

## What is Geography?

Geography is the study of the physical features of the earth and its atmosphere, and of human activity as it affects and is affected by these, including the distribution of populations and resources and political and economic activities.

## Why students choose this course

There has never been a better or more important time to study A level Geography.

Dealing with vital issues such as climate change, migration, environmental degradation, social issues and natural hazards, A level Geography is one of the most relevant subjects for students to study.

Students enjoy the scope of the material they cover in geography, the insights it can provide into the world around us and the highly contemporary nature of the issues it tackles.

## What the course covers

### Year 1

#### Physical Topics:

- Tectonic Processes and Hazards - This includes learning about the distribution and causes of tectonic hazards, and how people predict, and manage disasters.
- Landscape Systems, Processes and Change – You will study the processes that create a landscape, and how it may be managed.

#### Human topics:

- Globalisation - The causes and consequences of globalisation are investigated, including its impact on culture and development.
- Shaping Places - You will examine how and why places vary and how they can be managed or regenerated are discussed.

### Year Two

#### Physical Topics

- The Water Cycle and Water Insecurity – Water insecurity is becoming a global issue with serious consequences and there is a range of different approaches to managing water supply.
- The Carbon Cycle and Energy Insecurity – Questions about where energy and water comes from, sustainable use, inequality and how management is tackled.

#### Human topics:

- Superpowers – This involves the study of some of the world's most influential countries and a look at how these have changed over time, and the role they play today.
- Global Development and Connections – You will study current issues linked to human rights, migration and national identity are covered in the Development topic.

Further information can be found on the examination board's website: [www.qualifications.pearson.com](http://www.qualifications.pearson.com)

## What students can do with this course

Geography is concerned with the real world, past, present and future, and is viewed by the top universities in the country as one of the eight facilitating subjects, i.e. it opens a much wider range of options at university and beyond.

When taken with Sciences and Mathematics, Geography supports applications for almost any science-based university course like Engineering, Psychology, Environmental Sciences, Oceanography and Geology. Taken with Humanities, Geography supports an equally wide range of university courses such as Law, Business, Media, Politics and Philosophy.

## How this course is assessed

**Paper 1** - 30% of A Level – 2h 15mins

**Paper 2** - 30% of A Level – 2h 15mins

**Paper 3** - 20% of A Level – 2h 15mins

**Coursework:** 20% of A Level. Students will be given guidance in selecting an individual, unique question that relates to an area of the course outlined above.

They will then carry out a geographical investigation, which includes fieldwork, to help answer that question.

Students must carry out a minimum of four days of fieldwork over the two years.

## Entry requirements

All our course entry requirements are detailed in the Entry Requirements document located in the admissions section of our website.

## Further Reading

### Books

Prisoners of Geography (Tim Marshall)

What Does China Think? (Mark Leonard)

Why Nations Fail (Daron Acemoglu and James Robinson)

No One Is Too Small to Make a Difference (Greta Thunberg)

The Bottom Billion (Paul Collier)

Ghosts of the Tsunami (Richard Lloyd Parry)

### Websites

<https://www.geography.org.uk/Student-guidance>

<https://geographyrevisionalevel.weebly.com/>

## Student Profile:



Before Sixth Form, Elliott was a student at Dixons City Academy. At Dixons Sixth he studied A levels in Geography, Physics, Maths.

“ I chose A level Geography because it opens up a wide range of careers and helps to have a greater understanding of how our world works and the impact global populations are having. I really like the way that so much of what is happening in the news is relevant to the subject making my studies feel more real. ”