



Post 16 Prospectus: GEOGRAPHY

Advanced Subsidiary (AS) & Advanced Level (A-Level)

Examining Board: AQA

AIM

The aims of the chosen syllabus are for students to acquire knowledge and understanding of physical and human processes and their interactions through the study of places and environments. The specification also demands that students should acquire and apply skills necessary for the pursuit of Geography. In addition it is hoped that the dynamic nature of Geography and the relationship between different aspects of the subject will be appreciated. Hopefully students will be able to clarify and develop their own values and attitudes in relation to issues studied and acquire a deeper understanding of the relationships between people and their environment.

COURSE CONTENT

AS Level (Stand-alone AS Exam)		Advanced Level (Decoupled Exam)	
1	Coastal Systems & Landscapes		As per AS plus
2	Contemporary Urban Environments	1	Water & Carbon Cycles
3	Changing Places	2	Global Systems & Global Governance
4	Geographical Fieldwork and Skills	3	Hazards
		4	Geographical Investigation
AS ASSESSMENT		A2 ASSESSMENT	
Component 1: Coastal Systems and Contemporary Urban Environments 1hr 30mins, 80 marks, 50% of AS		Component 1: Water & Carbon Cycles, Coastal Systems and Hazards 2hr 30 mins, 120 marks, 40% of A-Level	
Component 2: Changing Places and Geographical Fieldwork & Skills 1hr 30mins, 80 marks, 50% of AS		Component 2: Changing Places, Global Systems & Governance and Contemporary Urban Environments 2hr 30 mins, 120 marks, 40% of A-Level	
For both AS and A2; Questions are a mixture of multiple choice, short answer and long answer (max 20 marks)		Component 3: Geographical Investigation (approx. 4,000 word investigation based on fieldwork) 60 marks, 20% of A-Level	

SUBJECT ENRICHMENT

There is a minimum requirement of 2 days of fieldwork at both AS and A-Level which will take place in the UK covering both human and physical geography. Residential field courses will be available during the course. This field experience is intended to provide an introduction to practical work which is required for the completion of some papers; regrettably, however, the school does not receive funding to support this type of activity.

Whenever possible there are also visits of external speakers, such as Vanessa O'Brien, who is the fastest woman ever to climb the Seven Summits or opportunities to attend external lectures e.g. The 'Green' lecture at the School of Earth Sciences at the University of Leeds, which most recently was titled 'What's under a volcano...and how do we know?'



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SUBJECT SPECIFIC ENTRY REQUIREMENTS

General entry requirement for Post-16: 5 grade 4s at GCSE, preferably including English and Maths. Specific entry requirements: Grade 4 in Geography and Maths.

A STUDENT PERSPECTIVE

“I chose A-level Geography at Ilkley Grammar School because of its superb teaching, engaging course content and the wide-ranging opportunity it offers students to apply geographical knowledge to the real world”

“Geography isn’t about colouring in! It answers many interesting questions about the world around us; both physical and human and it is an enjoyable and varied subject. There are opportunities to visit fascinating places such as Iceland where we saw many amazing sights, found out many amazing facts and generally had a great time”

WHERE NEXT?

In the longer term, studying Geography opens up a wide range of careers. Geography is a broad based academic subject which is well respected by employers. Geography students and graduates have one of the highest rates of graduate employment.

Geographers enter a very wide range of career areas and put simply there is no such thing as a geography job, there are jobs that geographers do. Studying Geography provides you with valuable skills and a firm base for life-long learning.

Careers in Geography can include jobs in a variety of sectors;

- **Travel, leisure and culture** – for example Travel agent or TV researcher.
- **Environment and sustainability** – for example Environmental engineer or Landscape architecture.
- **The business world** – for example Transport/logistics manager or Management consultant.
- **Development and global issues** – for example Aid worker or Diplomat.
- **Settlement** – for example urban regeneration officer or Town planner.
- **Society** – for example Teacher or Market research analyst.
- **Physical systems** – for example Hazard prediction and management, Meteorologists or Flood protection manager.
- **Geographical techniques** – for example work with Geographical Information Systems (GIS) or Surveyor.

SUCCESS STORIES

In recent year students have been very successful in their final examination, achieving pleasing grades. This has allowed students to continue their studies to a higher level. Students have gone on to study a wide range of subjects at university. Some of the courses include; Geography (several variations), International Politics, Policy Studies and Business, Biomedical Sciences, Equine Sports Science, Criminology, Business Management, Film and Media, Spanish Studies and Geography, Outdoor Leadership, Environmental Science, Economics and Politics.