

Geography

Why take this course?

By studying Geography you will learn about other places, peoples and cultures. You will learn about sustainability, your responsibility as a global citizen and how to improve your map interpretation, reading, writing and thinking skills.

The main purpose of this course is to develop your understand of the environment you live in, your impact on it and responsibility to sustain it Geography courses which are available in S4.

To succeed in this course, you need...

- An Interest in the environment and a desire to understand how it works and why it stops working. For example, why are we facing a climate breakdown? What have we done to create the crisis and what could we do to stop it?
- Motivation and commitment to improving your IT, numeracy and literacy skills
- A good positive attitude. A willingness to have a go, do your best and participate in class activities to the best of your ability
- Good work ethic. Come to class ready to learn and with your homework tasks well done.

Course Content

1. Human Environments: Settlements

By 2020 two third of the world's population will live in urban areas by 2050. What patterns and processes create our urban landscapes? How is land used and managed in urban areas? In this unit we will visit Kirkwall, gather information to learn fieldwork skills and complete an assignment.

2. Global Issues: Climate Change

Global climate change, it's possible causes and effects; the strategies being used by national governments, the United Nations and aid organizations such as the Red Cross to manage this global environmental problem.

3. Physical Environments: Glacial Landscapes

Natural landscapes and the scenery of glaciated areas (e.g. the Alps), managing and protecting natural environments, tourism and conservation issues in areas such as UK National Parks (e.g. Cairngorms).

4. India:

Comparing levels of development, culture, population, farming practises and current geographical issues.

Course Assessment

You will create a portfolio of work throughout the year. This will include course work tasks where you demonstrate understanding in a variety of ways including poster presentations, debates, model making and written reports. You will also have class tests and a formal assessment, exam at the end of the course.

Where might this course take me?

The skills developed and knowledge gained are beneficial for all students. Helping them with senior phase subjects and enabling them to be knowledgeable and responsible global citizens.

Geography can help students with entry requirements for courses in courses in both Science and the Arts. Geography is particularly useful for those wishing to pursue career paths in business, government, environment, charity, education or transport and construction.

Successful completion of this course, a portfolio of mostly Level 4 work, is required for entry into N4/5 Geography courses in S4.