



Subject : Geography

Awarding body: AQA

Advanced Subsidiary and Advanced GCE courses

Background to the Course:

The course combines a mixture of practical field skills and theoretical knowledge. It is equally balanced between Human and Physical Geography, making the subject an ideal bridge between the sciences and the humanities.

Progression from GCSE will be smooth with the use of short answer questions providing structure and essay writing skills becoming more important at A2.

There will be two residential expeditions at least one of which will be abroad. Data collected on these expeditions will be used to answer exam questions in A/S and to produce a piece of project work for the overall A-Level.

There will be a focus on the use of data and the use of ICT in manipulating and analysing information. Geographical skills such as the use of statistics and graphical techniques are of value in a range of subjects.

Year 12 (ending in A/S Qualification if chosen)	Years 13 - A Level
<p>Component 1: Physical Geography and People and the Environment,</p> <p>1 hour 30 minutes exam,</p> <p>Topics: Water and Carbon Cycle. Hazards</p> <p>Mixture of multiple choice, short answer and longer responses.</p>	<p>Component 1: Physical Geography</p> <p>2 hour 30 minutes exam,</p> <p>Topics: Water and Carbon Cycle (Yr12), Coastal Systems and landscapes, Hazards (Yr12)</p> <p>Multiple choice, short answer and an extended essay</p>
<p>Component 2: Human Geography and Fieldwork Investigation</p> <p>1 hour 30 minutes exam,</p> <p>Topics: Changing Places, Contemporary Urban Environments Geography Fieldwork and Skills,</p> <p>Multiple choice and short answer, some longer responses.</p>	<p>Component 2: Human Geography</p> <p>2 hours and 30 minutes exam,</p> <p>Topics: Global Systems and Governance, Changing Places (Yr12), Urban Environments (Yr 12),</p> <p>Multiple choice, short answer and an extended essay.</p>



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Course Content in Year 12:

Water and the Carbon Cycle: Introduces the idea of Geographical systems such as nutrient cycles and drainage basins.

Hazards: The nature of hazards; focuses on earthquakes, volcanoes and hurricanes.

Contemporary Urban Issues: Focuses on how we can make our cities pleasant and sustainable places to live

Changing Places: Looking at what we mean by 'place' and what makes places unique.

Plus, in Year 13 for A Level only

Global Systems and Governance: A cutting edge unit on the management and impact of globalisation, with a focus on managing our common resources such as in Antarctica.

Coastal Systems and Landscapes: understanding the processes that occur on the coast, the landforms they create and how they can be managed.

Year 13 - Component 3: Geographical Investigation

Coursework based on data collected during fieldwork.

3,000-4,000 word project.

New Linear Format:

The AS and A Level courses have been designed to be co-teachable, so students can decide to study for the full A level over two years, or the AS Level only in Year 12. If students decide to study for the full A Level then they will be awarded both the AS at the end of year 12 and the A Level at the end of year 13.

Entry Requirements:

A Grade 7 in GCSE Geography will be a required. Students should have the ability to work well independently and in groups in the classroom and in the field. Students will not need to have studied particular topics before but they should be familiar with the use of maps and graphical data.

Relevance to further studies and careers:

Geography links well with all humanities and science subjects. It is useful for careers and degrees in civil engineering, urban planning, surveying, economics and environmental science. The wide range of skills learnt, from project management to data interpretation are very relevant to modern employment.

Teaching staff / further information : Mr D Rock