

Geography

EDUQAS Specification



General information:

A level Geography offers a range of transferrable skills: subject knowledge that is relevant to many of the biggest challenges facing society and the environment today - geography is always in the news; a greater understanding of other societies and cultures; an ability to collect, process, analyse and understand complicated data and communicate it to a variety of audiences; strong analytical and research skills – including qualitative and quantitative skills developed in the classroom and in the field; teamwork, leadership and problem solving skills. Within six months of graduating, more than 90 per cent of geography students have found work or proceeded into further education, according to the UK's Higher Education Statistics Agency, making geography graduates the least likely to be unemployed.

Course content:

Component 1: Changing Landscapes and Changing Places – 20.5% - 1hr 45min

Component 2: Global Systems and Global Governance – 27.5% - 2hrs – this unit includes: Water and Carbon Cycles; Global Governance and 21st Century Challenges

Component 3: Contemporary Themes in Geography – 32% - 2hrs 15 mins – this unit includes: Tectonic Hazards; Ecosystems and Development in an African Context

Component 4: Independent Investigation – 20%

How is the course taught and assessed?

The course is currently being taught by two teachers who teach both physical and human units. Assessment takes place in the form of both data-response style questions and longer essays. At A level, there are three exams to sit and an independent investigation to complete (which carries 20% of the marks for the qualification). The focus of the investigation is up to you, this is a real opportunity to pursue your interest in an aspect of the course that has caught your imagination.

Entry requirements:	Results information:	Top destinations for students:
As well as the general entry requirements for BWS, Grade 6 in Geography.	Students have averaged 68% A*-B grades over the last two years.	Students end up studying geography and a range of other subjects at universities around the country, including Cambridge, Bristol, Durham and Manchester.

Beyond the curriculum:

The Geography Department at Bishop's places a real emphasis on the use of the 'outdoor classroom.' Urban and rural fieldwork takes place in Bristol and on the South Coast. There is also a 3 day residential field-trip to the Gower Peninsula in Year 12 to study glacial, coastal and rural processes and landforms. We also make full use of our proximity to Salisbury's CBD during lessons to examine the impacts of socio-economic changes in the city for the Changing Places unit of the course. There is also a newly formed Geography Society in the school which is organised primarily by sixth-formers which has invited several visiting speakers to the school and also organises lunch-time activities for younger students.