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Geography

Geography, part of the humanities subject group, is the study of people, their environment, and the interaction between the two. Students are encouraged to improve their ability to gather and evaluate data and propose solutions. Students learn various skills including map-reading and statistics, and present information using diagrams, maps, and writing.

The Leaving Certificate course follows from Junior Cert Geography, and covers very similar topics (such as rocks, soils, oceans, population movements, map-reading, and economic activities) in a lot more detail.

Brief summary of course content:

Three Core Units:

- Patterns and processes in the Physical Environment
- Regional Geography
- Geographical Investigation

Two Elective Units (pick one):

- Patterns and processes in economic activities
- Patterns and processes in the human environment

Four Optional Units (pick one; higher level only):

- Global Interdependence
- Geoecology
- Culture and Identity
- The Atmosphere-Ocean Environment

How is this subject examined?

Ordinary and Higher Level:

- Written Examination (80%): Students complete two questions on the core units, one question on an elective unit, and one question on an optional unit (higher only).
- Geographical Investigation Report (20%)

Why study Geography?

- If you are interested in geography, economics, environmental science, or politics ...
- It links to many other subject areas- biology and economics in particular.
- If you would like to know 'how the world works'!
- If you want to know the answer to WHY? WHERE? WHAT? WHEN?



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FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS:

How much homework am I expected to do?

As with all your Leaving Certificate subjects you will be required to complete homework. Geography on average will take about 20-30 minutes a day of written work and study.

How are the questions structured?

- There are 10 short questions worth 80 marks
- There are questions for Physical, Regional and Economic each worth 80 marks, (20, 30, 30 marks).
- Higher Level only, the Option essay style question is worth 80 marks.

How much is the Field Study worth?

- 20% overall. Field work is done in Sixth Year.

Can I see exam papers?

- Yes, please go on www.examinations.ie. Remember like all exams good time management is crucial when approaching exam papers.