

# Geography

## A Level

AQA Advanced Subsidiary (AS) | Advanced Level (AS)  
Head of Humanities – Lee Goredema

You should do this course if.....

you are looking for a varied and interesting subject

if you are interested in people and their influence and impact on the environment

if you want to study an enjoyable, informative subject in a friendly atmosphere

if you want to gain many useful skills for a variety of situations

if you have done a GCSE course in Geography it builds upon your knowledge and skills

if you have not taken Geography at GCSE level it is equally as accessible

Skills you will develop on this course

The geographical knowledge base gives you a sound understanding of key geographical concepts and allows you to make well structured, coherent arguments. Clarity of oral and written expression  
Critical analytical and evaluative skills  
Fieldwork techniques to collect and use primary data  
Research skills using a range of secondary source material including newspapers, magazines, specialist publications, DVD's, books and the Internet  
Presentation skills

Topics studied

### UNIT 1 - (AS)

#### Physical and Human Geography

##### i Rivers, Floods and Management

This will include the causes and impacts of flooding and flood management strategies.

**Important:** Participation in the fieldwork is essential.

##### ii Coastal Environments

This will include coastal processes and case studies investigating coastal flooding and protection schemes.

##### iii Population Change

This will include the social, economic and political implications of population change and investigations into the characteristics of different urban areas

##### iv Health Issues

This will include the study of one infectious disease and investigate global distribution and impacts on health, economic development and lifestyle.

### UNIT 2 - (AS)

#### Geographical Skills

There are compulsory fieldwork questions in this paper plus questions assessing other skills learnt during the course.

### UNIT 3 – (A2)

Plate tectonics and associated hazards

Ecosystems: changes and challenges

World cities

Development and globalisation

### UNIT 4 – (A2)

- A fieldwork exam paper.
- A synoptic exam paper.

# Geography A Level

## How will you learn?

Highlighting handouts; taking notes from presentations, textbooks, DVDs; dictation; group research and presentations; using past A level stimulus-response and essay questions; library and Internet research; discussion; reading newspapers; exercises and questions in the form of an assignment brief set by your teacher; re-reading notes taken in class and fieldwork investigations.

You should read a newspaper and listen to the news every day. The BBC website is an excellent source. This will ensure you pick up and follow current geographical events such as a tornado in Eastbourne, a census in Brazil or a flood in Australia.

There is a compulsory residential field course. Fieldwork is assessed in all the exam papers

## Where does the course lead?

The skills developed through the collection and interpretation of primary and secondary data, team working, independent learning and IT are valuable in careers such as management, finance, insurance and business. For geography graduates surveying; town planning; environmental work; landscape architecture, international trade and marketing are popular careers.

## Assessment and Exams

### Unit 1

Written exam: 2 hours.

The exam is in two sections. Students are required to answer a compulsory question and a question from a selection in each section. There is a mix of data response and extended answer questions.

### Unit 2

AS Written exam: 1 hour

All questions have to be answered. **50% of questions will relate to fieldwork undertaken.**

### Unit 3

A2 Written exam: 2 hour 30 minutes

There are three sections in the paper.

Students are required to answer one question from each section. These are essay based questions.

### Unit 4

**4A** 1 hour 30 minute examination based on students fieldwork.

**4B** 1 hour 30 minute examination based on an advance information booklet.

## Entry Requirements

5C's at GCSE. Grade C or above in English Language and Maths and also in Geography if taken.

If you did not study Geography at GCSE level you must have 5 GCSE subjects to include both English Language and Maths at grade C or above.