

Geography may be regarded either as a science or as an arts subject and, as such, can be studied in conjunction with a wide variety of other subjects at A level. It is accepted for entry to both arts and science degree courses, including medicine and dentistry; and it may also act as a useful bridge subject between the arts and sciences. Geography is a very dynamic subject and we are very excited to be following Edexcel's new A level specification. This specification is a blend of physical and human geography. There is also an emphasis on synopticity and applied Geography. The A level course offers scope for a range of fieldwork activities including an overnight fieldtrip.

AS Level

Paper 1: Physical Geography

What's assessed	Tectonic Processes and Hazards Landscape Systems, Processes and Change Coastal Landscapes and Change
How it's assessed	Written exam: 1 hour 45 minutes 90 marks 50% of AS
Question types	Multiple-choice questions, short open, open response, calculations and resource-linked questions. The examination includes 12-mark and 16-mark extended writing questions. Calculators will be required. Fieldwork will be assessed in relation to coasts and there is a 16-mark synoptic question.

Paper 2: Human Geography

What's assessed	Globalisation Shaping Places Regenerating Places
How it's assessed	Written exam: 1 hour 45 minutes 90 marks 50% of AS
Question types	Multiple-choice questions, short open, open response, calculations and resource-linked questions. The examination includes 12-mark and 16-mark extended writing questions. Calculators will be required. Fieldwork will be assessed in relation to regeneration and there is a 16-mark synoptic question.

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A Level

Paper 1: Physical Geography

What's assessed	Tectonic Processes and Hazards Landscape Systems, Processes and Change Coastal Landscapes and Change The Water Cycle and Water Insecurity The Carbon Cycle and Energy Security
How it's assessed	Written exam: 2 hours 15 minutes 105 marks 30% of AS
Question types	Short open, open response and resource-linked questions. The examination includes 12-mark and 20-mark extended writing questions. Calculators may be used.

Paper 2: Human Geography

What's assessed	Globalisation Shaping Places Regenerating Places Superpowers Global Development and Connections Migration, Identity and Sovereignty
How it's assessed	Written exam: 2 hours 15 minutes 105 marks 30% of AS
Question types	Short open, open response and resource-linked questions. The examination includes 12-mark and 20-mark extended writing questions. Calculators may be used.

Paper 3: Synoptic Investigation

What's assessed	The synoptic investigation will be based on a geographical issue within a place-based context. It is a decision making exercise based on a resource booklet.
How it's assessed	Written exam: 2 hours 15 minutes 70 marks 20% of AS
Question types	Short open, open response and resource-linked questions. The examination includes 8-mark, 18-mark and 24-mark extended writing questions. Calculators may be used.

Independent Investigation (Coursework)

What's assessed	Students complete an independent investigation which must include data collected in the field. It must be based on a question or issue defined and developed by the student relating to any part of the specification content.
How it's assessed	3,000–4,000 words 70 marks 20% of A-level marked by teachers moderated by Edexcel