

## **SUBJECT: GEOGRAPHY IB HIGHER**

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### **SYLLABUS:**

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### **SYNOPSIS OF CONTENT**

The IB Geography programme has a global focus looking at interactions between the human and physical world. Students take a number of different topics and develop a wide range of geographical skills.

The core themes look at the issues surrounding population, resources, and development in the global society.

Students are also examined on three optional themes which enable them to analyse concepts in detail, drawn from:

- Freshwater—issues and conflicts.
- Oceans and their coastal margins.
- Extreme environments.
- Hazards and disasters—risk assessment and response.
- Leisure, sport and tourism.
- The geography of food and health.
- Urban environments.

The Higher course also includes seven issues focused on global interactions which enable students to create an informed opinion about future global scenarios.

Students complete an Internal Assessment based around a fieldwork experience.

### **SKILLS THAT WILL BE DEVELOPED**

In studying Geography students develop a wide range of transferable skills:

- Fieldwork skills – interpreting the landscape outside
- Quantitative research methods – mathematical skills to apply subject knowledge and analyse data.
- The ability to write structured essay answers
- Independent research skills
- Statistical analysis of data
- Interpretation of Geographical Information Systems (GIS)
- An understanding of the complexities of the world

### **SOME USEFUL WEBSITES**

<http://www.geographyinthenews.rgs.org/>

<http://www.rgs.org/>

<http://www.juicygeography.co.uk/>

<http://www.geographypages.co.uk/>

<http://www.geographyalltheway.com/>

A number of IB past exam papers can be found at:

[www.freeexampapers.com/past](http://www.freeexampapers.com/past)

### **ASSESSMENT**

#### **Paper One**

1hr 30mins. 25%. Answer 2 out of 3 questions on the core theme (multiple parts per question).

#### **Paper Two**

2hrs. 35%. Answer studied optional themes.

#### **Paper Three**

1hr. 20%. Structured essay on synoptic links between the other units.

#### **Internal Assessment (coursework)**

2,500 words. 20%. A fieldwork report based on primary data collected in the field.

### **SPECIFIC MATRICULATION REQUIREMENTS**

In addition to the Sixth Form matriculation requirements, students must have at least one GCSE grade B or above in Geography or another Humanities subject if they did not take Geography. Students learn how to apply statistical tests and therefore confidence in Mathematics is necessary.

### **OTHER INFORMATION**

#### **E.g. Field Trips/expenses/books**

All textbooks are provided for the course.

In the Summer term of Lower Sixth, students have the opportunity to go on a week-long residential fieldtrip to a UK Field Studies Centre. Past fieldtrips have been to Devon, Dorset or Pembrokeshire. Fieldwork is a compulsory aspect of the course as it allows students to collect data and reinforces topics studied in the classroom. The exams require analysis of data collected during fieldwork. The cost of the residential is expected to be in the region of £240.

There are alternative day field-trips to cater for those unable to attend the residential which in the past have been to Epping Forest and London Stratford Olympic Park.