



Geography A Level

Awarding Body: Eduqas

Why choose Geography?

Contemporary geography is a subject which explicitly engages with the relationship of human populations to each other over space and time and their relationship with their physical environment at a variety of scales from the local to the global.

Geography is a most versatile subject that combines well with a variety of other subjects and counts as either a science or arts subject for university entrance. It is classified as a facilitating subject, making it a highly valued A Level. The broad nature of the subject will help you develop excellent, transferable skills for a flexible career path and as such those with Geography qualifications are in great demand by employers. A Level Geography has been the fastest growing of all the major subjects, with 30,650 sitting the qualification in 2018, the second highest number for 18 years.

A Level Examinations

Component 1 (30% of qualification)

Changing Landscapes and Changing Places

Section A: Coastal Landscapes

Section B: Changing Places

(2 hours 15 minutes: Two compulsory structured questions and data response)

Component 2 (30% of qualification)

Global Systems and Global Governance

Section A: Global Systems

Section B: Global Governance: Change and Challenges

(2 hours 15 minutes: Four structured skills and data response)

Component 3 (20% of qualification)

Contemporary Themes in Geography

Section A: Tectonic Hazards

Section B: Development in an African Context and Weather and Climate

(2 hours: One compulsory extended response question and two essays)

Component Four (20% of qualification)

Independent Investigation

(3000-4000 word independent investigation, based on the collection of both primary data and secondary information. Four days of fieldwork must be offered by the school to each candidate)

The new linear qualification was available for first teaching in September 2016 and was first examined in Summer 2018.

During A Level study there has traditionally been a mandatory week-long residential field trip to a Field Study Centre which forms vital preparation for Component 4. The centre runs tailor-made courses for schools specific to their own examination requirements.

Costs are difficult to estimate a year ahead but will be about £350.

So, Why choose Geography? ...*because it is dynamic, and relevant to YOU.*

Geography is a subject for our times. It is inherently multidisciplinary in a world that increasingly values people who have the skills needed to work across the physical and social sciences. Geographers get to learn data analysis, and to read Robert Macfarlane. They learn geographic information systems. They can turn maps from a two-dimensional representation of a country's physical contours into a tool that illustrates social attributes or attitudes: not just where people live, but how, what they think and how they vote. They learn about the physics of climate change, or the interaction of weather events and flood risk, or the way people's behaviour is influenced by the space around them.

All these are not just intrinsically interesting and valuable. They also encourage ways of seeing and thinking that make geographers eminently employable, which is why, according to the latest information from the Higher Education Careers Services Unit, only 4.8% of geography graduates were still job-hunting six months after they graduated, below the average unemployment rate for all subjects and one of the lowest of any single honours degree subjects.