

Course: **GEOGRAPHY**

2 units for each of Preliminary and HSC Board Developed Course



Exclusions: Nil

Who should choose Geography?

Students of all abilities are capable of studying Senior Geography. It caters for students at the highest level, with difficult aspects and an expectation of advanced writing skills in your HSC examination. Students of moderate to lower ability are also capable of studying Geography, as long as they are prepared to work hard on understanding the key concepts and large volume of course content.

Why should you choose Geography?

Students who enjoyed or were good at Geography in the junior school should consider continuing their studies. Many of the geographical skills learnt previously are examined in the HSC and the course content builds on the already established themes of both physical and human Geography. With the increasing focus on environmental issues in our world an understanding of Geography is an asset in many career paths beyond school.

How will you learn in Geography?

Fieldwork is a compulsory requirement of both the Preliminary and HSC courses, resulting in excursions to learn about various environments and regions. Geographical skills are also an important aspect of the course, with those skills already completed in the junior school extended upon for the HSC. Exam specific preparation, in particular activities to develop writing and geographical skills, will be provided to help you maximise your performance in the HSC exam. Other teaching techniques utilised in Geography include: discussion, observation, explanation, writing, ICT and EdRolo.

What do you learn about in Geography?

Geographers investigate the opportunities for human activities, the constraints placed upon them and the impacts of these activities. Studies in both physical and human geography provide an important information base on which students investigate contemporary geographical issues to explore why spatial and ecological differences exist, the importance of effective management and how they may take an active role in shaping future society.

Main Topics Covered:

| Preliminary Course | HSC Course |
|-----------------------------|---------------------------------|
| 1. Biophysical Interactions | 1. Ecosystems at Risk |
| 2. Global Challenges | 2. Urban Places |
| 3. Senior Geography Project | 3. People and Economic Activity |

Particular Course Requirements: Nil

Assessment HSC Course only:

| External Assessment | Weighting | Internal Assessment | Weighting |
|-----------------------------------|-----------|--|-----------|
| A three hour written examination: | | Knowledge and understanding of course content | 40% |
| • Multiple choice | 20 | Geographic tools and skills | 20% |
| • Short answer | 40 | Geographic inquiry and research, including fieldwork | 20% |
| • Two extended responses | 40 | Communication of geographical information, ideas and issues in appropriate forms | 20% |
| | 100 marks | | 100% |