



INTEGRITY



MANAAKITANGA



EXCELLENCE

YEAR 12 GEOGRAPHY COURSE OUTLINE - 2026

Course: Year 12 Geography	Code: 12GEO	NCEA: Level 2	Contact: Craig Blacklock Geography Dept Instagram: @wc_geography
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Course Information

Geography is the study of places, what makes them special, what happens within them, the connections among them, and the processes that have made them. Geographers specialise in studying the interactions between social and natural processes, the landscapes and social forms produced by these relationships, and how and why the places they make differ across space and time. Geographers have a deep interest in how our world is changing and how societies might intervene to make better futures.

→ Goals

With climate change upon us, environmental crises, growing inequalities in New Zealand and around the world, along with the increasing threat of global conflict, the subject of Geography has never been more important. Through purposeful study of Geography, the goal for students is to be well placed to make sense of the changes happening in our world. In addition to that you will develop geographical understandings that can lead to a diverse range of well paid and in-demand [Geography career options](#).

→ Course Entry Criteria

Year 12 Geography is open entry and you do not need to have studied Geography previously to be successful in this course. If students are unsure about the workload or difficulty of the course, they should consult with the HOD.

→ During Y12 Geography you will:

Learn to think spatially and use maps, visual images and new technologies, including geographical information systems (GIS), to obtain, present and analyse information.

→ [Course Content](#)

1. Geographic research,
2. A geographic issue affecting central Wellington,
3. Urban patterns: the urban growth patterns of Wellington,
4. Geographic skills & concepts (including orienteering),
5. Global study: global patterns of terrorism,
6. Current events,
7. Geography jobs and careers.

→ What will you do?

Terms 1 and 2 are devoted to completing the four internal assessments on offer in this course. In Terms 3 and 4 you will prepare for the one four credit external assessment.

In Term 1 students will complete a three credit internal assessment on the urban growth patterns of Wellington. At the end of Term 1 students will begin a guided geographic research assessment worth five credits. After that, they will use what they have learned in the guided geographic research assessment to undertake their third internal assessment on a geographic issue affecting central Wellington worth three credits. Towards the end of Term 2, they will attempt their final three credit assessment on the global patterns of terrorism.

Terms 3 and 4 are devoted to preparing students for the one resource based external assessment on geographic skills and concepts which is worth four credits.

→ Field Trips

A full day field trip to Wellington's CBD may take place in Term 1. The costs will be minimal. Students may also do orienteering on the waterfront and on Matarangi Mt Victoria.

→ **Resources and equipment required**

All internal assessments are done through Google Classroom so you should have your own device. Chromebooks and other types of laptops are ideal for this purpose. You should also purchase a small 3B1 note book for your weekly current events quiz and a copy of [Justin Peat's Geography Skills for NCEA Level 2 work booklet](#) (approx. \$32.50) to help you prepare for the AS 2.4 Skills & Concepts external standard. Further details will be on the class stationary list.

→ **NZQA Geography Subject Resources**

Can be found [here](#)

→ **School policy for assessment**

Students should be aware of the school procedures and policies for assessment. They can be found [here](#) on our website, including forms for applying for extensions or reconsiderations.

Assessment

The following standards will be offered and assessed. Please note that assessment dates may change due to unforeseen circumstances. Unless advised otherwise, assessment submissions will be scheduled for 3.15pm on a Wednesday.

Standard Number	Standard Name / Description	Credit value	Assessment Type (Internal/External Formative/Summative Mode)	Is this a UE Literacy standard?	Is Resubmission offered with this standard?	Is there a further assessment opportunity?	Term and week of assessment
91241	Demonstrate geographic understanding of an urban pattern	3	Internal, summative	No	For NAs only	No	Term 1
91243**	Apply geography concepts and skills to demonstrate understanding of a given environment	4	External, summative	No	No	No	Term 4
91244	Conduct geographic research with guidance	5	Internal, summative	No	For NAs only	No	Terms 1 & 2
91245	Explain aspects of a contemporary New Zealand geographic issue	3	Internal, summative	No	For NAs only	No	Term 2
91246	Explain aspects of a geographic topic at a global scale	3	Internal, summative	No	For NAs only	No	Term 2

**is an optional assessment

Course Planner 2026

(**Note:** this course planner is subject to change. Current events are also studied throughout the year.)

Term 1

Week 1	Week 2	Week 3	Week 4	Week 5	Week 6	Week 7	Week 8	Week 9	Week 10	Week 11
Introduction G.I.N. set up	Skills, concepts & patterns	Skills, concepts & patterns	Urban patterns of Wellington	Urban patterns of Wellington	Urban patterns of Wellington	Urban patterns of Wellington	Urban patterns of Wellington Assessment due Wed	Research methodology	Guided geographic research	Guided geographic research. WGTN CBD field rip

Term 2

Week 1	Week 2	Week 3	Week 4	Week 5	Week 6	Week 7	Week 8	Week 9
Guided geographic research	Guided geographic research. Assessment due Wed	Geographic issue	Geographic issue	Geographic issue. Assessment due Wed	Global patterns of terrorism	Global patterns of terrorism	Global patterns of terrorism	Global patterns of terrorism. Assessment due Wed

Term 3

Week 1	Week 2	Week 3	Week 4	Week 5	Week 6	Week 7	Week 8	Week 9	Week 10
Skills & concepts	Skills & concepts	Skills & concepts	Skills & concepts	Skills & concepts	Skills & concepts	Skills & concepts	Skills & concepts	Derived Grade Exams	Orienteering

Term 4

Week 1	Week 2	Week 3	Week 4	Week 5	Week 6	Week 7	Week 8	Week 9
Skills & concepts	Skills & concepts	Revision	Study leave	NCEA Externals	NCEA Externals	NCEA Externals	NCEA Externals	Break

Scholarship Geography

→ Pre-requisites

None. Open entry. We welcome students from Years 11, 12, and 13 who want to have a go at the exam. You also do not need to be studying Y11, L2, or L3 Geography that year to be successful (though it will definitely improve your chances). Please discuss your intentions though with the H.O.D. Geography and your parents first.

→ Teacher

Craig Blacklock

→ Tutorials

We won't be running regular tutorials in 2025. Instead, we will run an intensive one day Scholarship Geography Boot Camp late in Term 3 open to any interested Y11, Y12 and Y13 students.

→ Information & resources

Google Classroom Scholarship Geography group, noticeboard outside Room 304, and the Wellington College Geography Department Instagram private group.

→ Topic

2025 Extreme natural events in a global context. 2026 topic is still to be confirmed.

→ Examination format

Resource based three hour exam during which you will answer three essay questions, each worth 8 points. 24 points in total.

→ Examination date

Wednesday 12 November 2025 (am).

→ **What do you need to be successful in Scholarship Geography?**

- A laptop
- Google Classroom access.
- An interest in global issues and current events.
- An ability to quickly read, process and write information.
- Ideally, a background in studying Geography at Wellington College.

→ **Contact**

Craig Blacklock (H.O.D. Geography) at c.blacklock@wc.school.nz if you have any questions.