

Geography A Level

Course Outline:

"Geography is the subject which holds the key to our future" - *Michael Palin*

There has never been a better or more important time to study A level Geography. Dealing with vital issues such as climate change, migration, environmental degradation, social issues and natural hazards, A level Geography is one of the most relevant subjects you could choose to study. Students enjoy the scope of the material they cover in Geography, the insights it can provide into the world around us and the highly contemporary nature of the issues it tackles.

How you will be assessed:

The A level Geography course is split into Human and Physical Geography, with an exam paper which focuses on each of these.

Paper 1 focuses on Physical Geography and looks at a range of topics such as Water and Carbon cycles, which is directly related to the current climate change issues. Hazards is the focus of one section which covers not only volcanoes and earthquakes, but also the increasing intensity of tropical cyclones as the result of climate change, and the increasing intensity of wildfires. The final section focuses on Coastal Systems considering the reasons for coastal flooding and the management techniques used to approach this. Students often find this side of the subject more interesting but challenging.

Paper 2 focuses on Human geography with topics such as Population and the Environment; Global systems and Global Governance; as well as Changing Places. These topics are very good for generating debate and allowing students to apply their knowledge to a worldwide context as well as linking into current affairs.

Students will also carry out an independent investigation (NEA) which must include data collected in the field. This will be based on a question or issue that has been selected and developed by the student and must relate to any topic covered in the specification.

Entry Requirements:

Students need to have a Grade 5 in GCSE Geography to study A level Geography.

Where the Course could take you:

Geography is one of the most current subjects in the academic world, which allows you to develop a wide range of very employable and transferrable skills and attributes. You will learn subject knowledge which is highly relevant to many of the challenges facing society and the environment today. You will also use specialist and transferable skills including statistical, spatial and environmental skills; develop analysis and research skills and tackle problems using data. Geography also complements a range of other subjects such as Biology, Chemistry and Sociology.