St Benedict's Sixth Form

A Level Geography

Course Description

Geography at A-level is recommended for anyone who has an interest in the natural and human processes that are responsible for the world around us. It provides an academically rigorous approach to linking the sciences (rivers, geology, ecosystems) with the arts (sociology, politics, current affairs). Students will gain an understanding of the causes and responses to the UK's and the world's major issues (climate change, flooding, population control and energy policy). In Physical Geography, students will study the contrasting role of different environments and earth's hazards, whilst in Human Geography, students will study population and the environment; global systems and governance; and also the role/changing nature of place.

Skills Attained

Students will learn a range of quantitative and qualitative skills within different themes. These include observation skills, measurement and geospatial mapping skills data manipulation and statistical skills applied to field measurements. Their individual coursework will teach them to define and develop a question or issue drawing on research, including field data and secondary data. They will be contextualising, analysing and summarising findings as well as presenting data and drawing conclusions.

Assessment

Physical Geography:
• Written exam: 2 hours 30 minutes, 120 marks, 40% of A-level
Human Geography:
• Written exam: 2 hours 30 minutes, 120 marks, 40% of A-level
Fieldwork:
• 3000 – 4000 words, teacher assessed, 60 marks, 20% of A-level



Progression

Geography combines well with almost any other set of A-Levels. Geography is a facilitating subject when applying to Russell Group universities. Geographers enter a very wide range of career paths. The direction your career takes will depend on your interest in physical or human geography. Geographers are employed in a range of sectors, including the public sector, education, commerce, industry, transport and tourism. Geographers have excellent transferable skills, which also attract employers from the business, law and finance sectors.

Employers include:
• Armed forces
• Charities
• The Civil Service
• Environmental consultancies
• Information systems
• Local government
• Ministry of Defence
• Police service
• Private companies; utility companies

Entry Requirements

Grade 5 in GCSE Geography
Grade 4 in GCSE Maths

Exam Board: AQA

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