



GEOGRAPHY AT A LEVEL



What will be studied at A Level Geography?

A variety of different topics will be studied during the two year A Level Geography course. This face sheet includes information about the population unit. This unit explores the relationship between key aspects of physical geography and population numbers, population health and well-being, levels of economic development and the role and impact of the natural environment. You will engage with these themes at different scales you will be able to contemplate the reciprocating relationship between the human and physical environment and human populations and the relationship between their local, national and international communities.

Pre- course reading (books)

- Factfulness- Hans Rosling
- Prisoners of Geography- Tim Marshall
- Population: 10 billion- The Coming of the Demographic Crisis and how to survive it- Danny Dorling
- Divided: Why we're living in an age of walls- Tim Marshall
- An Essay on the Principle of Population- Thomas Malthus
- A Concise History of World Population- Massimo Livi Bacci
- Empty Planet: The Shock of Global Population Decline- Darrell Bricker and John Ibbitson
- Collapse: How Societies Choose to Fall or Succeed- Jared Diamond

Pre- course watching

- Hans Rosling- Don't Panic:
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=FACK2knC08E&t=494s>
- Hans and Ola Rosling- How not to be ignorant about the world:
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=5m5xF-UVgdg>
- Kim Preshoff- Population Pyramids: Powerful Predictors of the Future:
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=RLmkfXwWQtE>
- Bill Gates- The next outbreak- we are not ready:
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=6Af6b_wyiwI
- How Pandemics Spread:
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=UG8YbNbdaco>

Pre- course articles

- 'Living Planet Report'- published by the WWF, Global Footprint Network, Water Footprint Network and London Zoo: www.footprint.wwf.org
- 'Overpopulation may lead to conflict' from the Population Institute: www.populationinstitute.org
- 'Future World Population Growth' by Max Roser (2015) in Our World in Data:
www.ourworldindata.org/population-growth
- 'UN World Population Prospects, The 2015 Revision':
http://esa.un.org/unpd/wpp/publications/files/key_findings_wpp_2015.pdf
- 'Geographies of Health (2nd Edition)' by AC Gatrell and SJ Elliot (2009):
<https://www.amazon.co.uk/Geographies-Health-Introduction-Desktop-Editions/dp/1405175753>

Pre- course listening

- The Development Podcast:
<https://open.spotify.com/show/3WJXPynY3ai2wOYJEmc4T8>
- The World Economic Forum Podcasts:
<https://soundcloud.com/world-economic-forum>
- Planet Money- The Economy explained:
<https://www.npr.org/sections/money/?t=1585048489797&t=1585135821258&t=1587915820145>
- World Population Balance Podcasts:
<https://www.worldpopulationbalance.org/podcasts>
- Global Population Podcast, The Guardian:
<https://www.theguardian.com/world/audio/2011/jul/27/focus-podcast-population-growth>
- Health: <https://www.kingsfund.org.uk/audio-video/podcast/healthy-places>

What else can you do to prepare for A Level Geography?

You might want to enter the RGS Young Geographer of the Year. Please see link for more information: <https://www.rgs.org/schools/competitions/young-geographer-of-the-year/2020-competition/>



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A variety of different topics will be studied during the two year A Level Geography course. This face sheet includes information about the water and carbon cycle unit. The water and carbon unit focuses on the major stores of water and carbon on the Earth's surface and the dynamic cyclical relationships associated with them. You will contemplate the magnitude and significance of the cycles at a variety of scales, their relevance to wider geography and their central importance for human populations. This unit will also provide you with the opportunity to exercise geographical skills, including geospatial mapping skills and data manipulation.

Pre- course reading (books)

- A Level Topic Master: The Water and Carbon Cycles. Available at: <https://www.amazon.co.uk/level-Geography-Topic-Master-Carbon/dp/1510434615>
- Water and Carbon Cycles: C McDonnell. Available at: <https://www.amazon.co.uk/Water-carbon-cycles-Geography-Level/dp/1535571969>
- 'The benefits of soil carbon', The UN Environment Programme's Year Book 2012, United Nations Environment Programme
- Jeff Tollerson, 'Climate Change: The case of the missing heat', Nature, Volume 505, 16th Jan 2014, pgs 276-278.
- Environmental consequences of ocean acidification: A threat to food security, Division of the Early Warning Assessment, United Nations Environment Programme '10.

Pre- course watching

- Meat: A threat to our planet. Available at: <https://www.bbc.co.uk/iplayer/episode/m000bqsh/meat-a-threat-to-our-planet>
- The Secret Life of Ice. Available at: <https://www.bbc.co.uk/iplayer/episode/b016fpvy/the-secret-life-of-ice>
- Climate Change: The facts. Available at: <https://www.bbc.co.uk/iplayer/episode/m00049b1/climate-change-the-facts>
- Planet Carbon: National Geographic. Available at: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=7lgZIR-OM48>
- The hydrologic and carbon cycles. Available at: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=2D7hZpIYICA>

Pre- course articles

- Water and Carbon Cycling: Royal Geographical Society. Available at: <https://www.rgs.org/CMSPages/GetFile.aspx?nodeguid=6dc9f1c1-f92d-4c04-9f85-9985844a6a79&lang=en-GB>
- 'The Arctic's thawing ground is releasing a shocking amount of dangerous gases'. Available at: <https://www.nationalgeographic.com/science/2020/02/arctic-thawing-ground-releasing-shocking-amount-dangerous-gases/>
- 'Desert crops thrive as aquifer shrinks'. Available at: <https://earthobservatory.nasa.gov/images/145975/desert-crops-thrive-as-the-aquifer-shrinks>
- 'Whales are vital to curb climate change'. Available at: <https://www.weforum.org/agenda/2019/11/whales-carbon-capture-climate-change/>

Pre- course listening

- Living Planet podcast. Available at: <https://www.dw.com/en/living-planet-environment-stories-from-around-the-world/a-19385797>
- Vegan World. Available at: <https://www.bbc.co.uk/programmes/m000bmxs>
- Carbon Free Islands. Available at: <https://www.bbc.co.uk/programmes/m0009372>
- Cleaning up our air: The Guardian. Available at: <https://www.theguardian.com/science/audio/2019/oct/04/cleaning-up-our-air-science-weekly-podcast>
- Forests and the carbon cycle: RGS. Available at: <https://www.rgs.org/schools/teaching-resources/forests-and-the-carbon-cycle/>
- Disappearing Alps. Available at: <https://www.bbc.co.uk/programmes/b0b3cwr9>

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A variety of different topics will be studied during the two year A Level Geography course. This face sheet includes information about the hazards unit. This unit focuses on hazards found in the lithosphere and the atmosphere and the hazards that present themselves to the human population. The origin and nature of these hazards are explored and the various ways citizens respond to the hazards. You will be able to engage with the many dimensions of the relationships between people and the environment, and how the two are intrinsically linked. This unit also provides you with the opportunity to explore how humans can impact the natural environment.

Pre- course reading (books)

- Culture of Disaster: Society and Natural Hazard in the Philippines- G. Bankoff. Available at: <https://www.amazon.co.uk/Cultures-Disaster-Society-Natural-Philippines/dp/0700717617>
- Hazards and Responses- V. Bishop. Available at: <https://www.amazon.co.uk/Victoria-Bishop-Landmark-Geography-Responses/dp/B00NBP1898>
- Natural Hazards: Causes, consequences and management- J. Chaffey et al. Available at: <https://www.amazon.co.uk/Natural-Hazards-2ed-Consequences-Management/dp/034074944X>
- Disaster by Choice- Ilan Kelman. Available at: <https://www.amazon.co.uk/Disaster-Choice-actions-natural-catastrophes/dp/0198841345>

Pre- course watching

- Expedition Volcano. Available at: <https://www.bbc.co.uk/iplayer/episodes/b09hlz7w/expedition-volcano>
- Rise of the Continents: Iain Stewart. Available at: <https://www.amazon.co.uk/Rise-Continents-Professor-Iain-Stewart/dp/B00DAJJBEE>
- Earth: The Power of the Planet and How Earth made us- Iain Stewart. Available at: https://www.amazon.co.uk/gp/product/B00395ATQS/r?ef=ppx_yo_dt_b_asin_title_o01_s01?ie=UTF8&psc=1
- Earth Story: BBC. Available at: <https://www.amazon.co.uk/Earth-Story-DVD-Danielle-Peck/dp/B000FS9SGE>

Pre- course articles

- 'Can we predict volcanic activity?' Available at: <https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/world-asia-50729280>
- 'Mysterious tectonic fault found off California'. Available at: <https://www.nationalgeographic.com/science/2019/11/mysterious-tectonic-fault-zone-found-off-california-using-fiber-optics/>
- 'Quake split a tectonic plate in two, and geologists are shaken'. Available at: <https://www.nationalgeographic.com/science/2018/10/news-tectonic-plate-split-earthquakes-tsunamis-geology/>
- 'What are lost continents, and why are we discovering so many?' Available at: <https://theconversation.com/what-are-lost-continents-and-why-are-we-discovering-so-many-126355>

Pre- course listening

- Natural Disasters podcast. Available at: <https://www.parcast.com/naturaldisasters>
- Quake (mini drama podcast series): <https://www.bbc.co.uk/programmes/p052lph7/episode/s/downloads>
- Natural Disasters: How to improve (RGS). Available at: <https://www.rgs.org/schools/teaching-resources/natural-disasters-how-to-improve/>
- Haiti Quake: Ruin and recovery. Available at: <https://www.npr.org/series/122522434/haiti-quake-ruin-and-recovery>
- Haiti: Recovery. Available at: <https://podcasts.google.com/?feed=aHR0cDovL3VuZGlzLzGFOY2gubGlic3luLmNvbS9yc3M&episode=MDZjZDU3YmEtYjkzNi00NWVmLTliZmQtY2QzNDJiYmFhYWU4&ved=0CD8QzslCahckEwi4sJqi7ojpAhUAAAAAHQAAAAAQCG&hl=en-GB>

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