



GEOGRAPHY CORE

Aims

The syllabus aims to enable students to:

- Acquire knowledge of the characteristics, distribution and processes of physical and human phenomena
- Develop a holistic understanding of physical-human relationships at local, regional and global scales;
- Gain geographical insights and global awareness into future challenges through the study of current issues and their management;
- Become inquiring and self-directed learners who ask geographical questions and seek understanding through the collection and analysis of geographical information;
- Develop skills in communicating and applying geographical knowledge; and
- Make informed judgements and sound decisions through the analysis, synthesis and evaluation of geographical information.

Assessment Objectives

1. Knowledge

Candidates should be able to:

- Demonstrate relevant factual knowledge – geographical facts, concepts, processes, interactions and trends;
- Demonstrate knowledge of relevant fieldwork techniques – identification of geographical question, sequence of fieldwork inquiry, primary and secondary data collection methods.

2. Critical Understanding and Constructing Explanation

Candidates should be able to:

- Select, organize and apply concepts, terms and facts learnt;
- Make judgements, recommendations and decisions
- Evaluate data collection methods and suggest improvements.

3. Interpreting and Evaluating Geographical Data

Using source materials, candidates should be able to:

- Comprehend and extract relevant information from geographical data;
- Use and apply geographical knowledge and understanding to interpret geographical data;
- Evaluate the validity and limitations of fieldwork evidence and of the conclusions reached.

Themes

Theme 1 : Our Dynamic Planet (Physical Geography)

- Coasts
- Living with Tectonic Hazards
- Variable Weather and Changing Climate

Theme 2 : Our Changing World (Human Geography)

- Global Tourism
- Food Resources
- Health and Diseases

Theme 3 : Geographical Skills and Investigations

- Topographical map reading skills
- Geographical data and techniques
- Geographical Investigations

Examination Format

Paper 1 : 1 hr 40 mins (50m; 50% of total marks)

Section A (25%) - Compulsory

One structured question on Geographical Investigations will be set based on the following topics:

- Coasts
- Global Tourism

The question will be set on one topic or combination of topics. The question carries 25 marks.

Section B (25%)

Two structured questions will be set on Coasts and Global Tourism. One question will be set on a specific topic. One other question will be set on a combination of topics. Candidates must answer one question from this section.

Paper 2 : 1 hr 30 mins (50m; 50% of the total marks)

Section A (25%)

Two structured questions will be set on the following:

- Living with Tectonic Hazards
- Variable Weather and Changing Climate

One question will be set on a specific topic. One other question will be set on a combination of topics. Candidates must answer one question from this section.

Section B (25%)

Two structured questions will be set on the following:

- Food Resources
- Health and Diseases

One question will be set on a specific topic. One other question will be set on a combination of topics. Candidates must answer one question from this section.