

GEOGRAPHY A LEVEL

Awarding body: Eduqas

Length of study: 2 years

Entry requirements: It is beneficial to you if you have achieved the following as you may find the literacy and numeracy challenging:
 Geography (or other humanities subject or English): 5
 Mathematics: 5

Students should have a grade 5 in a Humanities subject or a grade 5 in English and a grade 5 in Maths as two of their 6 GCSE's.

Summary of topic and assessment:

Component:	Year 12	Year 13
1	Changing Landscapes Section A: Changing Landscapes (Coastal) Section B: Fieldwork investigation in Physical Geography Section C: Tectonic Hazards	Changing Landscapes and Changing Places (2hr 15 min written exam, 30% of A Level qualification). Section A: Changing Landscapes (Coastal) Section B: Changing Places
2	Changing Places Section A: Changing Places Section B: Fieldwork investigation in Human Geography	Global Systems and Global Governance (2hr 15 min written exam, 30% of A Level qualification). Section A: Global Systems (Water and Carbon Cycles). Section B: Global Governance: Change and Challenges (Migration issues and Governance of the worlds oceans)
3		Contemporary Themes in Geography (2hr written exam, 20% of A Level qualification). Section A: Tectonic Hazards Section B: Contemporary Themes in Geography (Economic Growth and Challenges in China).
4	Independent Investigation (3000-4000 words, 20% of A Level qualification). One written independent investigation, based on the collection of primary and secondary data/ information.	Independent Investigation (3000-4000 words, 20% of A Level qualification). One written independent investigation, based on the collection of primary and secondary data/ information.

Fieldwork:

It is a compulsory element of the new geography A Level that 4 days of fieldwork are to be conducted. Students will be carrying out all these 4 days in year 12, in order to meet the fieldwork exam requirements as part of their Component 1 and 2 exams. In year 13 students will complete the other two days of fieldwork. Also in year 13, your fieldwork experience can be used to write a 3000-4000 word independent investigation which is submitted to the exam board (worth 20% of your A Level qualification). Students will be carrying out their fieldwork enquiry in a physical and a human environment.

Attributes:

A keen interest in the human and physical environment and an interest in enquiry. You will be required to complete independent work and meet deadlines on a weekly basis. As a geography student you will be involved in discussions and small group work to help you reach conclusions as well as writing essays, producing case studies and reading around the subject. There is a lot of skills work involved at A Level geography including: drawing maps, field sketches, graphs, diagrams and using statistics and to interpret numerical field data that you will be collecting.

What can I do after A Level?

Most students use A Level Geography as one of three or four A Levels required for University entry. The most recent HESA survey (published in the HECSU report What do graduates do?) of university graduates showed the unemployment rates for geographers to be among the lowest recorded, second only to sports science.

Others use the broad qualification in order to seek employment, for example with The Environment Agency, jobs relating to resource management and accountancy. Many students choose Geography or related degrees e.g. Planning and Environmental Management.

This modern syllabus gives you an environmental and global awareness, which is increasingly relevant to many different industries. As a result of this Geography graduates were the most likely to gain employment or enter further study after graduation in 2011. Many Geography graduates follow careers in Law, Accountancy, Administration, Business, Planning, Leisure/ tourism industry, Conservation, the armed forces or Teaching (Geography is a National Curriculum Subject). Geography students are numerate, literate, good team workers, can think analytically and critically and are highly computer literate.

For more information, help or advice about Geography A Level contact:

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