

National 4 Geography (Course Code: C733 74)

SCQF Level 4 (24 Credit Points)

Why study Geography?

This course is designed to enable you to use geographical analysis to develop a detailed understanding of important aspects of the contemporary world. This involves studying the ways that people and the environment interact and examining the environmental issues that arise in a rapidly changing world. Throughout the course you will have the opportunity to develop a wide range of skills including research, evaluation and presentation, IT, mapping and statistics.

The skills you learn in Geography are valuable in a wide range of career sectors, including: working with development or aid agencies, environmental work, working for the census office and in tourism and leisure.

What do I need to get in?

Entry is at the discretion of the school or college but you would normally have achieved:

- **National 3 Geography**
- **National 3 Environmental Science**

What will I study?

You will study the features of the earth – such as mountains, rivers and seas – and how they were formed. You will learn how to use a range of equipment and techniques such as map reading, data collection, ICT and problem-solving. You will find out about cultures and backgrounds of people from all over the world. There will be opportunities for practical activities, including fieldwork.

The course has **three** compulsory units, plus an **added value** unit that assesses your practical skills.

Geography: Physical Environments (6 SCQF credit points)

In this unit you will:

- develop your geographical skills relating to physical environments
- learn about processes and interactions at work within physical environments, including: the location of different types of landscape; how landscape features are formed; land use management and sustainability; and weather
- study some different types of landscape found in Scotland and/or the UK, such as glaciated upland; upland limestone; coastlines of erosion and deposition; and rivers and their valleys.

Geography: Human Environments (6 SCQF credit points)

In this unit you will:

- develop your geographical skills in the context of human environments

- learn about processes and interactions at work within human environments
- study and compare developed and developing countries, including topics such as: contrasts in development; world population distribution and change; and issues in changing urban and rural landscapes.

Geography: Global Issues (6 SCQF credit points)

In this unit you will:

- develop your skills in using sources of numerical and graphical information in the context of global issues
- study some global geographical issues such as: climate change and sustainability; the impact of world climates; environmental hazards; trade and globalisation; and development and health
- learn about the strategies adopted to manage these issues.

Added Value Unit: Geography Assignment (6 SCQF credit points) - this is not mandatory for the 2022-23 session

In this unit you will:

- choose a topic for personal study drawn from geographical contexts
- research your chosen topic and present your findings.

How will I be assessed?

Your work will be assessed by your teacher on an ongoing basis throughout the course. Items of work might include:

- written work - research assignments, reports and case studies
- projects
- class-based exams.

You must pass all the units including the practical unit to gain the course qualification.

Study Materials

What can I go on to next?

If you complete the course successfully, it may lead to:

- **National 5 Geography**
- **National 5 Environmental Science**

Further study, training or employment in:

- Animals, Land and Environment
- Town and Regional Planning