

GEOGRAPHY

Subject Leader:
Miss K. Stephenson

Exam Board:
Edexcel

What are the course requirements?

Although, it's better to have a G.C.S.E. in Geography, it is possible to study AS Geography without it. However, you do need to have a lively and enquiring mind, an interest in the environment and current 'happenings', and a willingness to explore new ideas. Above all you need to be enthusiastic!

Who is this course suitable for?

This course will appeal to students who;

- Have an interest in and concern for the environment.
- Enjoy studying a subject that is relevant to their own lives and experiences.
- Want the opportunity to carry out fieldwork outside of the classroom e.g. in Newcastle and at the Holderness Coast.
- Benefit from a variety of assessment techniques.
- Enjoy the balance between physical, human and environmental interests and key geographical topics.
- Want to broaden their AS or A level studies to cover both sciences and humanities.
- Want to keep their options open; AS or A2 Geography is a good qualification for a wide range of higher education or career choices.

What will I learn on this course?

1. Geographical content

The content has a balance between physical, human and environmental areas and key geographical topics. You will develop an understanding of the changing world and how different people and processes can impact on these changes.

2. Fieldwork and research skills

Fieldwork and research are key features and through these a number of related skills are developed, such as interpreting data, team working, decision making, problem solving and presentation techniques. These will be useful not only in Geography, but across your subjects.

3. How to be an independent learner

You will experience a wide variety of learning experiences. For example, you will be using thinking skills, philosophy, mind mapping and concept mapping. This will help you to become a confident, independent learner!

Why this Geography course?

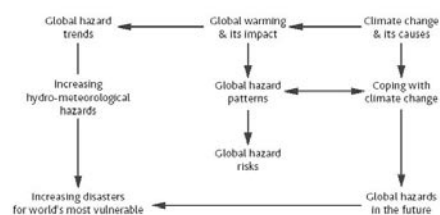
This is a contemporary, relevant Geography course for the 21st Century. It is designed to address key ideas and debates in our world today such as climate change, globalisation, urban regeneration and management of the world's resources. You will explore a range of issues and examine potential solutions to them

AS course content

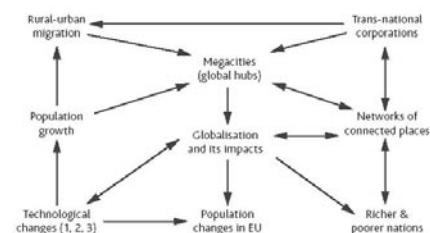
Unit 1 – Global Challenges

Focuses on the meaning, causes, impacts and management of global challenges and how we can influence global challenges through our own lives. There are two compulsory topics; World at risk and Going Global.

World at risk



Going Global



Unit 2 – Geographical Investigations

Is a closer look at how physical and human issues influence lives and can be managed. It focuses on fieldwork and related research.

Physical topics include looking at coastal areas and examining how increasing development is testing our ability to manage these valued environments. For example, should we protect coastal areas or allow them to erode?

Human topics include looking at the causes and consequences of rural and urban disparities and how to manage them. For example, why are some people able to get better health care than others?

AS course content

Unit 1 – 60% - 90 minute exam in two sections

Section A – Data response and short answer questions.

Section B – Choice of Going Global or World at Risk longer/guided essay questions.

Unit 2 – 40% - 60 minute exam in two questions

You answer one physical question from Section A and one human question from Section B. The questions require longer responses, each with three parts, designed to include data response, investigation and evaluation skills and related impacts/management issues.

A2 course content

Unit 3 – Contested Planet

This looks at a range of contemporary issues and their potential solutions. e.g. Energy Security and The Technological Fix.

Assessment – 2½ hour exam.

Unit 4 – Geographical Research

Research skills and fieldwork are key features of this unit. Topics include Cold Environments and Pollution and Human Health at risk.

Assessment – 1½ hour exam.