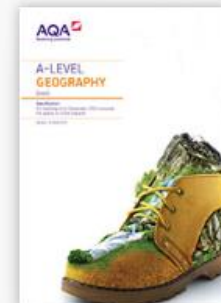




AQA A-Level Geography



Overview of the course

Paper 1: Physical Geography

- Water and Carbon
You will study the different components and elements of both the water and carbon cycle. Within this unit there is a focus of how the cycles are linked to climate change and how this is being managed. There are two main case studies that you must study with this unit, one is looking at the water and carbon cycle within the Amazon Rainforest and the second is studying a river catchment area.
- Coastal systems and landscapes
In this unit you will look at the coastal landscape as a whole, studying the processes and landforms that are found along different coastlines. You will also study sea level change, focusing on past sea level change, possible impacts and mitigation strategies that are being used in different locations around the world. There are two main case studies for this topic, you will study a coastline in the UK and one in a distant place.
- Hazards
In this unit you will study a range of hazards, looking at the distribution, causes, effects, responses and management to these hazard situations. You will study the theory of plate tectonics, considering the theory that underpins our current knowledge. The hazards studied are earthquakes, volcanic eruptions, tropical storms and wildfires. You will also study a main case study where you focus on a multi-hazard environment as well as a local scale environment that suffers from hazards.

Paper 2: Human Geography

- Global Systems and Global Governance
In this unit you will study the way in which the world works and is governed. This will mainly focus around the idea of globalisation, critically evaluating the positives and negatives of a more connected world. You will also study Antarctica as an example of a global common and consider the difficulties in keeping this continent protected from human harm.
- Changing Places
This unit involves looking at place, considering the factors that lead to the character of a place and how place can change over time. In this unit you will study a local place as well as a distant place of Stratford in London. This unit also looks at the impact of change in a place on people.
- Contemporary Urban Environments
In this unit you will look at urbanisation and the growth of megacities. You will study how urban areas have changed in LICs, NEES and HICs. You will also study the environmental characteristics of urban areas, with a focus on sustainable management of waterways and waste within an urban area.

NEA (Non-examined assessment)

You will select your own topic for investigation, where you will undertake fieldwork to collect data and then write up this investigation. This element of the course will involve fieldtrips to allow students to trial different fieldwork techniques as well as collecting the data for their study.

Where can an A-Level in Geography lead me?

There are many careers that can lead on from studying Geography. These include crime analysis, cartography, town planning, coastal management, disaster management, civil engineering, teaching to name just a few. Geography is highly regarded by employers as it produces students with a wide range of skills and knowledge. These skills include, decision making and problem solving related to geographical issues, statistical skills from data analysis as well as map reading and GIS skills.

For further information please contact:

Mrs Batty (keb@malbank.cheshire.sch.uk) or your Geography teacher.