



Be

seen

with an EPQ

Set yourself apart
from the rest

September 2021

AQA 
Realising potential

Discover your true passions

Some examples of past projects:



To research, plan and produce (own needlework) an eighteenth century ball gown.



Can true happiness be found in a single moment?



To what extent do genetic factors contribute to a propensity towards addiction in humans?



How dimples affect the aerodynamic drag of a golf ball.



Should you be concerned about mass surveillance?



Could hydro-electric power be created outside our front door?



How sustainable is the financial inequality between teams in the English Premier League?



How can we help those suffering from elderly loneliness?



Can emergency whistles be optimised for design and use in rural environments?



Construction and testing of a small-scale hybrid rocket motor.

Be seen by universities



Be seen by universities



**Increase
chance of
achieving
A-level A*-B
by up to
29%**

**Worth half
an A-level
in terms of
UCAS points**

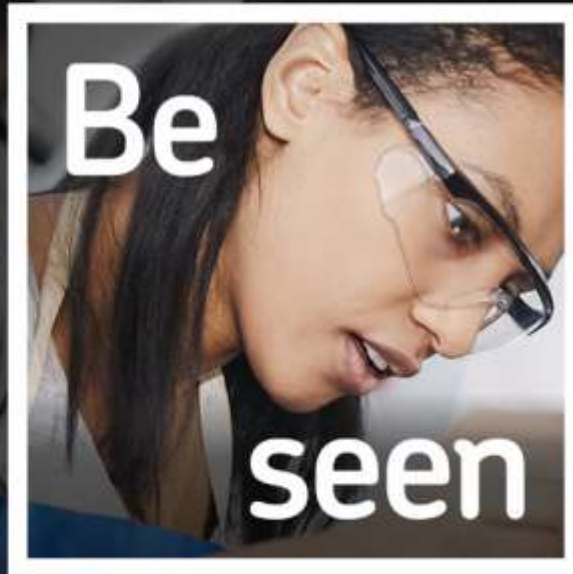
**Learn how
to work
independently
on your own
topic**

**Receive lower
offers from
some
universities**

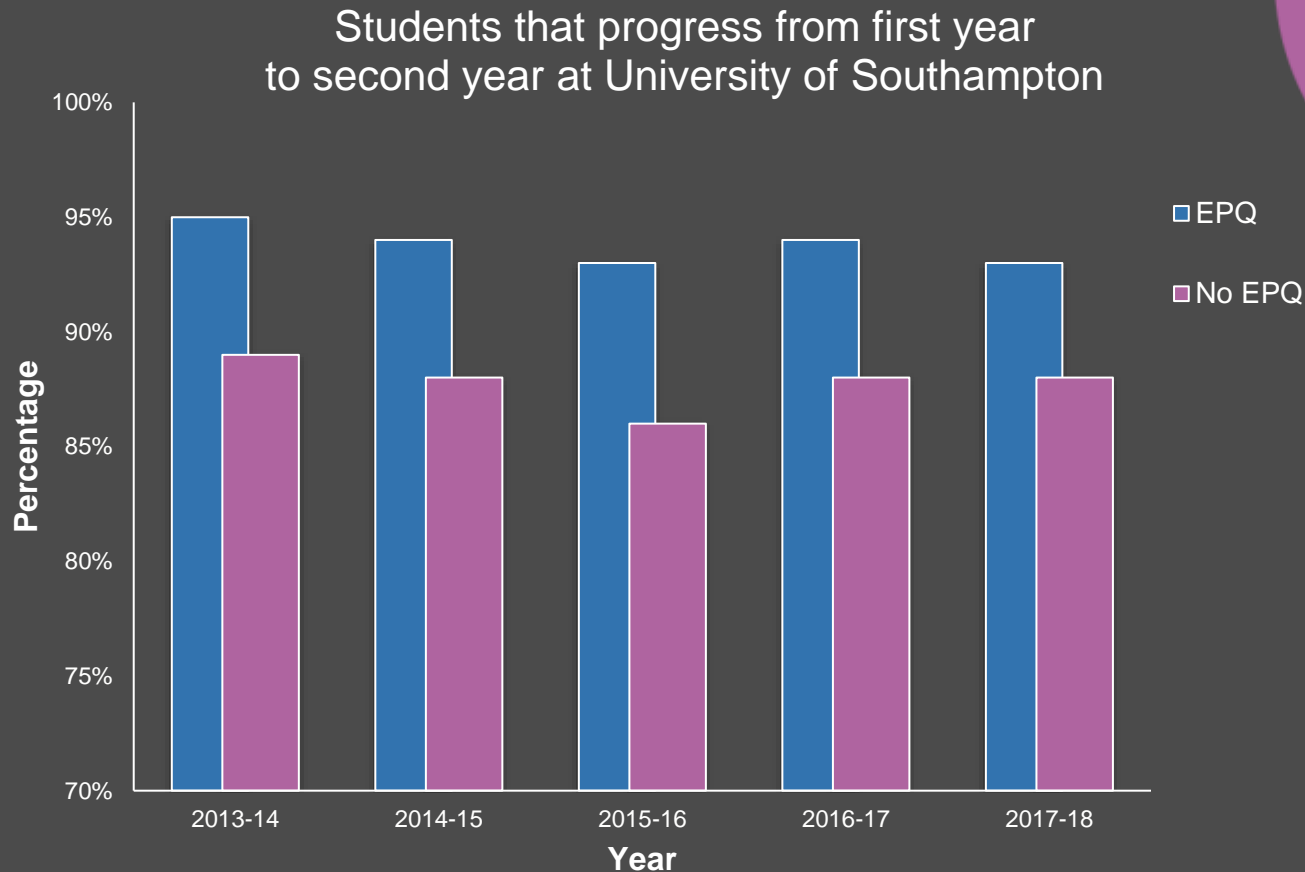
**Discuss in
university
interviews**

**Learn
how to
research and
reference**

Set yourself apart from the rest



Set yourself apart from the rest



Less likely to leave university after the first year

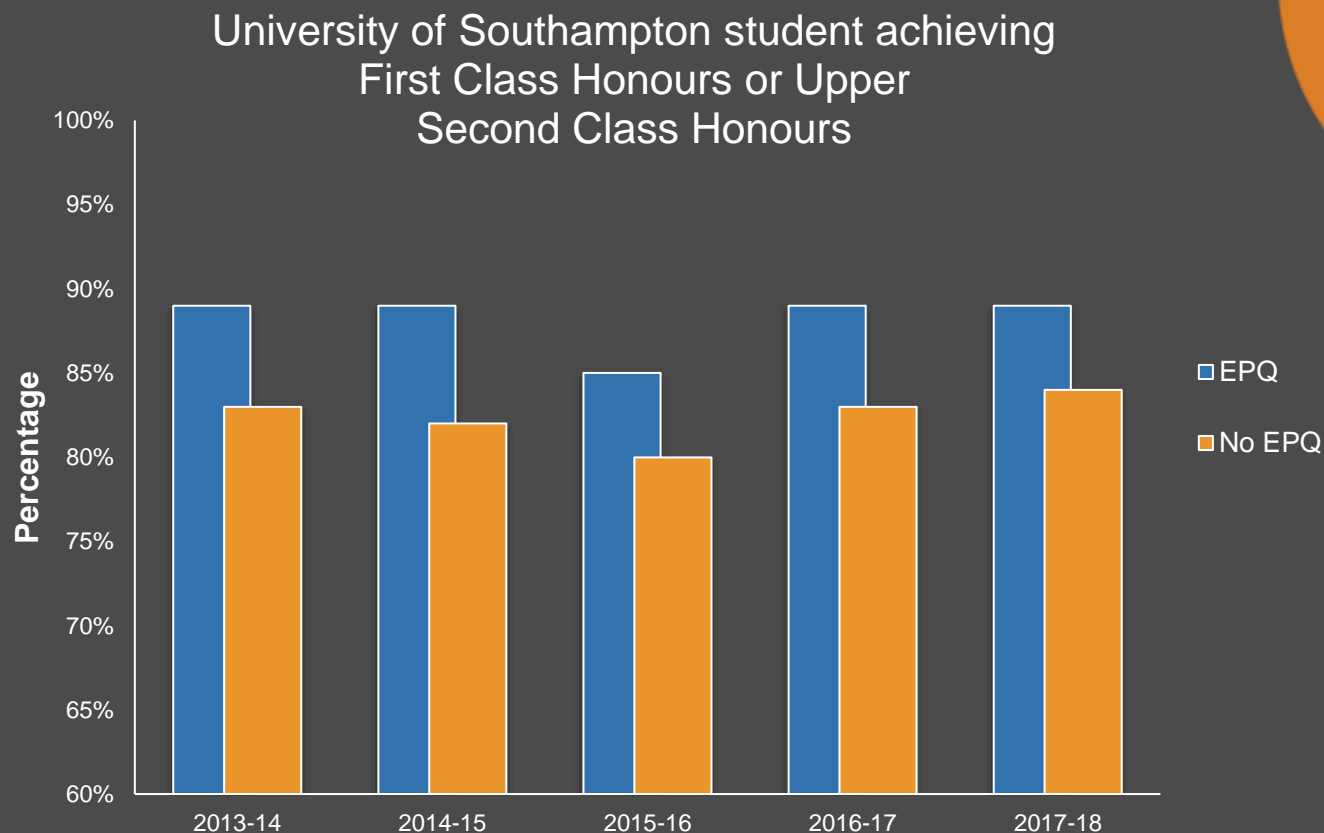


University of Southampton and Thompson, 2018

Set yourself apart from the rest

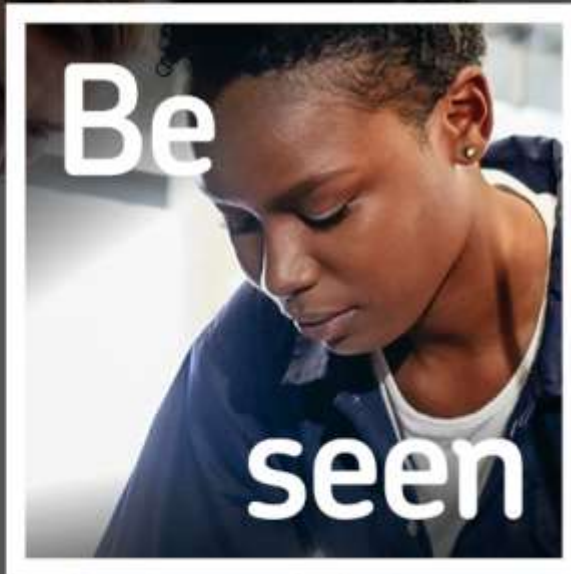
More likely
to obtain
1st or 2:1

Thompson and Jones
(2016)



University of Southampton
and Thompson, 2018

Be seen in the workplace



Be seen in the workplace

**Gain
CV-worthy
skills**

**Learn
how to
interview**

**Improve
your
planning
skills**

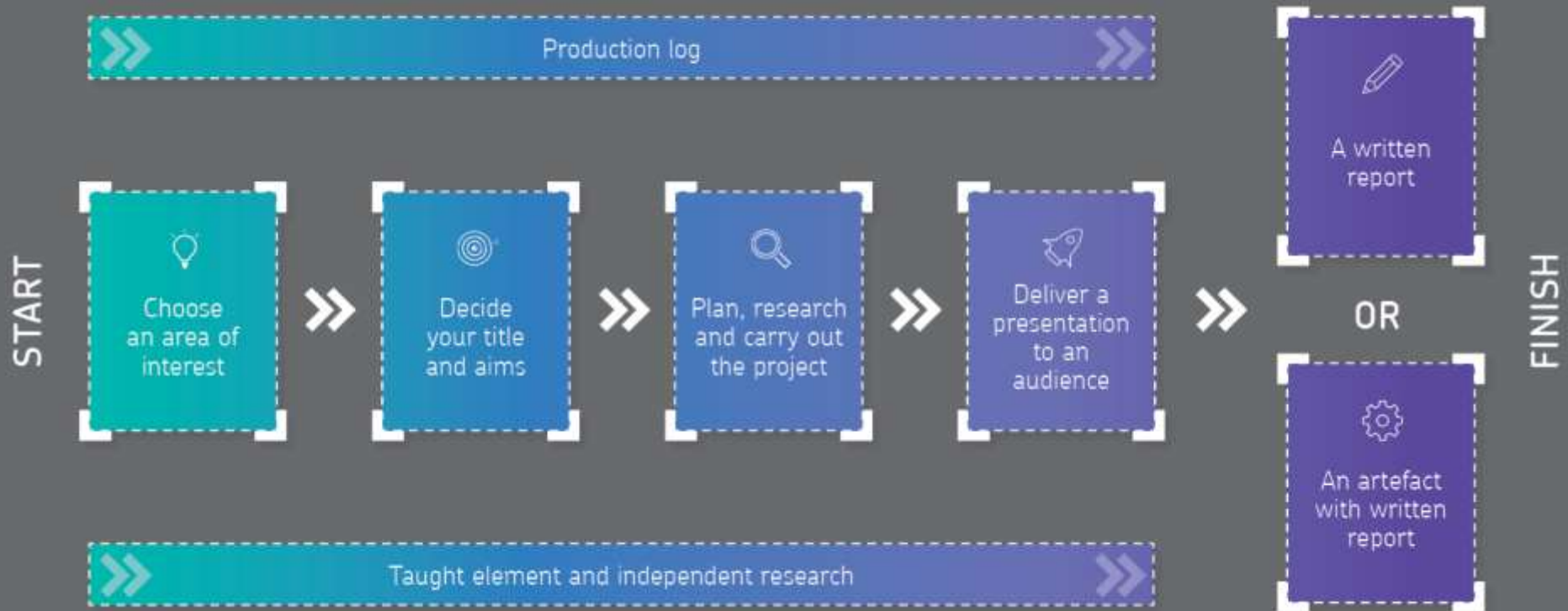


**Learn how
to reflect on
work and
suggest
improvements**

**Improve
your time
management**

**Build your
abilities in
conducting
research**

Where your journey starts: what's in an EPQ?



Presenting your passion



Written report

5000 words

- a formal academic report
- research based
- fully referenced.



Artefact with written report

Minimum 1,000 word report and something you'd like to create, for example:

- an engineered piece of work; a robot or a model aeroplane etc
- a play that you've written and produced, and directed
- an original musical composition
- a computer programme or website.



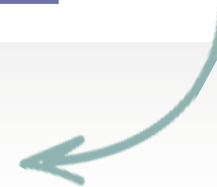
Group projects

Got a shared vision?

Work in a group and create together, developing your individual EPQ along the way.

“You’re really only limited by your imagination.”

Jen Obaditch, AQA Head of Curriculum and former teacher



30 hours supervised learning...



30 hours supervised learning...

Your EPQ coordinator will guide you through 30 hours of learning.



These may not be typical lessons and you could be:

- learning from visiting speakers
- visiting university libraries
- completing online courses.

You'll learn skills such as:

- how to develop titles, questions and proposals
- project management skills, including time management, planning techniques, and setting aims and objectives
- research methods, including research ethics, analysis and evaluation, risk assessment and data collection techniques
- report writing and presentation skills.

... at least 90 hours to be independent



... at least 90 hours to be independent

Independent research is the foundation of the EPQ.

You'll:

- carry out detailed research that informs the project product outcome and format
- use a wide range of relevant resources
- perform critical analysis and evaluation of resources
- use a mix of sources to realise the project product outcome.

Log your progress and accomplishments



Log your progress and accomplishments

The production log is an ongoing record of your project's progress. It's a tool to track and manage the EPQ process. You will have ownership of it and it'll be completed by you and your supervisor and coordinator.

The production log records:

- the initial ideas, project proposal recommendation and approval
- meetings you have with your supervisor
- project planning, progress and decision making
- development of your project from the initial ideas to summary and reflection
- your live presentation and Q and A
- marking by your supervisor.

How EPQ works alongside your A-levels

- *Insert your method of delivery here*

Don't just take our word for it!

It's really opened up so many different things for me, changed my whole lifestyle and it's really helped me at uni.

Kizzy, former student

I would have loved to have had the opportunity to learn referencing before going to university. It was always the thing that I really, really struggled with and was one of the reasons why I couldn't quite understand why I wasn't getting the marks that I wanted and I think EPQ students overcome that barrier almost straight away.

Dr Emma Thompson – 'Learn with US' transition leader at University of Southampton

What we see as teachers in the classroom is, the student developing some really wonderful skills, in terms of really growing as a human being, and growing as a young adult.

Jen Obaditch, AQA Head of Curriculum

If you want to get a head start on university-style work, the EPQ is great for introducing concepts like independent learning, research and time management.

Lucy, former student

Want to know more?

- *Insert your supervisor or coordinator's contact information here*