

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.

Career Pathways

To see what career areas this subject could lead to and the routes to get there, download and view these career pathways:

[Animals, Land and Environment](#)

[Arts, Social Sciences and Languages](#)

[Construction](#)

[Information, Culture and Heritage](#)

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.

Note: This unit may be taken with a Scottish Context option, which contributes towards the Scottish Studies Award.

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.

Note: This unit has the option of studying in the context of climate change.

Added Value Unit: Geography Assignment (6 SCQF credit points)

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

[BBC Bitesize Geography National 4](#)

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
- Arts, Social Sciences and Languages
- Town and Regional Planning