



GEOGRAPHY

Exam Board: Welsh Joint Education Committee (WJEC)

Staff: Neil Davies

Summary: A modular two-year course with 2 units examined at the end of Year 12 and 2 units examined at the end of Year 13. Students will also complete a coursework project as part of their Year 13 studies.

What do I need to know or be able to do before taking Geography?

You are not required to have studied Geography previously, but students are expected to have at least a B grade (or equivalent) in GCSE Mathematics and a B grade (or equivalent) in GCSE English Language.

What will I learn?

The WJEC AS and A Level in Geography encourages learners to:

- Study many issues, which are of contemporary, national and global importance
- Extend and develop their knowledge of a range of physical and human environments, at a variety of scales and levels of development
- Examine a range of engaging and diverse topics, such as plate tectonics, ocean systems, population and settlement change, contemporary geographical themes, research techniques and sustainable development
- Develop a wide range of transferable key skills. These include; Application of Number, Information Technology, Communication, Problem Solving, Working with Others and Improving Own Learning and Performance
- Appreciate different viewpoints and formulate reasoned opinions

Main themes will include:

- Coastal Landscapes
- Tectonic Hazards
- Population and Settlement
- Fieldwork skills (Students will participate in a residential fieldtrip)
- Water and Carbon Cycles
- Migration
- Globalisation
- Governance of Oceans
- 21st Century Challenges
- Ecosystems
- Economic Growth and Challenge



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Specification Content

The subject content for AS Geography will be assessed across two examination papers:

Unit 1: Changing Landscapes

Written examination: 2 hours

24% of A Level qualification

Section A = Coastal Landscapes Section B = Tectonic Hazards

Unit 2: Changing Places

Written examination: 1 hour 30 minutes

16% of A Level qualification

Section A = Population and Settlement Section B = Fieldwork Investigation

The subject content for A Level Geography will be assessed across two examination papers and a coursework assignment:

Unit 3: Global Systems and Global Governance

Written examination: 2 hours

24% of A Level qualification

Section A = Global Systems (Water and Carbon Cycles) Section B = Global Governance (Migration, Globalisation and Governance of Oceans) Section C = 21st Century Challenges

Unit 4: Contemporary Themes in Geography

Written examination: 2 hours

16% of A Level qualification

Section A = Tectonic hazards Section B = Four optional themes: TWO must be studied: Ecosystems, Economic Growth and Challenge: India or China or Sub-Saharan Africa, Energy Challenges and Dilemmas, Weather and Climate

Unit 5: Independent Investigation

Non-examination assessment - 3000 to 4000 words

One investigation based on fieldwork and secondary data

20% of A Level qualification

Geography leads to an excellent range of careers from planning sustainable cities to medicine. Students will develop a range of transferable skills (decision making, problem solving, critical thinking, working with others, handling data and report writing), which allow them to explore a wide range of employment opportunities.