



# A Level Geography

(Available for teaching from September 2008)

**This OCR specification explores the key principles, concepts and processes that explain geographical phenomena and landscapes.** It maintains the balance between physical and human geography whilst ensuring relevance to the modern world.



## What are the benefits to me and my students of delivering this OCR specification?

- The new specification maintains a link with previous OCR specifications, allowing teachers to use existing resources. It builds on aspects of the range of OCR (and other boards) GCSE specifications.
- It reduces repetition of topics covered at GCSE/KS4 level and provides continuity and progression in geographical understanding.
- It provides an excellent foundation for those students wishing to go on to study geography at degree level. Topics are explored in-depth using individual research and investigation techniques.
- It ensures topics have relevance to the modern world and to young people's lives.
- It maintains the requirement to carry out fieldwork but removes the need for lengthy formal reports.

## AS Level

Unit title	Description	Mandatory/Optional?
Managing the Physical Environment	Candidates will develop understanding of the physical processes and factors that produce features, the impact of these processes on human activity and how human action has affected the physical processes. Topics are rivers, coasts, hot and cold environments.	Mandatory
Managing the Human Environment	Candidates will develop an understanding of the of the processes that produce a variety of human environments, the principle changes and how humans are trying to manage the changes. Topics are Managing urban change, managing rural change, energy and tourism.	Mandatory

## A2 Level

Unit title	Description	Mandatory/Optional?
Global Issues	Candidates will develop the ability to identify and quantify issues of global concern, an understanding of the processes responsible for these issues, how humans are responding and the different consequences. Options include earth hazards, climatic hazards and globalisation.	Mandatory
Geographical Skills	Candidates will develop an understanding of the process of geographical investigation including fieldwork, skills needed to complete investigation, an awareness of problems and an ability to evaluate outcomes.	Mandatory

### How is this qualification assessed?

All four units are externally assessed through written examinations.

There are two examination series each year, in January and June.

#### Dates of first examinations

##### AS

First examination available from January 2009.

##### A2

First examination available from January 2010.

### What support will I receive?

#### Training

A full INSET programme.

#### Publishers

OCR endorses textbooks published by Harcourt for AS Geography.

#### Resources

You can download all the following resources from the OCR website – [www.ocr.org.uk](http://www.ocr.org.uk).

- Guidance material for each AS and A2 unit will be available.
- Sample Assessment Materials are available for all units.

For more information please contact the OCR Customer Contact Centre on **01223 553998**, or visit [www.ocr.org.uk](http://www.ocr.org.uk) where you can also join the A Level Geography e-community.