

GEOGRAPHY

Subject title	Geography
Exam board	AQA
Specification number	7037
Time allowance each week	4.5 hours (Y12)/5 hours (Y13)

Types of assessment

Unit 1: Physical Geography :40% of A-Level, assessed by a 2.30 hour examination.

Unit 2: Human Geography : 40% of A-Level assessed by a 2.30 hour examination

Non- Examined Assessment : 20% of A- Level

Topics covered during the course

Water and the carbon cycles (Year 12): This section of our specification focuses on the major stores of water and carbon at or near the Earth's surface and the dynamic cyclical relationships associated with them. These are major elements in the natural environment and understanding them is fundamental to many aspects of physical geography. The content invites students to contemplate the magnitude and significance of the cycles at a variety of scales, their relevance to wider geography and their central importance for human populations.

Changing urban environments (Year 12):

This optional section of our specification focuses on urban growth and change which are seemingly ubiquitous processes and present significant environmental and social challenges for human populations. The section examines these processes and challenges and the issues associated with them, the potential for environmental sustainability and social cohesion.

Coastal systems and landscapes (Year 12):

This section of our specification focuses on coastal zones, which are dynamic environments in which landscapes develop by the interaction of winds, waves, currents, terrestrial and marine sediments. Student engagement with subject content fosters an informed appreciation of the beauty and diversity of coasts and their importance as natural habitats.

Changing places (Year 12):

This section of our specification focuses on people's engagement with places, their experience of them and the qualities they ascribe to them, all of which are of fundamental importance in their lives. Students acknowledge this importance and engage with how places are known and experienced, how their character is appreciated, the factors and processes which impact upon places and how they change and develop over time.

Hazards (Year 13):

This optional section of our specification focuses on the lithosphere and the atmosphere, which intermittently but regularly present natural hazards to human populations, often in dramatic and sometimes catastrophic fashion. By exploring the origin and nature of these hazards and the various ways in which people respond to them, students can engage with many dimensions of the relationships between people and the environments they occupy.

Global systems and global governance (Year 13):

This section of our specification focuses on globalisation – the economic, political, and social changes associated with technological and other driving forces which have been a key feature of global economy and society in recent decades. Increased interdependence and transformed relationships between peoples, states and environments have prompted more or less successful attempts at a global level to manage and govern some aspects of human affairs.

Non- Examined Assessment (Year 12 and 13):

Students are required to undertake an independent investigation. The fieldwork undertaken as part of the individual investigation may be based on either human or physical aspects of geography, or a combination of both. Students work on their own on contextualising, analysing, and reporting of their work to produce an independent investigation with an individual title that demonstrates required fieldwork knowledge, skills and understanding.

Fieldwork

Fieldwork is an essential component of A Level Geography. Field visits are arranged at present to Westonbirt arboretum and St Pauls as day visits. We visit Swanage and the Dorset coastline for a 3 day residential in the spring of year 12.

Skills developed during the course

Undertaking research and analysis
Investigating global issues
Teamwork on practical projects
Interpreting natural phenomena
Developing map, statistical and writing skills

Independent study

Students complete tasks in their independent study booklet each week for each topic: human and physical each week. Students read up weekly on Geography in the news articles and these are discussed in lessons. Homework is completed alongside these.

Additional support for the course

Geography department PowerPoints on teams and class charts. Revision guides and textbooks will also be available to purchase during term 1 of year 12.