

# A level Accounting

**What board do we do?** AQA, Edexcel, OCR

## What is Accounting?

People do business in order to make a profit. Even charities and not-for-profit organisations need to make sure that they use their resources in the most efficient and effective manner. Thus, the need to effectively manage the financial resources is common to all organisations. Decision makers in these organisations will need access to economic information based on which they can arrive at informed decisions about their organisational activities. Accounting serves this purpose by identifying, classifying and summarising, and presenting financial information in order to facilitate decision making and compliance with the law. It looks at ways in which businesses can maximise profits, save costs, and allocate resources effectively.

## What careers and University courses can Accounting lead to?

Studying Accounting will provide a student with one of the most sought after skills in any business. An understanding of the financial health is of utmost importance to any business, and all businesses employ the services of accountants to look after their financial affairs. If you decide to be an entrepreneur in future, become a thriving finance professional, or just lend a hand in the running of your family business, accounting knowledge can be very useful for you.

A level Accounting is also relevant for students who want to pursue a degree in Business Studies at university. Almost all Business degrees at universities have a module or two for Accounting in the syllabus. More keen students can even study towards a professional qualification in accountancy from one of the six major accountancy bodies in the UK.

(See <http://www.ccab.org.uk/> and <http://www.cimaglobal.com/> )

As a profession, accountancy ranks amongst the highest in the UK, with the Big Four accountancy firms featuring consistently in the top 10 of the Times Top 100 Graduate Employers rankings (see <http://www.top100graduateemployers.com/> ). Finance background can also be of use if you aspire to work in a managerial role for any organisation in the future. 49% of the CEOs of FTSE 100 companies in 2011 came from a financial background, either holding an accountancy qualification or having held a previous finance role ([www.accaaccountancy.com](http://www.accaaccountancy.com) ).

## Book List AS & Intensive

AS Accounting for AQA: David Cox/Michael Fardon  
(Osborne: ISBN 978-1905777143)

AQA Accounting for AS: Austen, D & Hailstone, P  
(Nelson Thornes: ISBN: 978-0748798698)

Business Accounting Volume 1 (10th edition): Wood, F & Sangster, A  
(FT Prentice Hall: ISBN: 978-0273681496)