



GCSE Geography: Carve your own pathway

Student guide

For more information visit:
aqa.org.uk/geographygcse

Why choose geography?

Studying geography gives you the opportunity to travel the world via the classroom, learning about both the physical and human environment. You'll understand how geography impacts your life every day and discover the key opportunities and challenges facing the world.

What will I study?

Over the two year GCSE course you will cover lots of interesting topics.

Living with the physical environment

Discover more about the challenge of natural hazards and the living world, physical landscapes of the United Kingdom and human interaction with them. This unit develops an understanding of the tectonic, geomorphological, biological and meteorological processes and features in different environments. It provides you with the knowledge about the need for management strategies governed by sustainability and consideration of the direct and indirect effects of human interaction with the Earth and the atmosphere.

Challenges in the human environment

This unit is concerned with human processes, systems and outcomes and how these change both spatially and temporally. You will develop an understanding of the factors that produce a diverse variety of human environments; the dynamic nature of these environments that change over time and place; the need for sustainable management; and the areas of current and future challenge and opportunity for these environments.

How will I be assessed?

You'll have three written exams. Papers 1 and 2 are 1 hour 30 minutes long and together, they contribute to 70 % of your final mark. Paper 3 is 1 hour 15 minutes and contributes to the final 30 % of your GCSE grade.

Where will GCSE Geography take you?

Choose GCSE Geography and you'll learn how today's world was shaped and understand the challenges we face in the future. You'll also examine the Earth's natural resources and the increasing battles between the man-made and natural world.

This knowledge, paired with your essential curiosity, will give you the sought-after transferable skills for success in further education and the workplace.



Which path will you take?

- Travel writer
- Expedition leader
- Cultural arts officer
- Aid worker
- Diplomat
- Lawyer
- Retail management
- Coastal engineer
- Teacher
- Military GIS specialist
- Aerial surveyor
- Pollution analyst
- Conservation officer



What skills will I learn?

Alongside the subject content, you'll also learn:

- how to recognise the different sides in debates and make decisions based on sound argument
- how to undertake a fieldwork enquiry developing transferable skills in research, data collection, analysis and evaluation
- written/verbal communication skills, including report writing and data presentation
- the highly regarded skills of being able to work independently and within a team, considering different ideas and coming to an agreed consensus
- how to develop and use a wide range of maps from atlas to Ordnance Survey to maps in association with photographs
- numerical and statistical skills.

How will GCSE Geography fit in with my other subjects?

Geography complements all subjects. According to bestcourse4me.com, the top GCSE courses taken alongside geography are:

- economics
- history
- psychology
- biology
- languages
- English.

Can't wait to get started?

Your teachers are the best people to help you decide whether this course is the right choice for you. They'll be as passionate as you to find the best subjects to develop your talents.

For more information visit
aqa.org.uk/geographygcse