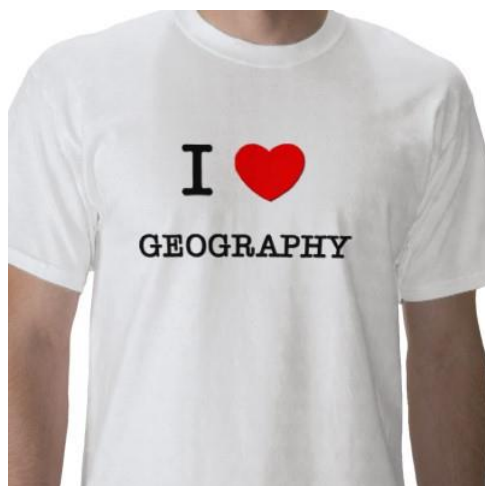


A Level Geography Handbook 2025



Why choose to study Geography?

Geography is arguably the most dynamic subject going. If you feel strongly about being a global citizen and want to explore your own place in the world, your values and responsibilities to other people, to the environment and to the sustainability of the planet then this A Level course will be rewarding for you. You might see yourself as an environmental consultant, working for the Armed Forces, the police, a surveyor, a hydrologist or GIS specialist for example. Alternatively, you might want to choose Geography because it is a fascinating course which will help you develop transferable skills such as analysis and problem solving.

Whatever your vision, an A Level in Geography is a valuable first step in achieving your ambition. It is also seen, favourably, by the Russell Group of Universities (Oxford, Cambridge etc) as a facilitating subject - this means that students who succeed in Geography have a very sound set of transferable skills that can be converted to virtually any type of degree

Entry Requirements

- Ideally you will have a grade 6 in Geography. A grade 6 in English is the absolute minimum requirement.
- All students will be given a set of 'Summer Tasks' and then a 'Suitability' Test at the end of September to ensure that they are progressing and achieving the standards expected at A level. Failing either the summer tasks or the suitability test could prevent you from continuing the course. Students who have not studied Geography (or an Environmental related subject) at GCSE must pass the 'Suitability' Test.

What will you study in Year 12? How & when will you be examined?

Unit 1	Topics Physical Geography • Water and Carbon Cycles • Coastal Systems and landscapes • Hazards	Assessment 2 ½ Hour Exam 120 Marks 40% of A-Level
Unit 2	<u>Topics Include</u> Human Geography • Global systems and global governance • Changing Places • Population and the environment	<u>Assessment</u> 2 ½ Hour Exam 120 Marks 40% of A-Level
Unit 3	<u>Geographical Fieldwork Investigation</u> 3,000- 4,000 words You will complete a geographical investigation, collecting the data yourself and presenting it as a complete investigation.	Marked by teachers 60 Marks 20% of A-Level

Useful Resources

You will be using 2 Core text books to support you through your AS Geography Course:-

- A-Level and AS AQA Physical Geography- Ross, Bayliss, Collins
- A-Level and AS AQA Human Geography- Ross, Griffiths, Baylis

Unfortunately, students cannot rely on just using these text books as examiners expect to see a broad range of knowledge, from a range of texts & up to date case examples. Geography is changing all of the time and examiners expect you to show knowledge of this.

Essential websites to use:-

<u>Website</u>	<u>Website Address</u>
Get revising website	http://getrevising.co.uk/resources/areas/geography
OCR exam board	www.ocr.org.uk
BBC learning zone - useful video clips	www.bbc.co.uk/apps/ift/learningzone/clips/
Geography in the news	www.geographyinthenews.rgs.org
Guardian newspaper	www.guardian.co.uk
Geographical Association	www.geography.org.uk

Other Resources - Newspapers & Journals

All geography students should be reading quality local and national newspapers on a weekly basis to gain up to date knowledge. These can be viewed via the internet. Also listed below are some useful links to journals that will support your study.

<u>Title</u>	<u>Publisher</u>	<u>Address</u>
Geography Review	Philip Allan Updates	Market Place, Deddington, Oxfordshire, OX15 0SE www.philipallan.co.uk
National Geographic	National Geographic	National Geographic UK Store Lower Guildford Rd Knaphill GU21 2EP contact@shopnatgeo.co.uk

Enrichment Opportunities & Study Trip

- Geography naturally lends itself to enrichment opportunities and fieldwork which will enhance your knowledge of the Content Studied in A-Level Geography and helps bring your learning to life.
- There will also be other one-day fieldwork trips to enhance your knowledge and understanding of key topics.

Equipment Required for the Course

Organisation is central to success. Please ensure to bring the following equipment to your first lesson.

- Double Arched lever file- essential
- A4 dividers- essential
- Pencils and Pens
- Highlighters
- Sticky Notes
- Note Pad for a Glossary / Key terms
- Plastic Wallets
- Revision Cards

Combine this course with

The Russell Group of universities states that 'Geography' is a subject with which almost any combination of A level subjects are appropriate. A Level geography is a highly valued and regarded A level subject. Geography is unique in that it can be combined with any other A level subject for example, you will combine Geography with one essay-based subject (English, History, and Modern Languages) and one logic based subject (Maths, Science, Economics, ICT).

A Good Course if you want to

Armed Forces, the Civil Service, Environmental, Business and Management areas, Travel Industry.

Tasks to complete during the summer and to prepare you for the start of the A-Level Geography course.

Skills required

Collection and presentation of primary data (fieldwork)

Research skills

Use of ICT to present findings

Communication of research to group

TASK 1 Natural Hazards

1. Research the two recent earthquakes with contrasting impacts.
2. Produce a PPT presentation to show to the group. It should include

Locational map

Pictures and text to describe the human, environmental and economic impacts of the disaster (including primary and secondary).

Methods of predicting earthquakes.

TASK 2 Environmental Issues

1. Collect and present an article or report that relates to each of the following topics:

Sustainability in urban areas in the UK

Pressures on Water consumption

Development of coastal areas in the UK

Pressures faced by urban areas (social or environmental)