

AS and A level Geography 2016 Specification Mapping Guide

Introduction

This document is designed to help you compare the existing 2008 Edexcel AS and A2 Geography specification with the new 2016 Edexcel AS and A level Geography specifications.

The document gives a detailed breakdown of where there is familiar content in the new Edexcel specifications, where material that you currently teach is not present in the new specifications and where the new specifications incorporate material that is new to you.

The **2016 Edexcel AS level Geography specification** comprises two areas of study, both of which can be co-taught with A level Geography:

1. Dynamic Landscapes
2. Dynamic Places.

The **2016 Edexcel A level Geography specification** comprises of four areas of study:

1. Dynamic Landscapes (can be co-taught with AS)
2. Dynamic Places (can be co-taught with AS)
3. Physical Systems and Sustainability
4. Human Systems and Geopolitics.

Dynamic Landscapes	Dynamic Places
<p>Topic 1: Tectonic Processes and Hazards</p> <p>Topic 2: Landscape Systems, Processes and Change – a choice of either 2.1 Glaciated Landscapes and Change or 2.2 Coastal Landscapes and Change</p>	<p>Topic 3: Globalisation</p> <p>Topic 4: Shaping Places – a choice of either 4.1 Regenerating Places or 4.2 Diverse Places</p>
Physical Systems and Sustainability	Human Systems and Geopolitics
<p>Topic 5: The Water Cycle and Water Insecurity</p> <p>Topic 6: The Carbon Cycle and Energy Security</p> <p>Topic 7: Climate Change Futures</p>	<p>Topic 8: Superpowers</p> <p>Topic 9: Global Development and Connections – a choice of either 9.1 Health, Human Rights and Intervention or 9.2 Migration, Identity and Sovereignty</p>

Our free support includes:

- a dedicated Geography Adviser, Jon Wolton
- additional AS and A level Geography specimen papers
- student exemplars with assessment commentary
- mock marking training
- Getting Started Guide and course planners for AS and A level Geography
- schemes of work and topic packs for every topic
- support with embedding high quality fieldwork into teaching
- Thinking Geographically: Maths and statistics – based on the proven approach of Pearson Maths
- Thinking Geographically: Literacy – based on the proven approach of Pearson English: Grammar for Writing
- Getting Ready to Teach training events.

Specification map: 2008 Edexcel AS and A2 Geography qualification

Overview of content

2008 Edexcel Specification			2016 Edexcel Specification
Unit and topic	EQ	Detailed content	
Unit 1 Topic 1: World at Risk	1.1	Global hazards	Area of study 1 Topic 1: Tectonic Processes and Hazards – 2.1 relationship between hazards, vulnerability and disaster. Area of study 3 Topic 5: The Water Cycle and Water Insecurity – 2.1, 2.2, 2.3 causes and impacts of floods and droughts.
	1.2	Global hazard trends	Area of study 1 Topic 1: Tectonic Processes and Hazards – 3.1.1 tectonic disaster trends. Area of study 3 Topic 5: The Water Cycle and Water Insecurity – 2.1, 2.2, 2.3 role of ENSO in causing droughts and floods.
	1.3	Global hazard patterns	Area of study 1 Topic 1: Tectonic Processes and Hazards – 1.1 distribution of tectonic hazards; 3.1c the concept of a multiple hazard zone e.g. Philippines.
	1.4	Climate change and its causes	Area of study 3 Topic 7: Climate Change Futures – 1.2 causes of climate change, role of feedback mechanisms.
	1.5	Impacts of global warming	Area of study 3 Topic 5: The Water Cycle and Water Insecurity – 2.3 impacts of climate change on the hydrological cycle. Area of study 3 Topic 6: The Carbon Cycle and Energy Security – 3.3 impacts of anthropogenic climate change. Area of study 3 Topic 7: Climate Change Futures – 1.1 impact of global warming on climate zones and biome distribution.
	1.6	Coping with climate change	Area of study 3 Topic 7: Climate Change Futures – 1.3 responses to climate change, including mitigation and adaptation strategies.
Unit 1 Topic 2: Going Global	2.1	Globalisation	Area of study 2 Topic 3: Globalisation – 1.1, 1.2 factors causing globalisation to accelerate.
	2.2	Global groupings	Area of study 2 Topic 3: Globalisation – 1.2, 1.3 role of TNCs and international organisations in globalisation. Area of study 4 Topic 9, Option 9.2: Migration, Identity and Sovereignty – 3.1, 3.2, 3.3 global

			organisations – more detailed examination in the 2016 specification.
	2.3	Global networks	Area of study 2 Topic 3: Globalisation – 1.1 development of a 'shrinking world'; 1.2, 1.3 reasons why some locations are 'switched on' while other locations remain largely 'switched off'; 2.1 the global shift has created winners and losers in a globalising world.
	2.4	Roots	Less coverage in the 2016 specification. Area of study 2 Topic 4, Option 4.2: Diverse Places – 1.1 populations vary from place to place and over time; 2.1 impact of international migration in the UK.
	2.5	On the move	Area of study 2 Topic 3: Globalisation – 2.2 increase of migration in global hubs, costs and benefits for host and source countries – no directed focus on Europe in 2016 specification. Area of study 2 Topic 4, Option 4.2: Diverse Places – 2.1 impact of international migration into the UK from former colonies and the EU. Area of study 4 Topic 9, Option 9.2: Migration, Identity and Sovereignty – 1.1, 1.2, 1.3 impacts of globalisation on international migration.
	2.6	World cities	Area of study 2 Topic 3: Globalisation – 2.1 rural-urban migration leading to growth of megacities, and the associated social and environmental challenges.
	2.7	Global challenges for the future	Area of study 2 Topic 3: Globalisation – 3.3 ethical and environmental concerns have led to increased localism and awareness of the impacts of the consumption. New focus on global culture, cultural erosion, tensions and link to development in 2016 specification.
Unit 2 Topic 1: Extreme Weather	1.1 1.2 1.3 1.4	Extreme weather watch, extreme impacts, increasing risks, managing extreme weather	Limited coverage in the 2016 specification. Area of study 3 Topic 5: The Water Cycle and Water Insecurity – 2.1, 2.2, 2.3 physical and human causes of floods and droughts, environmental impacts of floods and droughts, and socio-economic impacts of floods.
Unit 2 Topic 2: Crowded Coasts	2.1 2.2	Competition for coasts Coping with pressure	More focus on physical factors/processes and coastal landforms in the 2016 specification. The focus on coastalisation has been removed. This is in order to meet the knowledge and understanding requirements in the DfE's core theme Landscape Systems. Area of study 1 Topic 2, Option 2.2: Coastal Landscapes and Change – 1.1, 1.2, 1.3 why

			coastal landscapes are different and the processes that cause these differences.
	2.3	Increasing risks	Area of study 1 Topic 2, Option 2.2: Coastal Landscapes and Change – 3.1, 3.2, 3.3 focus on sea level change on different timescales, rapid coastal retreat (causes and impacts), and increasing risk of coastal flooding.
	2.4	Coastal management	Area of study 1 Topic 2, Option 2.2: Coastal Landscapes and Change – 4.1, 4.2, 4.3 holistic and sustainable coastal management strategies and policies, hard and soft engineering etc.
Unit 2 Topic 3: Unequal Spaces	3.1	Unequal spaces	Area of study 2 Topic 4, Option 4.1: Regenerating Places – 1.1 inequalities in pay and employment are reflected in variations in social factors; 1.2 measurements of urban and rural change; 1.3 role of globalisation and governments in creating inequalities.
	3.2	Inequality for whom?	Area of study 2 Topic 4, Option 4.1: Regenerating Places – 2.1 economic and social inequalities lead to social consequences; 2.2 there are significant variations in the lived experience of place and engagement.
	3.3 3.4	Managing rural inequalities, managing urban inequalities	Area of study 2 Topic 4, Option 4.1: Regenerating Place – 4.1, 4.2, 4.3 ; and Area of study 2 Topic 4, Option 4.2: Diverse Places – 4.1 social progress can be measured by reductions in inequalities and improvements in social measures of deprivation and demographic changes.
Unit 2 Topic 4: Rebranding Places	4.1	Time to rebrand	More in-depth focus on factors affecting places and role of players, as well as a new focus on perception of place, lived experience and engagement in 2016 specification. This is to meet the knowledge and understanding requirements in the DfE’s core theme Changing Place; Changing Places. Area of study 1 Topic 3: Globalisation – 2.1 – deindustrialised regions face social and environmental problems. Area of study 2 Topic 4, Option 4.1: Regenerating Places – 1.2 measurements of urban and rural change; 1.3 restructuring of the UK economy; 2.1 impact of deindustrialisation; 2.3 some areas more in need of regeneration than others – a study of an urban and a rural place in the UK.
	4.2	Rebranding strategies	Area of study 2 Topic 4, Option 4.1: Regenerating Places – 3.1, 3.2, 3.3 role of UK government, local government and local interest groups, regeneration schemes in urban and rural areas.

	4.3 4.4	Managing rural rebranding, managing urban rebranding	Area of study 2 Topic 4, Option 4.1: Regenerating Places – 4.1, 4.2, 4.3 evaluation of regeneration in a local rural and a local urban place using economic, demographic, social and environmental measures.
Unit 3 Topic 1: Energy Security	1.1	Energy supply, demand and security	Area of study 3 Topic 6: The Carbon Cycle and Energy Security – 2.1, 2.2 energy mix and consumption, reliance on fossil fuels.
	1.2	Impacts of energy insecurity	Area of study 3 Topic 6: The Carbon Cycle and Energy Security – 2.1, 2.2 energy players, energy pathways, development of unconventional fossil fuels.
	1.3	Energy security and the future	Area of study 3 Topic 6: The Carbon Cycle and Energy Security – 2.3 the costs and benefits of alternatives to fossil fuels.
Unit 3 Topic 2: Water Conflicts	2.1	The geography of water supply	More emphasis on physical processes in 2016 specification. Area of study 3 Topic 5: The Water Cycle and Water Insecurity – 1.2 factors affecting the water cycle; 2.1, 3.1 causes of water deficits and insecurity; 3.2 pattern of water scarcity.
	2.2	Risks of water insecurity	Area of study 3 Topic 5: The Water Cycle and Water Insecurity – 3.2 the consequences and risks of water insecurity, potential for internal and trans-boundary conflict.
	2.3	Water conflicts and the future	Area of study 3 Topic 5: The Water Cycle and Water Insecurity – 3.2 the consequences and risks of water insecurity, potential for water conflict; 3.3 different approaches to managing water supply (hard engineering, sustainable schemes, water sharing treaties etc.).
Unit 3 Topic 3: Biodiversity Under Threat	3.1	Defining biodiversity, biodiversity threats, managing biodiversity.	Limited coverage in the 2016 specification.
	3.2		Area of study 3 Topic 7: Climate Change Futures – 1.1 impact of climate and climate change on biome distribution.
	3.3		Area of study 3 Topic 6: The Carbon Cycle and Energy Security – 3.1c link between level of development and conservation.
Unit 3 Topic 4: Superpower Geographies	4.1	Superpower geographies	Area of study 4 Topic 8: Superpowers – 1.1, 1.2, 1.3 concepts of a superpower and mechanisms of power, changing patterns of power change, theories e.g. Dependency Theory.
	4.2	The role of superpowers	Area of study 4 Topic 8: Superpowers – 1.2 – direct and indirect power; 2.1, 2.2 influence of superpowers in the global economic system and international decision making. Area of study 4 Topic 9, Option 9.2: Migration, Identity and Sovereignty – 3.2 role of IGOs in maintaining power.

	4.3	Superpower futures	Area of study 4 Topic 8: Superpowers – 2.3 environmental costs of superpower growth; 3.1, 3.2, 3.3 implications of changing patterns of power, economic ties between emerging powers and the developing world (e.g. China in Africa), uncertain futures. Increased focus on tensions and role of superpowers in managing environmental issues in 2016 specification.
Unit 3 Topic 5: Bridging the Development Gap	5.1	The causes of the development gap	Area of study 2 Topic 3: Globalisation – 3.1 economic and social measures of development, the role of globalisation in narrowing and also widening inequalities. Area of study 4 Topic 9, Option 9.1: Health, Human Rights and Intervention – 1.1, 1.2 economic and social measures of development, role of key players.
	5.2	Consequences of the development gap	Area of study 4 Topic 9, Option 9.1: Health, Human Rights and Intervention – 2.3 inequalities within countries – role of ethnicity and gender.
	5.3	Reducing the development gap	Area of study 4 Topic 9, Option 9.1: Health, Human Rights and Intervention – 3.2, 4.2 different forms of aid and its impacts. Area of study 4 Topic 9, Option 9.2: Migration, Identity and Sovereignty – 3.2 impact of structural adjustment and HIPC policies.
Unit 3 Topic 6: The Technological Fix?	6.1 6.2 6.3	The geography of technology, technology and development, technology, environment and the future	Partial coverage throughout the 2016 specification e.g. technological fixes for energy insecurity, water insecurity etc. Area of study 3 Topic 5: The Water Cycle and Water Insecurity – pros and cons of tech-fix of hard engineering schemes to manage water supplies.
Unit 4 Option 1: Tectonic Activity and Hazards	1.1	Tectonic hazards and causes	More detailed focus on physical processes and vulnerability, and inclusion of multiple hazard zones in 2016 specification. Area of study 1 Topic 1: Tectonic Processes and Hazards – 1.1, 1.2, 2.2 distribution and causes of hazards, tectonic hazard profiles.
	1.2	Tectonic physical impacts	Limited coverage in 2016 specification. Area of study 1 Topic 1: Tectonic Processes and Hazards – 1.2c physical processes impact on magnitude and type of volcanic eruption.
	1.3	Tectonic hazard human impacts	Area of study 1 Topic 1: Tectonic Processes and Hazards – 1.3 hazards associated with different types of tectonic activity; 2.1, 2.2, 2.3 why impacts vary; 3.1 trends over time and space.
	1.4	Response to tectonic hazards	Area of study 1 topic 1: Tectonic Processes and Hazards – 3.2, 3.3 role of prediction and range of management strategies to modify event, vulnerability and loss.

Unit 4 Option 2: Cold Environments – Landscapes and Change	2.1	Defining and locating cold environments	Area of study 1 Topic 2, Option 2.1: Glaciated Landscapes and Change – 1.2 high altitude and high latitude cold environments; 2.1 importance of mass balance in understanding glacial dynamics.
	2.2	Climatic processes and their causes	Area of study 1 Topic 2, Option 2.1: Glaciated Landscapes and Change – 1.1 the causes of climate change vary on different timescales.
	2.3	Distinctive landforms and landscapes	Area of study 1 Topic 2, Option 2.1: Glaciated Landscapes and Change – 1.3 periglacial processes produce distinctive landscapes; 2.3 glacial landforms of different scales and morphologies; 3.1, 3.2, 3.3 the formation of characteristic glacial landforms and landscapes.
	2.4	Challenges and opportunities	Area of study 1 Topic 2, Option 2.1: Glaciated Landscapes and Change – 4.1, 4.2, 4.3 use and management of glacial upland landscapes.
Unit 4 Option 3: Life on the Margins: The Food Supply Problem	3.1 3.2 3.3 3.4	Global and local feast or famine, causes of food inequalities, desertification, management of food supply.	Limited coverage in 2016 specification. Area of study 3 Topic 6: The Carbon Cycle and Energy Security – 1.3 importance of soil health in ecosystem productivity and food production; 3.1 growing demand for food has led to changes in land use cover.
Unit 4 Option 4: The World of Cultural Diversity	4.1 4.2 4.3 4.4	Defining culture and identifying its value, the geography of culture, the impact of globalisation on cultural diversity, cultural attitudes towards the environment.	Partial coverage in 2016 specification. Area of study 2 Topic 3: Globalisation – 2.3 impacts of the emergence of a global culture; 3.2 factors affecting spread of globalisation leading to homogenous/heterogeneous societies. Area of study 2 Topic 4, Option 4.2: Diverse Places – 2.1, 2.2 migration increases cultural heterogeneity, ethnic segregation. Area of study 4 Topic 9, Option 9.2: Migration, Identity and Sovereignty – 2.1, 2.2 reasons for varying levels of ethnic diversity and cultural heterogeneity within and between countries.
Unit 4 Option 5: Pollution and Human Health at Risk	5.1 5.2 5.3 5.4	Causes of health risk, pollution and health risk, managing health risk.	Limited coverage in 2016 specification. Area of study 4 Topic 9, Option 9.1: Health, Human Rights and Intervention – 1.1, 1.2 links between health and economic development.
Unit 4 Option 6: Consuming the Rural Landscape – Leisure and Tourism	6.1 6.2 6.3 6.4	Significance and fragility of rural landscapes and their management.	Limited coverage in 2016 specification. Area of study 1 Topic 2, Option 2.1: Glaciated Landscapes and Change – the intrinsic cultural, economic and environmental value of glacial and periglacial landscapes, threats, management, role of players and conflict – see 4.1, 4.2, 4.3 .

What's new?

We have included the following new topics in order to fully meet the requirements of the DfE's revised GCE Geography subject content.

- Topic 4, Option 4.2: Diverse Places – causes, impacts and management of demographic and cultural change.
- Topic 6: The Carbon Cycle and Energy Security – processes affecting the carbon cycle and its role in maintaining planetary health.
- Topic 7: Climate Change Futures – the links between the water and carbon cycles, and the role of feedbacks within and between them.
- Topic 9, Option 9.1: Health, Human Rights and Intervention – increased focus on health and human rights as measures of development, as well as the role and success of geopolitical interventions in improving development and human rights.
- Topic 9, Option 9.2: Migration, Identity and Sovereignty – tensions between impacts of globalisation, nationalism and territorial integrity, and how effectively these tensions are managed.

