Edexcel A Level Geography

Why study Geography?

The Edexcel Geography course started in September 2016. The course is designed to allow students to further their knowledge and understanding of physical, human and environmental geography as well as studying an integrated specialism. Fieldwork and research skills are a key feature of the course.

The aim of this course is to allow students to develop and apply their understanding of geographical concepts and processes and to understand and interpret our changing world. Students will develop their awareness of the complexity of interactions within and between societies, economies, cultures and environments at both the local and global scale, and how these vary over time.

What are the entry requirements?

Grade 6 GCSE Geography OR History Grade 6 or 5 GCSE English Language or Literature Grade 6 GCSE Mathematics

What will I study?

Topics include:

- Tectonic Processes and Hazards
- The Water Cycle and Water Insecurity
- The Carbon Cycle and Energy Security
- Coastal Landscapes and Change
- Globalisation
- Superpowers
- Regenerating Places
- Migration, Identity and Sovereignty

Synoptic themes include:

- Players
- Attitudes and Actions
- Futures and Uncertainties

You will enjoy this course if...

You appreciate that Geographers look at issues from a wide perspective and develop a range of skills that are attractive to a very broad range of future employers. The specific technical skills directly relevant to geography-related careers include field work, research and report writing, preparing maps and diagrams, and using social survey, analytical and interpretative methods.

The course attracts students who study a wide spectrum of other subjects, from Maths and Sciences to Humanities and Social Studies and English. It usually encompasses the breadth of interests and backgrounds that this mix suggests, and a curriculum that reflects this range.

How will my work be assessed?

The qualification is linear. Students will sit their exams at the end of their A level course.

Unit 1 – Physical Geography – 2 hour written examination worth 30% of total marks.

Unit 2 – Human Geography – 2 hour written examination worth 30% of total marks.

Unit 3 – Synoptic unit based on a resource booklet focusing on a geographical issue worth 20% of total marks.

Unit 4 – Independent Geographical Investigation – coursework report of 3000 – 4000 words worth 20% of total marks.