

SUBJECT:	GEOGRAPHY
Title of GCE:	A Level Geography
Exam Board:	AQA
Syllabus Number:	2030

Course Overview:

The geography A level contains a mix of human and physical geography. Physical geography focuses on the contrasting systems of hot deserts, coasts and glacial landscapes and the types of environments created. This section specifies a systems approach to the study of water and carbon cycles. The content invites students to contemplate the magnitude and significance of the cycles at a variety of scales, their relevance to wider geography and their central importance for human populations. Students will also study hazards within a geographical context including plate tectonics and volcanic eruptions and how humans respond to natural disasters.

Physical geography offers the opportunity to exercise and develop geographical skills including observation, measurement and geospatial mapping skills, together with data manipulation and statistical skills including those associated with and arising from fieldwork

In human geography the focus is on globalisation – the economic, political and social changes associated with technological developments and other driving forces which have been a key feature of global economy and society in recent decades. This includes flows of capital, labour, products, services and information; global marketing; trade agreements; patterns of production, distribution and consumption. It also includes a comparative study of 2 locations in terms of economic development and/or population density and/or cultural background and/or systems of political and economic organisation. Human geography investigates the increased interdependence and transformed relationships between peoples, states and environments and have prompted more or less successful attempts at a global level to manage and govern some aspects of human affairs.

Students contemplate many complex dimensions of contemporary world affairs and their own place in and perspective on them.

A level Assessment:

Paper 1: Physical Geography

(40% of A level)

Paper 2: Human Geography

(40% of A Level))

Coursework/Controlled Assessment:

Geography Fieldwork investigation

(20% of A Level)

Component 3: Geography fieldwork investigation

Students take part in a 5 day residential fieldwork activity which is designed to support the development of investigative skills needed to undertake a piece of extended writing. Students complete an individual investigation which must include data collected in the field. The individual investigation must be based on a question or issue defined and developed by the student relating to any aspect of the course content.

Coursework is a 3,000 to 5,000 word assignment.

Career opportunities:

The subject of geography is useful for students considering careers as Quantity surveyors, architects, web designers or structural engineers.

'A study of geography opens up your way of thinking to understand your position in the physical world' A Level Geography student.

Students who study this subject often complement it with:

Chemistry, Mathematics

Useful revision websites:

Useful web links

<http://www.greenpeace.org/international/>

<http://www.statistics.gov.uk/>

<http://www.foe.org/>

A good site to use if you need a map

<http://www.georesources.co.uk/outlinemaps.htm>

Everything weather-related

<http://www.met-office.gov.uk/>

AS module on rural environments and

GCSE Environmental module

<http://www.countryside.gov.uk/>

For AS Urbanisation module

<http://www.geography.btinternet.co.uk/urbanenvironments.htm>

Useful for local coursework enquiries

<http://www.aylesburyvaledc.gov.uk/avdc/>

Transport issues

http://www.dft.gov.uk/stellent/groups/dft_control/documents/homepage/dft_home_page_hcsp

Development issues (KS3 and A level)

<http://www.usaid.gov/>

For more information or advice contact:

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