

### **HOW WILL I BE ASSESSED?**

Your course will be assessed by external examinations. Exams are modular, with one being taken each January, and one each summer. The exams are predominantly short questions and essays based on case studies.

### **PRIESTLEY EXTRA**

Economics students have had the opportunity to visit Parliament, the financial institutions in London and the European Parliament in Brussels during the course.