Notice of changes to GCE Economics A specification and SAMs

Notice of changes to the AS and A Level specification and Sample Assessment Materials (SAMs)

In early 2015, our GCE Economics A qualification was accredited. Since then, we've been speaking with teachers and colleagues and have found that there are a few instances where we could clarify our subject content to ensure we are being as clear as possible. We have also found a few minor errors in the specifications and SAMs that we wanted to be sure we updated. A list of the minor changes we have made is below.

Notice about the Paper 3 Evaluate Mark Scheme

We have also made one larger change to the mark schemes for the 25 mark questions on Paper 3. We are very sorry to say that an incorrect version of the Evaluation Mark Grid for Paper 3 25 mark questions was originally produced in the SAMs. The incorrect version had a different mark scheme for the Evaluation grid in Paper 3 than the Evaluation mark grid in Papers 1 and 2. The intention was always for the Evaluation mark grid to be consistent across all three papers, making it very clear that all 25-mark questions have the same expectations for the evaluation Assessment Objective. We are very sorry that this mistake has appeared and hope that updating it makes preparing students for the evaluate question much more clear. The new mark schemes for these questions has been added to pages 118, 120, 126, 128 of the A Level SAMs.

There is also a minor change to the level 4 descriptor in the KAA mark grid for the 25-mark questions in Paper3.

AS Specification updates

Summary of changes made between previous issue and this current issue	Page number
Change to section 2.1.1 c) subject content	12
Gross National Product (GNP) was removed from the subject content	
Changes to wording of sections 2.4.4 c) and 2.4.4 f) subject content	16
Now reads: 'Effects of the multiplier on the economy' instead of 'Effects of the	
economy on the multiplier'	

AS SAMs updates

Summary of changes made between previous issue and this current issue	Page number
Instruction on calculators added to front cover of 8ECO/01	5
Instruction on calculators added to front cover of 8ECO/02	43

A Level Specification updates

Summary of changes made between previous issue and this current issue	Page number
Change to section 2.1.1 c) subject content	12
Gross National Product (GNP) was removed from the subject content	
Changes to wording of sections 2.4.4 c) and 2.4.4 f) subject content	16
Now reads: 'Effects of the multiplier on the economy ' instead of 'Effects of the	
economy on the multiplier'	

Change to wording of section 4.1.9 c) subject content	31
Now reads 'problems of being internationally un competitive' instead of 'problems	
of being internationally competitive'	

A Level SAMs updates

Summary of changes made between previous issue and this current issue	Page number
Instruction on calculators added to front cover of 9ECO/01	5
Change made to mark scheme for 9ECO/01 Question 1(a)	29
'NB if the answer given is 0.4545 award 2 marks' has been updated to give	
instructions to award 2 marks for an answer of 0.45.	
Change made to mark scheme for 9ECO/01 Question 4(a)	32
In formula example, 'q3 13' clarified to '(quarter 3, 2013)'	
Instruction on calculators added to front cover of 9ECO/02	49
Change made to key on chart for 9ECO/02 Question 1	50
Chart updated to read 'ILO unemployment' instead of 'ILU unemployment'	
Change made to chart for 9ECO/02 Question 4	56
Diagram labelling has been updated	
Instruction on calculators added to front cover of 9ECO/03	91
Mark scheme grids for Question 1(d), 1(e), 2(d) and 2(e) replaced with correct	118, 120, 126,
versions	128
Levels based mark scheme for evaluation question on Paper 3 has been updated	
to match the evaluation mark schemes for Papers 1 and 2.	