

SOCIAL SUBJECTS

GEOGRAPHY



Course/Subjects Name

Geography

Levels Available (Entry based on prior attainment)

National 3, 4, 5, Higher, Advanced Higher

Purpose, Aims and Benefits of the Course

Geography develops a student's understanding of our changing world and its human and physical processes. Geography qualifications will equip learners with the knowledge and skills to contribute effectively to their local communities and wider society. Opportunities for practical activities, including fieldwork/trips, will be encouraged, so that learners can interact with their environment and put their learning into a real world context. Courses demonstrate the local, national, international, and global nature of Geography.

Course Details

Content of National course (combined N3, N4 and N5)

Students sitting different levels study similar content, but at different levels of difficulty. All students will complete an Added Value Unit of their choice.

Physical Environments – Weather, Rivers, Limestone and Management of National Parks (Yorkshire Dales).

Human Environments – Development of countries, Global population growth, Urbanisation, Farming Change. Students will use a range of research skills in order to gather and process information.

Global Issues – Health (Aids, Heart Disease and Kwashiorkor), Environmental Hazards (Earthquakes, Volcanoes and Tropical Storms).

Content of Higher course

Physical Environments

Students will develop and apply geographical skills and techniques in the context of physical environments. Learners will develop knowledge and understanding of the processes and interactions at work within physical environments on a local, regional and global scale. Key topics include: Atmosphere, Hydrosphere, Lithosphere and Biosphere.

Contd.

Human Environments

Students will develop and apply geographical skills and techniques in the context of human environments. They will develop and apply knowledge and understanding of the processes and interactions at work within urban and rural environments in developed and developing countries. Learners will also develop their research skills in a geographical context. Key topics include: Population, Rural Land Degradation and Management, Urban Change and Management.

Global Issues

Students will develop and apply knowledge and understanding of global geographical issues which demonstrate the interaction of physical and human factors and the strategies adopted in the management of these issues. Key topics include: Development and Health and River Basin Management. Personalisation and choice is possible through the issues selected for study.

Content of Advanced Higher course

Skills

Students will develop a range of geographical methods and techniques including mapping skills, graphical techniques and a range of statistical techniques for analysing and interpreting geographical data. Students will have the opportunity to use a range of investigating skills while undertaking independent research.

Issues

Students will develop critical thinking and the ability to evaluate sources and viewpoints on current geographical issues.

Progression Routes

Pathways allow students to progress from National 3 to Advanced Higher. Courses have close links with other social subjects and natural sciences courses offered in school and learning often connects up with these courses.

Due to the diverse nature of Geography, it can be linked into a broad range of job opportunities in the following areas including: Agriculture, horticulture and forestry; Architecture; Environmental Health; Estate agency; Surveying; Town and country planning; Transport and communications; Travel agency and tourism. If you would like to discuss how Geography would fit in with your preferred career please see Ms Illingworth.

Faculty Contact

Ms L Illingworth

PT Social Subjects (Acting)

SOCIAL SUBJECTS

HISTORY



Course/Subjects Name

History

Levels Available (Entry based on prior attainment)

National 3, 4, 5, Higher, Advanced Higher

Purpose, Aims and Benefits of the Course

The purpose of History is to develop students' knowledge and understanding of how the past has shaped our modern world. Students will explore what we can learn from the successes and mistakes of our ancestors and these will help them to make judgements relevant to their world today.

Students will further develop key transferrable skills which are essential for school, the workplace and in life. They will become experts at evaluating sources of information. They will use evidence to think for themselves and formulate their own opinions, and conclusions, about historical issues. History students appreciate and respect the views of others as they form their own views about our world.

Course Details

Content of National course (combined N3, N4 and N5)

Students sitting different levels study similar content, but at different levels of difficulty. All students will complete an Added Value Unit of their choice.

British – The Atlantic Slave Trade, 1770-1807 Students study the nature of the British Atlantic slave trade in the late 18th century, changing attitudes towards it in Britain and the pressures that led to its abolition illustrating the themes of rights, exploitation and culture.

Scottish – The Era of the Great War - Students will develop a knowledge and understanding of Scotland's role in the First World War. We will explore the experience of war for our soldiers – the horrors of trench warfare and 'Scottish Battles' such as the Battle of Loos', and the impact of, and effect of, the war on our people at home. How were women's and children's lives affected by rationing, war work, and government propaganda?

World - The Rise of Hitler and the Nazi Party – Why did the Weimar Republic fail? How did Hitler come to power? What were his policies and beliefs? How did the Nazi state control the German people?

Contd.

Content of Higher course

Unit 1: Britain, 1851–1951: This unit covers: why women received the vote; why the social welfare reforms of Liberals were passed and how effective they were. Finally, the extent to which Britain was democratic by 1928.

Unit 2: USA, 1918-68: This unit covers: the growing tensions in American society from 1918-1968. It focuses on immigration, economic difficulties, the effectiveness of the New Deal and the struggle for civil rights.

Unit 3: Migration and Empire, 1830–1939: This unit covers: population movement and social and economic change in Scotland and abroad between 1830 and 1939. Themes: why did the Scots move abroad & their impact and why did immigrants move to Scotland & their impact.

Content of Advanced Higher course

Northern Britain from the Iron Age to 1034 AD: Students will study Iron Age and Celtic society, Roman invasions and occupation, the arrival of Christianity and Pictish beliefs, Britons, Angles, Vikings and the formation of Scotland to 1034.

Progression Routes

Pathways allow students to progress from National 3 to Advanced Higher. Courses have close links with other social subjects offered in school and learning often connects up with these courses. If you would like to discuss how History would fit in with your preferred career please see Ms Illingworth.

Faculty Contact

Ms L Illingworth

PT Social Subjects (Acting)

SOCIAL SUBJECTS
MODERN STUDIES



Course/Subjects Name
Modern Studies

Levels Available (Entry based on prior attainment)
National 3, 4, 5, Higher, Advanced Higher

Purpose, Aims and Benefits of the Course

Students will develop their knowledge and understanding of contemporary political and social issues in local, Scottish, United Kingdom and International contexts. Through the course, students will undertake a coherent study of contemporary society with concepts and themes being revisited and built upon across units. It will develop the skills to help students interpret and participate in the social and political processes they will encounter now and in the future.

Content of National course (combined N3, N4 and N5)

Students sitting different levels study similar content, but at different levels of difficulty. All students will complete an Added Value Unit of their choice.

Democracy in Scotland and the United Kingdom - Students will develop a knowledge and understanding of the UK's political structure including the place of Scotland within this structure. They will then have a choice of contexts for study which will be drawn from the Scottish political system.

Social Issues in the United Kingdom - Students have a choice of social issues within Scotland and the UK with pupils focusing on Crime and the Law.

International Issues – Students will study the USA which will focus mainly on the political system and social and economic inequalities in society.

Content of Higher course

Unit 1 - Democracy in Scotland and the United Kingdom: Unit 1 - Democracy in Scotland and the United Kingdom: This will include the United Kingdom constitutional arrangement, including the role of the Scottish Parliament and other devolved bodies and the impact of UK membership of the European Union. The unit will also include ongoing debates about the nature of the political system in the United Kingdom, a study of representative democracy in Scotland and/or the United Kingdom and a study of the impact of voting systems and the range of factors which affect voting behaviour in Scotland/UK. The unit finishes off by looking at ways in which citizens are informed about, participate in and influence the political process in Scotland and/or the United Kingdom.

Contd.

Unit 2 - Social inequality in the United Kingdom

This unit focuses on the nature of social inequality in the United Kingdom, theories and causes of inequality, the impact of inequality on specific groups in society and attempts to tackle inequalities and their effectiveness.

Unit 3 - A political and socio-economic study of a major world power/issue:

Pupils will study the conflict in Syria including the cause of the war, the impact that it has on the people and surrounding countries and the effectiveness of the international response to it. If time allows pupils may also have the opportunity to study the political system in South Africa, recent socio-economic issues and the role of the world power in international relations.

Content of Advanced Higher course: The course topic is Law and Order and the two areas of focus are Understanding Criminal Behaviour, which looks at the causes and effects of crime. The second topic is Responses by Society to Crime, which includes studies of different types of punishment and political responses to crime. Additionally, students examine various Research Methods used in studying crime and pupils will complete a dissertation on a topic of their choice.

Progression Routes

Pathways allow students to progress from National 3 to Advanced Higher. Courses have close links with other Social Subjects offered in school and learning often connects up with these courses.

This course is particularly suited to students who wish to pursue a career in law, journalism, the Civil Service, the police or any of the caring professions (medicine, nursing etc.) If you would like to discuss how Modern Studies would fit in with your preferred career please see Ms Illingworth.

Faculty Contact

Ms L Illingworth

PT Social Subjects (Acting)

SOCIAL SUBJECTS

SCOTTISH STUDIES AWARD



Course/Subjects Name

Scottish Studies Award

Levels Available (entry based on prior attainment)

SQF Level National 3, 4, 5

Course Details Purpose, Aims and Benefits of the Course

The purpose of this Award is to allow learners to broaden their knowledge of Scotland whilst developing and applying the skills, knowledge and understanding relevant to their chosen subject areas. Learners will have a choice of units, from a range of subject areas, which they can study in a Scottish context.

The main aims of the Award are to give learners the opportunity to:

- develop and apply skills, knowledge and understanding in their chosen subject areas;
- make connections across these areas by studying them in a Scottish context;
- develop an understanding of the contribution that Scotland and its people, past and/or present, have made, and continue to make, in these areas;
- reflect on the place of Scotland within the wider context of the United Kingdom, Europe and/or the rest of the world;
- explore an aspect of Scottish Studies that is of particular interest to them develop the skills of planning, reviewing sources and selecting relevant information, and skills of reflection;
- develop, with support, their abilities to become independent learners.

Content of National course (combined N3, N4 and N5)

All learners must complete the mandatory Scottish Studies: Scotland in Focus (SCQF level 3, 4 or 5) unit.

They must also complete 3 Units from at least 2 of the following groups:

Group 1 Language and Literature

Group 2 Society and Environment

Group 3 Arts and Culture

Group 4 Business, Industry and Employment

Final course options have yet to be decided.

Progression Routes

This Award or its units may provide progression to a variety of courses, Awards or units at SCQF level 5, depending on the specific subject areas studied as part of this Award. It will also provide a good foundation for progression to training or employment in a variety of sectors including business, tourism, hospitality and the creative, cultural and heritage industries.

Faculty Contact

Ms L Illingworth

PT Social Subjects (Acting)

SOCIAL SUBJECTS

POLITICS



Course/Subjects Name

Politics

Level Available (Entry based on prior attainment)

Higher

Purpose, Aims and Benefits of the Course

The purpose of the Higher Politics course is to develop learners' knowledge and understanding of political systems and the rights and responsibilities of citizenship. Its theoretical perspective enables learners to identify, explore and analyse political issues in order to develop their own views and perspectives on political systems and political representation.

The course will also develop investigating, analysing and evaluating skills to help learners to interpret and understand political issues.

Course Content

The course makes a distinctive contribution to the curriculum by offering three units of study:

Political Ideologies

- An in-depth look at the theorists behind power, authority, legitimacy, communism, socialism, liberalism, nationalism, feminism and democracy.

Political Systems

- A comparison of the detailed workings of the US political system with the UK

Political Parties and Elections

- A study of recent elections and referenda to understand how UK political parties fight campaigns and win elections.

As well as course assessments, pupils will be expected to complete an assignment which is in the format of an extended essay based on the pupil's own research on a topic of their choice.

Progression Routes

Higher Politics can be offered to any pupil who has completed a National 5 course in any of the Social Subjects. This course has close links with the other Social Subjects and can also be studied alongside Higher or Advanced Higher Modern Studies.

This course provides an entry qualification for study in further and higher education and for entry into a diverse range of occupations and careers including law, journalism, research and civil service to name a few.

Faculty Contact

Ms L Illingworth

PT Social Subjects (Acting)