

# Geography

## A Level

### Overview

"Geography explains the past, illuminates the present and prepares us for the future. What could be more important than that?" Michael Palin.

Dealing with vital issues such as climate change, conflict, environmental degradation, social issues and natural hazards, Geography is one of the most relevant subjects you could choose to study. Students enjoy the scope of the material they cover, the insights it can provide into the world around us and the highly contemporary nature of the issues it tackles.

### What goes well with this course?

Geography goes well with a wide range of subjects including:

- English
- Maths
- Biology
- History
- Economics
- Politics
- Sociology

### Progression

Geography is a broad based subject which enables students to develop skills in data analysis, literacy, spatial awareness, problem solving and group work, that are much valued by universities and employers alike. Many of our students go on to take a degree in Geography or a related subject such as Economics,



International Relations and Environmental Science, but for others the course enhances skills relevant to many other subjects.

Geography is an obvious choice for careers in sustainability and green issues, travel and tourism, environmental management, planning and urban regeneration, but having an understanding of global issues and economics is an asset for many different career paths including business, law, international relations and healthcare.

### Course Content

The course covers both the physical and human environments and the complex interaction of processes that shape our world. It will also importantly show the applied side of the subject - how human intervention affects the environment and how people adapt and mitigate the effects of processes on their environment.

## Physical topics

- Tectonic hazards and processes; Coastal landscapes and change; The water cycle and water insecurity; The carbon cycle and energy insecurity

## Human topics

- Globalisation; Regenerating places; Superpowers and geopolitics; Health, Human Rights and Intervention

The course includes compulsory fieldtrips which form an essential part of exam preparation and coursework and involve a financial outlay. Please contact the Geography Department via enquiries@reigate.ac.uk if you require further information.

## Educational Experiences

### Course Specific Trips, Visits & Experiences

Geography students have the opportunity to take part in a variety of course related experiences including field trips to:

- The Azores to explore volcanic landscapes and discover how the islands manage resources, biodiversity and tourism in a sustainable way
- The south coast to investigate coastal processes and management
- East London to explore the need and success of regeneration
- Juniper Hall to carry out experiments into water and carbon cycling

## Assessment

The course is 20% coursework and 80% examination based, with three papers sat in June of the second year.

The exam board for this A Level is Pearson Edexcel.

## Entry Requirements

All students need to have at least five GCSEs at Grade 4 or above (and a satisfactory school reference) in order to be accepted on an A Level/BTEC Level 3 Programme.

In addition, there are different entry requirements for students with and without GCSE Geography:

Students should meet the following minimum GCSE requirements:

- Grade 5 in Geography, Grade 5 in English Language and Grade 4 in Maths, or
- Grade 5 in Geography, Grade 4 in English Language and Grade 5 in Maths, or
- Grade 5 in English Language and Maths

The course will appeal to students if they:

- Are curious about the places, peoples and environments across the globe
- Like asking questions and finding answers
- Are interested in local, regional and global issues
- Have the ability to think independently
- Wish to explore human, physical and environmental geographical relationships

Students should have an interest in the natural and human world, be good at written and spoken communication and enjoy discussion and working with others.