



Introduction

Geography is the study of the physical features of the earth's surface and the variety of human responses to the challenges and opportunities which these present.

The aims of the Geography A Level are for students:

- to develop and apply their understanding of geographical concepts and processes.
- to understand and interpret our changing world.
- to develop their awareness of the complexity of interactions within and between societies, economies, cultures and environments at scales from local to global.
- to develop as global citizens who recognise the challenges of sustainability and the implications for their own and others' lives.
- to improve as critical and reflective learners aware of the importance of attitudes and values, including their own.
- to become adept in the use and application of skills and new technologies through their geographical studies both in and outside the classroom.
- to be inspired by the world around them, and gain enjoyment and satisfaction from their geographical studies and understand their relevance.

Content

- Tectonic Processes and Hazards
- Coastal Landscapes and Change
- The Water Cycle and Water Insecurity
- The Carbon Cycle and Energy Security

- Globalisation
- Diverse Places
- Superpowers
- Health, Human Rights and Intervention:

Independent investigation:

During the A Level course, students will also investigate a Geographical topic of their choice. They will collect primary and secondary data and analyse it to draw conclusions. This will be written up in the form of a report of 3000-4000 words.

The investigation report is internally assessed and externally moderated.

Field work and research is a vital component of the A Level course and all students are expected to do a minimum of 4 days of field work. Students will be taken on a residential field trip to help support their development of data collection techniques.

Skills

The course requires students to:

- develop knowledge and understanding of selected physical, human and environmental processes that underpin key geographical concepts
- develop a knowledge and understanding of the key concepts of place, space, diversity, interdependence, people–environment interaction, the processes associated with these, and change over time
- study at a range of scales and understand the importance of scale as a geographical idea
- use a range of skills and techniques, including the use of maps and images at different scales necessary for geographical study
- carry out research, and out-of-classroom work including fieldwork, as appropriate to the topics selected
- use modern information technologies, including geographical information systems (GIS), as appropriate to the content
- develop understanding of the application and relevance of geography.

Homework

Students will be set homework every lesson. Homework tasks range from note taking, revision, research, exam practice, essay questions to preparing for a presentation.

Assessment

Students will be assessed on the content from both Year 1 and Year 2 of the course.

Paper 1 (2 hours 15 minutes, 30% of the qualification):

- Section A: Topic 1- Tectonic Processes and Hazards.
- Section B: Topic 2B – Coastal Landscapes and Change.
- Section C: Topic 5- The Water Cycle and Water Insecurity and Topic 6: The Carbon Cycle and Energy Security.

Paper 2 (2 hours 15 minutes, 30% of the qualification):

- Section A: Topics 3 and 7- Globalisation/Superpowers.
- Section B: Topic 4B – Diverse Places.
- Section C: Topic 8A- Health, Human Rights and Intervention

Paper 3 (2 hours 15 minutes, 20% of the qualification). A synoptic paper based on the themes of:

- Players
- Attitudes and actions
- Futures and uncertainties

Independent Investigation (20% of the qualification):

- The student will produce a report of 3000-4000 words
- The investigation report is internally assessed and externally moderated

Throughout the course, students will also be assessed via homework, class work and end of topic tests.

Digital usage in this subject

- In Geography we use Google Classroom.
- We also encourage students to use certain websites for research tasks
- We use programmes for certain tasks – e.g. numbers, google sheets, google forms
- We use add ons for other tasks – e.g. jam board
- On occasion we use iPads/ iPhone cameras for filming
- We also use apps for some tasks e.g. weather apps, decibel meters, etc
- We may encourage students to watch documentaries online too
- We use exam board websites for certain resources – e.g. specification, advice

Typical tasks set

- Research key facts
- Make a presentation or infographic
- Design data collection methods (e.g. bi-polar surveys)
- Display data using digital skills (e.g. numbers, sheets)

Resources and Materials

- Year 12 textbook

Apps and websites habitually used

e.g. <https://www.ine.es>, <https://www.ons.gov.uk/census>, <https://www.gapminder.org>, <https://sdgs.un.org/goals>, <https://www.cia.gov/the-world-factbook>, schoolgeography.com, <https://geographyeducationonline.org>