



Wakefield Girls' High School
Wakefield

Technical Information

A-level

A-level Course Title	Unit Code	Awarding Body
Geography	9GE0	Edexcel

A-level Examinations:

Name	Method of Assessment	Maximum UMS Score
Paper 1: Physical Geography	2 hours	90 marks/30%
Paper 2: Human Geography	2 hours	90 marks/30%
Paper 3: Synoptic Investigation	1 hour 15 mins	60 marks/20%
Coursework: Independent Investigation		60 marks/20%

WGHS Senior School

(Girls 11-18 years)
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Course Guide

A-level Geography

Geography

Background Knowledge and Qualifications

It is not a requirement that you should have studied GCSE geography in order to take an A-level in this subject. If you have taken GCSE Geography you will find that several topics are developments of work you have previously covered. Those without prior study of Geography will have acquired equally valid skills and knowledge which will provide a valuable foundation for further studies.

This course will provide you with the opportunity answer questions such as:

- What are the impacts of superpowers on the global economy, political systems and the environment?
- What are the impacts of globalisation for countries, different groups of people and cultures?
- Why do human rights vary from place to place?
- Why do some tectonic hazards develop into disasters?
- How does water insecurity occur and why is it becoming such a global issue for the 21st century?
- Why is the functioning of the global climate system so crucial to human well-being?

It is important that you should have a lively, enquiring mind, an interest in the environment and current affairs and a willingness to explore new ideas.

Course Description

This course aims to inspire you to become a global citizen by exploring your own place in the world, your values and responsibilities to other people and to the sustainability of our planet.

It has been designed to:

- give you an appreciation of current events and world problems, such as the effects of natural hazards
- encourage you to develop a broad range of skills useful in the future
- to understand the forces that drive the world economy, and how they are changing
- to understand how we are affecting the environment in which we live
- develop the ability to make links and connections across a wide variety of topics

This course will appeal to you if you:

- are interested in current affairs
- have an interest in and concern for the environment
- enjoy studying a subject that is relevant to your life and experiences
- want to broaden your A-level studies. Geography covers aspects of both arts and sciences
- want the opportunity to learn through practical work as well as classwork
- enjoy working independently or in small groups

Classwork will include written work, decision making exercises and the acquisition of skills relating to the analysis of data.

Fieldwork is an integral part of Geography and the course will include relevant fieldwork visits.

Use of Course and Qualification

Geography helps young people to become world-aware and outward looking. Its strength lies in breadth of study which leads to rounded and more capable students. The result is a subject which combines well with all other A-level subjects. If you include it with Science AS-levels such as Chemistry, Biology, Physics or Mathematics, it will be accepted for science based courses such as Psychology, Medicine, Engineering or Environmental Sciences. Combined with arts subjects, such as French, History, Economics or English it will support applications to university to study Law, Business Studies, Media and Politics.

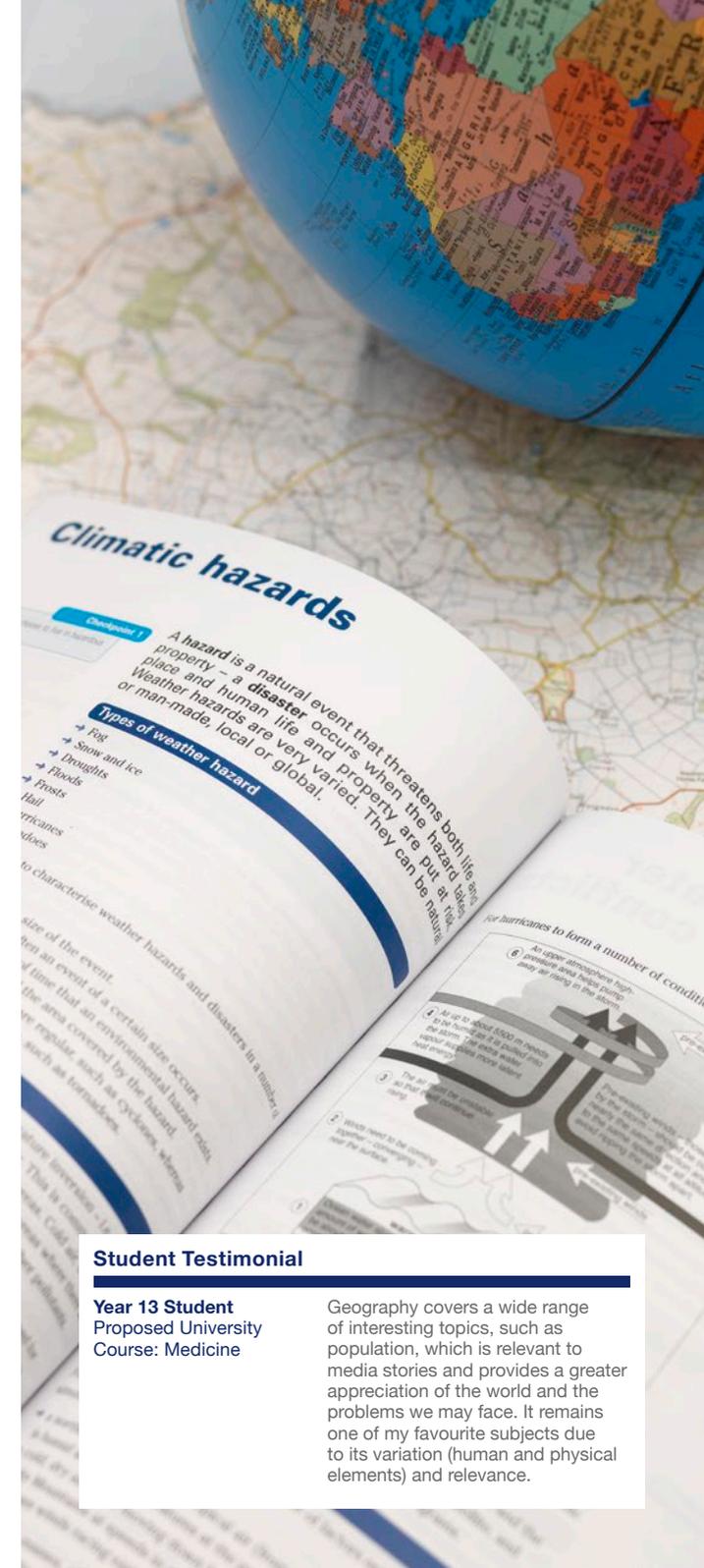
Recent Geography A-level students from WGHS have gone on to university to study Medicine, Physiotherapy, Financial Accounting, Geology, Earth Science, Pharmacy, Management, Law, Radiography, Geography, Modern Languages, including Chinese, Rural Land Management and Teaching.

In studying Geography you will have access to a wide range of Higher Education courses. You learn to use a variety of transferable skills including collecting, analysing and interpreting data and communicating your findings in different ways.

Employers recognise that geographers can undertake research, analyse ideas and work independently and also in groups. They also have expert knowledge of many of the most important issues of our time whether it be climate change, sustainable development, migration, resource security, environmental degradation and social cohesion, or equality.

Geographers' ability to understand these issues from a breadth of different perspectives, and their implications locally and globally, mean their knowledge and skills are high sought after in the workplace.

Moreover, in a world where much of our information is spatially based – from postcodes to sat navs – geographical information science (GIS) has grown to become an essential tool in business and government, creating even more opportunities for those with geographical skill and knowledge.



Student Testimonial

Year 13 Student
Proposed University
Course: Medicine

Geography covers a wide range of interesting topics, such as population, which is relevant to media stories and provides a greater appreciation of the world and the problems we may face. It remains one of my favourite subjects due to its variation (human and physical elements) and relevance.