

Geography

Course Structure and Requirements

The Geography Stage 6 Syllabus consists of a Preliminary course and a HSC course.



Preliminary Course 120 indicative hours	HSC Course 120 indicative hours
Biophysical Interactions (45% of course time – 54 hours)	Ecosystems at Risk (33.3% of course time – 40 hours)
Global Challenges (45% of course time – 54 hours)	Urban Places (33.3% of course time – 40 hours)
Senior Geography Project (10% of course time – 12 hours)	People and Economic Activity (33.3% of course time – 40 hours)

In both courses the order of topics is not prescriptive and may be influenced by students' needs, interests and access to fieldwork sites and/or resources.

Course Overview

Preliminary Course Overview

Aim	Studying the spatial and ecological dimensions of biophysical and human phenomena in a changing world		
Topic	BIOPHYSICAL INTERACTIONS	GLOBAL CHALLENGES	SENIOR GEOGRAPHY PROJECT
Time	54 indicative hours	54 indicative hours	12 indicative hours
Focus	Geographical investigation of biophysical processes and how an understanding of these processes contributes to sustainable management	Geographical study of the social, cultural, political, economic and environmental challenges which are occurring at the global scale	The nature of geographical inquiry and its application to a practical research project
Outcomes	P1, P2, P3, P6, P7, P8, P9, P10, P12	P1, P4, P5, P6, P7, P8, P9, P10, P12	P7, P8, P9, P10, P11, P12
Content	<p>Investigating and communicating geographically</p> <p>Nature and functioning of the four components of the biophysical environment</p> <p>The interactions between, and the human impacts on, the functioning of the atmosphere, hydrosphere, lithosphere and biosphere</p> <p>A case study of ONE issue to illustrate how an understanding of biophysical processes contributes to sustainable management</p>	<p>Investigating and communicating geographically</p> <p>Population geography: the changing nature, rate and distribution of the world's population</p> <p>Any TWO studies chosen from:</p> <p>Cultural Integration</p> <p>Political Geography</p> <p>Development Geography</p> <p>Natural Resource Use</p>	<p>Investigating and communicating geographically</p> <p>The nature of geographical inquiry and the ethical responsibilities of researchers</p> <p>Designing and conducting geographical research</p>

HSC Course Overview

Aim	Studying the spatial and ecological dimensions of biophysical and human phenomena in a changing world		
Topic	ECOSYSTEMS AT RISK	URBAN PLACES	PEOPLE & ECONOMIC ACTIVITY
Time	40 indicative hours	40 indicative hours	40 indicative hours
Focus	Geographical study of the functioning of ecosystems at risk, their management and protection	Geographical study of world cities, mega cities and the dynamics of large cities and urban places	Geographical study of economic activity integrating the local and the global context
Outcomes	H1, H2, H5, H6, H7, H8, H9, H10, H11, H12, H13	H1, H3, H5, H6, H7, H8, H9, H10, H11, H12, H13	H1, H4, H5, H6, H7, H8, H9, H10, H11, H12, H13
Content	Investigating and communicating geographically	Investigating and communicating geographically	Investigating and communicating geographically
	Ecosystems and their management including the functioning of ecosystems and their vulnerability and resilience	The nature, character and spatial distribution of world cities and mega cities	The nature, spatial patterns and future directions of economic activity
	The importance of, and the need for, management strategies Case studies of two different ecosystems at risk: their unique characteristics, the human impacts which influence them and traditional and contemporary management practices	The challenges of sustainable living in mega cities and responses to these challenges Urban dynamics of change in large cities Case studies of a large city from the developed world and a local area, to investigate urban dynamics	The environmental and social impacts of economic activity Case studies of an economic activity on a global scale and an economic enterprise at a local scale