

IB GEOGRAPHY

Entry Requirement

Candidates are expected to secure at least a grade 6 at GCSE or the equivalent.

Introduction

The International Baccalaureate Course considers both human and physical geography, examining the way people live and their interactions with the Physical Environment. The geography course examines key issues such as poverty, sustainability and climate change at a variety of scales. Such considerations are highly pertinent in the twenty first century where economic, social and environmental issues dominate the news; geography can use its position to examine such challenges in a holistic manner, drawing on ideas from a variety of disciplines.

The aims of IB Geography are stated as enabling students to:

1. Develop an understanding of the dynamic interrelationships between people, places, spaces and the environment at different scales.
2. Develop a critical awareness and consider complexity thinking in the context of the nexus of geographic issues, including:
 - acquiring an in-depth understanding of how geographic issues, or wicked problems, have been shaped by powerful human and physical processes
 - synthesizing diverse geographic knowledge in order to form viewpoints about how these issues could be resolved
3. Understand and evaluate the need for planning and sustainable development through the management of resources at varying scales.

Standard Level (SL)

- Students study the Core theme, 2 Optional themes and complete the Internal Assessment.
- This is tested in 2 papers sat at the end of the 2 year course.
- Paper 1 (Geographical Themes) is 1 hr 30 mins and is worth 35% of your total grade.
- Paper 2 (Cores) is 1 hr 15 mins and is worth 40% of your total grade.
- The Internal Assessment is worth 25% of your total grade.

Higher Level (HL)

- Students study the Core theme, 3 Optional themes, HL Extension and complete the Internal Assessment.
- This is tested in 3 papers sat at the end of the 2 year course.
- Paper 1 (Geographical Themes) is 2 hrs 15 mins and is worth 35% of your total grade.
- Paper 2 (Core) is 1 hr 15 mins and is worth 25% of your total grade.
- Paper 3 (Core Extension) is 1 hr and is worth 20% of your total grade.
- The Internal Assessment is worth 20% of your total grade.

Syllabus Content

Paper 1 – Geographical Themes (HL students study three of these whilst SL students study two)

1. Freshwater (SL & HL)
2. Food & Health (SL & HL)
3. Geophysical Hazards (HL Only)

Paper 2 – Core Themes (HL and SL Students)

- Changing Population
- Global Climate – Vulnerability & Resilience

- Global Resource Consumption & Security

Paper 3 – Geographic Perspectives – Global Interactions (HL Only)

1. Power, Places & Networks
2. Human Development & Diversity
3. Global Risks & Resilience

Internal Assessment

A report, written as a result of a fieldwork investigation taught over 20 hours to both HL and SL students. The study is taken from the core or option themes and involves the collection of primary information at a local scale. Fieldwork will be conducted on a 3 day residential trip, allowing boys the chance to plan, prepare, collect and analyse their data in a well-equipped, focussed environment (this is a chargeable trip).