

Geography

AS/A Level

Edexcel

Structure & Specification

Year 1: AS 8GEO1

Year 2: A2 9GEO1

Syllabus details

Edexcel: GCE Geography syllabus is followed.

What does the course include?

Year One- AS

Unit One: *Changing landforms and the management of global challenges.* In this unit you will examine the physical processes that control hydrological and coastal environments. The impact and limitations on human activity will then be explored in a decision-making context. This unit also deals with the complex issues raised by living in the 'built environment' concentrating in particular on issues related to transport, housing and employment.

Unit Two: *Geographical Investigation.* This unit will provide you with an opportunity to undertake personal investigative fieldwork and gain an understanding of appropriate methodologies for primary and secondary research and of the potential limitations of geographical data. This unit will be supported with a residential field trip. The research will be linked to the topics of urban regeneration and coastal management.

Year Two- A2

Unit Three: *Contested Planet.* This unit will identify a range of international issues, such as climatic change, deforestation and desertification. A systems approach based on cause and consequence will be followed. In particular the concepts of population change and resource consumption will be explored using both a theoretical and case study based approach. The unit will explore the prospects of a sustainable future.

Unit Four GGE04: *Geographical Research.* In this unit you will develop the ability to study with some degree of flexibility, accessing a wide range of secondary sources. The core of the topic is examining the problems of living in hazardous environments.

How will I learn?

Due to the nature of the course and the wide range of issues covered, you will learn through a wide variety of activities.

Essentially you must be willing to read widely around the various topics and be prepared to express and develop your views in lessons. To succeed in Geography the key is interest and a desire to find out more; reading, debating, researching and role playing are central to this

How will my work be assessed?

AS: Unit 1 - 1 hour 30 minute examination, accounting for 60% of the AS and 30% of the A2. Unit 2 - 1 hour examination, accounting for 40% of the AS and 20% of the A2.

A2: Unit 3 - 2 hour 30 minute examination, accounting for 60% of the AS and 30% of the A2. Unit 4 - 1 hour 30 minute examination, accounting for 40% of the AS and 20% of the A2

What skills will I need to be successful in this subject?

Geography is a subject that raises issues and questions decisions makers and their impacts. You must have an interest in global issues that are all around us and want to 'know why'. Developing clear objective ideas and being able to express these in a clear written form will ensure success.

What are the entry requirements?

English Language at Grade C.

What are the opportunities after this course for further/higher education and employment?

AS/A Level Geography can lead to a general or specific degree within Geography, depending on the level of specialisation required. It is also a useful base for study within social sciences and environmental sciences. The skills developed are highly valued by a range of employers and therefore applicable within most career settings.