



AS/A2 Geography Course Outline

Overview

Students following this subject will be introduced to the main issues and concepts that are relevant to the modern, contemporary world, enabling them to make better informed decisions and be sensitive to a wide range of viewpoints and challenges. The course examines both physical and human geography and how they interconnect. It explores the concepts and processes that help explain geographical phenomena and the diversity of landscapes.

Environmental issues and sustainability is a central theme. Students will be given the opportunity to further develop fieldwork skills and study geographical issues and impacts on a variety of scales from the local to the global. There is natural progression from GCSE to AS and A-level within the course.

Course Structure & Content

Managing the Physical Environment

This unit studies the physical processes that produce the world's diverse landforms and features. Topics include:

- River Environments
- Coastal Environments
- Cold Environments
- Hot Arid/Semi-arid Environments

Managing the Human Environment

This unit studies the factors that produce a diverse variety of human environments. Topics include:

- Managing Urban Change
- Managing Rural Change
- The Energy Issue
- The growth of tourism

Global Issues

This unit studies issues of contemporary global concern. Topics include:

- Earth Hazards
- Ecosystems and Environments under threat
- Climatic Hazards
- Population and Resources
- Globalisation
- Development and Inequalities

Geographical Skills

This unit studies the process of geographical research, including fieldwork. Fieldwork is an integral component within the syllabus. It is assessed through one written report based on a fieldwork question, information collection and an analysis with evaluation.

Assessment

All four units are externally assessed through written examinations.

There are two examination series each year, in January and June.

Entry qualifications

Students should have a GCSE C grade, or higher, in Geography or a similar subject eg History or Leisure and Tourism.

Career Prospects

Everything and anything! Employers like the flexibility and adaptability that Geographers bring. Equipped with ICT, decision making, and critical thinking skills, as well as being able to take an objective view on contemporary issues in the rapidly changing world in which we live.