

Geography

Course Introduction

The course has been designed to allow students to further their knowledge and understanding of physical, human and environmental geography as well as studying an integrated specialism. Fieldwork and research skills are a key feature. The subject overview is based on what would be studied across two years.

Minimum Entry Requirement

B grade in GCSE Geography

New AS & A Level Specification (2016-17)

Topic 1: Tectonic Processes and Hazards
Tectonic hazards – earthquakes, volcanic eruptions and secondary hazards such as tsunamis.

Topic 2: Landscape Systems, Processes and Change
Option 2.1: Glaciated Landscapes and Change
Ice sheets and glaciers operate within a landscape system as glacial processes of erosion, transport and deposition combine with meteorological and climatological processes and interact with geological and lithological processes to produce distinctive landscapes.

Option 2.2: Coastal Landscapes and Change
Coastal landscapes develop due to the interaction of winds, waves and currents as well as through the contribution of both terrestrial and offshore sources of sediment.

Topic 3: Globalisation
Globalisation and global interdependence continue to accelerate, resulting in changing opportunities for businesses and people.

Unit/ Paper	AS Level	Assessment Format
Paper 1	50% of the qualification 80 marks	Written examination 1 hour 30 minutes
Paper 2: Dynamic Places	50% of the qualification 80 marks	Written examination 1 hour 30 minutes
Unit/ Paper	A Level	Assessment Format
Paper 1	30% of the qualification 90 marks	Written examination 2 hours
Paper 2	30% of the qualification 90 marks	Written examination 2 hours
Paper 3	20% of the Qualification 60 marks	Written examination 1 hour 45 minutes
Coursework	20% of the Qualification 60 marks	4000 word report

Topic 4: Shaping Places
Local places vary economically and socially with change driven by local, national and global processes.

Topic 5: The Water Cycle and Water Insecurity
The water cycle operates at a variety of spatial scales and also at short and long term timescales, from global to local.

Topic 6: The Carbon Cycle and Energy Security
A balanced carbon cycle is important in maintaining planetary health.

Topic 7: Climate Change Futures
Climate and climate change provide a context for developing an understanding of the links between the water

Topic 8: Superpowers
Superpowers can be developed by a number of characteristics; the pattern of dominance has changed over time.

Topic 9: Global Development and Connections
Option 9.1: Health, Human Rights and Intervention
Traditional definitions of development are based largely on economic measures but have been increasingly challenged with both human health and human rights being seen as significant measures of the progress of a society.
Option 9.2: Migration, Identity and Sovereignty
Globalisation involves movements of capital, goods and people challenging dominant models of economic.

Coursework: Independent Investigation
Students are required to undertake an independent investigation that involves fieldwork and a written report of 3000–4000 words, including own research and secondary data. The student defines a question or issue relating to the compulsory or optional content.