



SOCIAL SUBJECTS

GEOGRAPHY

Faculty Contact: Mrs S Hamilton, PT Social Subjects

Levels Available

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.

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

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

Human Environments – Global population growth, Urbanisation, Farming change.

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. Key topics include: Atmosphere, Hydrosphere, Lithosphere and Biosphere

Human Environments - Urban and rural environments in developed and developing countries. Research topics include: Population, Rural Land Degradation and Management, Urban Change and Management.

Global Issues - Key topics include: Development and Health and River Basin Management

Personalisation and choice is possible through the issues selected for Assignment topics.

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 technique. Students will have the opportunity to use different 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. If you would like to discuss how Geography would fit in with your preferred career please see Mrs Hamilton.

HISTORY

Faculty Contact: Mrs S Hamilton, PT Social Subjects



Levels Available

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.

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

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 soldiers.

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?

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:

The Advanced Higher History course looks at the topic 'Germany: from democracy to dictatorship, 1918–39'. The main themes covered are: ideology, authority and revolution. It focuses on studying the changing nature of political authority; the reasons for changes; and the consequences of the changing character of political authority.

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 Mrs Hamilton



SOCIAL SUBJECTS

MODERN STUDIES

Faculty Contact: Mrs S Hamilton, PT Social Subjects

Levels Available

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. Students will develop the skills to 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)

Democracy in Scotland and the United Kingdom - UK's political structure including the place of Scotland within this structure.

Social Issues in the United Kingdom - Contexts for study will focus 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

Democracy in Scotland and the United Kingdom – This unit focuses on the role of the UK Parliament in making decisions and its impact on the Scottish Parliament and membership within the European Union.

Social inequality in the United Kingdom - 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.

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 and 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. If you would like to discuss how Modern Studies would fit in with your preferred career please see Mrs S Hamilton

SOCIAL SUBJECTS SCOTTISH STUDIES AWARD

Faculty Contact: Mrs S Hamilton, PT Social Subjects



Levels Available

SQF Level 3, 4, 5, 6

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 level 3, 4, 5, 6)

Students will complete three Units from at least two 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

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.

SOCIAL SUBJECTS

POLITICS

Faculty Contact: Mrs S Hamilton, PT Social Subjects



Level Available

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

- Political Theory
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.