

A-LEVEL / EQUQAS / 2 YEARS

GEOGRAPHY

Geography is a subject for those students with an inquisitive mind, who search for answers in a constantly changing global environment. Geography covers both the physical and human environments and the complex interaction of processes which shape our world. It also develops understanding of how human intervention affects the environment and how people adapt and mitigate the effects of processes on their environment.

COURSE CONTENT

Core A-level Geography content includes two physical and two human themes plus geographical skills. Physical themes are Water/Carbon Cycles and Landscape Systems (coasts) and human themes are Global Systems/Global Governance and Changing Places. Optional themes include Hazards and Weather and Climate. There will be a minimum of four fieldwork days throughout the course. An individual investigation of fieldwork is also conducted.

TEACHING & LEARNING METHODS

Students will be taught by specialised teachers. They will use geographical information, including qualitative/quantitative, primary/secondary, images, factual text, creative material, digital, numerical and spatial data and innovative forms including 'big data'. They will also collect, analyse and interpret information, understand and apply analytical approaches for the different information types, and communicate and evaluate findings, draw conclusions informed by wider theory, and construct extended written argument about geographical matters.

ASSESSMENT

There are three examinations lasting between 1hr45m and 2h15m. One examination will focus on Changing Places and Changing Landscapes, and another on Global Systems, Global Governance and 21st Century Challenges, which draws on knowledge from all units. The third examination assesses Tectonic Hazards and Contemporary Themes in Geography. Examinations will include long and short answer questions. Integral to these will be quantitative and qualitative information, interpretation, and the ability to apply knowledge and understanding in an extended written style. Students will also complete an individual investigation, which must include data collected in the field, and is worth 20% of the A-level.

SUBJECT COMBINATIONS

Geography works well with a range of subjects including: Biology and other Sciences, Mathematics, English subjects, Business, Economics, French, Sociology, Arts and Performing Arts.

CAREERS/HE INFORMATION

Geography is considered a facilitating subject by the 'Russell Group' universities. If you do not know what you want to study at university, then taking subjects such as Geography will keep a wide range of degree courses open to you. Geography teaches some useful life skills. For example, it often requires you to work in groups, strengthening your teamwork skills. It also develops your analytical and mathematical skills, and makes you more knowledgeable about the world around you.