



GEOGRAPHY

The Department now follows the new EdExcel syllabus from September 2016 for first examination at AS in 2017 and at A2 in 2018. Normally students will be taught by two members of staff.

CURRICULUM:

In **Year 12** (AS) students follow courses in:-

G1 Dynamic Landscapes - Tectonic Processes and Hazards

- Coastal Landscapes and Change

G2 Dynamic Places - Globalisation

- Regenerating Places

*There is **no** coursework, although students are required to complete 2 days of fieldwork, outside of the school environment, in order to obtain this qualification. There will be questions in the Year 12 exams which will be based on this fieldwork.*

In **Year 13** (A2) students build on what they learnt as part of the AS qualification (although, no marks can be carried from Year 12 to Year 13) and follow courses in:-

G1 Dynamic Landscapes - The Water Cycle and Water Insecurity

- The Carbon Cycle and Energy Security

G2 Dynamic Places - Superpowers

- Global Development and Connections

G3 Synoptic Paper- The specification contains three synoptic themes which appear across the G1 and G2 topics. This exam assesses the ability of students to answer questions that relate to these three synoptic themes and their ability to respond to a resource booklet.

Students are required to complete another 2 days of fieldwork and there is an independent investigation (coursework) that students must undertake which comprises 20% of their final grade. For this they must produce a written report of their findings (3000-4000 words), which will be submitted to the exam board.

QUALITIES AND COMMITMENT EXPECTED FROM THE STUDENT:

Diligent and organised. Students are expected to keep up with news from quality papers and television and read and make notes on case studies. Students are advised to subscribe to Geography Review magazine. Students are expected to attend **all** field visits.

ASSESSMENT:

AS: Two end of year exams:

G1 Dynamic Landscapes (1 hour 45 mins) 50% AS

G2 Dynamic Places (1 hour 45 mins) 50% AS

A2: Three end of year exams and submitted coursework:

G1 Dynamic Landscapes (2 hours 15 mins) 30% A2

G2 Dynamic Places (2 hours 15 mins) 30% A2

G3 Synoptic Paper (2 hours 15 mins) 20% A2

Independent Investigation 20% A2

FIELD WORK AND VISITS:



Field work and visits will play a vital part in the delivery of the syllabus. **Field work is currently carried out in February of Year 12 at a residential centre in Colchester, Essex at a cost of approximately £300.** This visit is essential and will provide material to answer questions in both AS examinations and also provide the basis from which students will go on to write their independent investigations (worth 20% of the overall A2 qualification). The post AS period in June/July is an ideal time for students to begin their independent investigations.

THE FUTURE:

Geography is a rapidly changing and contemporary subject. It is anticipated that current affairs and the national press and TV will provide much stimulus material for the course. Students will be expected to read widely.