

# AS/A2 Level GEOGRAPHY



## Course Guide

Level 3 Two-year course

2010/11

---

This course will suit students who are interested in all aspects of the physical and human environment. It is not a requirement that you should have studied Geography in order to take an AS Level or A Level course in the subject.

---

It is important that you should have an interest in the environment and current affairs, a willingness to explore new ideas and an ability to communicate your ideas effectively.

Students who have studied GCSE Geography will find that the material and the skills they have learned will prove a valuable foundation for further studies at this level. If you have studied GCSE Geography then a grade C is expected.

### Subject introduction

In Geography we study how humans use, interact, modify and depend upon the earth and its natural environment systems such as the atmosphere, the oceans, rivers, and the landscape. All too often conflicts arise where humans compete for resources, or seek to modify and influence natural processes. The impacts from these may be felt from the local level to the global scale. The course will examine how these issues may be resolved to ensure a sustainable future for the earth, its range of environments and its population.

### Year 1 study outline

#### Unit 1: Global Challenges

In the first topic, 'The World at Risk', the threats from a range of natural hazards are examined, as well as those posed by climate change and global warming. The second topic, 'Going Global', looks at the impact of Globalisation, along with issues such as migration and urbanisation.

#### Unit 2: Geographical Investigations

Here we will look at such topics as crowded coastlines and their management, along with the rebranding of urban and rural areas.

### Year 2 study outline

Again there are two broad units.

#### Unit 3: Contested Planet

This unit examines how groups and countries compete for a variety of resources such as energy,

SEE WHAT'S NEXT

water and biodiversity, resulting in inequalities on their consumption and use.

#### **Unit 4: Research**

This unit involves research into one of a range of optional topics that may include global food supply, pollution and human health, leisure and tourism in rural areas and the causes and impacts of tectonic hazards.

#### **Methods of study**

A variety of study methods will be used by students. These include personal research, contributing to class discussions, role-playing, resource analysis and data collection through fieldwork.

#### **Special features**

Fieldwork is an important part of Geography. Students will be given the opportunity to visit various locations to support work covered in College, both in the local area and further afield on a residential course.

#### **Subject combinations and careers**

Students combine Geography with a wide range of other A Level subjects. Taken with sciences like Mathematics, Physics, Geology and Biology, Geography supports many science-based university courses like environmental science, geology,

oceanography and psychology. With humanities subjects like English, History or Economics, Geography supports an equally wide range of university courses.

You will learn and use a wide variety of transferable skills. These will include collecting, analysing and interpreting data, communicating your findings in different ways and identifying and developing the links between different parts of the subject. These skills are in great demand and are recognised by employers and universities as being of great value.

#### **Success stories**

In recent years, many A Level Geography students have moved onto degree courses in either Geography or related subjects. At present our ex-students are studying at a number of universities including Leeds, Leicester, Portsmouth, Royal Holloway, Plymouth, Reading and Cardiff.

#### **Methods of assessment**

**AS** – 2 exams

**A2** – 2 exams