

GEOGRAPHY

Exam board: Edexcel

Assessment methods: 80% exams 20% coursework

Length of exams: 3 x 2 hrs 15 minutes.

Breakdown of units

An issues-based approach to studying geography, enabling students to explore and evaluate contemporary geographical questions and issues such as the consequences of globalisation, responses to hazards, water insecurity and climate change.

Topic 1: Tectonic Processes and Hazards

Topic 2B: Coastal Landscapes and Change

Topic 3: Globalisation

Topic 4A: Regenerating Places

Topic 5: The Water Cycle and Water Insecurity

Topic 6: The Carbon Cycle and Energy Security.

Topic 7: Superpowers

Topic 8: 8A Health, Human Rights and Intervention or 8B Migration, Identity and Sovereignty

Students will also complete an independent coursework investigation focused around a specific geographical issue. This will enable them to plan and carry out fieldwork and data collection and present, analyse and evaluate data to reach their own valid and supported conclusions. This coursework will be internally assessed and will constitute 20% of the overall qualification.

The specification content gives students the opportunity to develop an in-depth understanding of physical and human geography, the complexity of people and environment questions and issues, and to become critical and reflective learners.

Students gain understanding of specialised concepts relevant to the core and non-core content. These include the concepts of causality, systems, equilibrium, feedback, inequality, representation, identity, globalisation, interdependence, mitigation and adaptation, sustainability, risk, resilience and thresholds.

Students will also become confident and competent in selecting, using and evaluating a range of quantitative and qualitative skills and approaches, including observing, collecting and analysing (using mathematics and statistics) a range of data.

Overlap with other subjects

The course includes some use of statistical analysis and students who also do Statistics or Maths find such aspects enjoyable. The essay writing element to the A-level also means that a number of skills can be successfully transferred to other subjects within the field of the humanities.

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