

What is this course about?

Geography is a study of the Earth as the home of people. Humans have created and are part of the Anthropocene Age. [Smithsonian](#). We owe it to ourselves to know more about geography especially as we live in the Anthropocene Age. This course explores the relationships and connections between people and both natural and cultural environments. In the level two course we build our understanding and application of the key geographic concepts; environment, processes, patterns, perspectives, interaction, sustainability and change. The course includes a study of and visit to the iconic Tongariro volcanic environment and an opportunity to complete the Tongariro Crossing. This is also used to collect field data for a research assignment. An alternate field trip is the waitomo Karst landscape.

[Geography The Science of Our World](#), ["What is Geography?"](#), [NZGS Why study geography?](#) will give you a good idea of the wide variety of topics that are part of Geography.

Useful links [Geography The Science of Our World](#), [Geography: What is it for?](#), ["Why should I be interested in geography"](#) or [Why Study Geography?](#) and [Careers and Skills in Geography](#).

What sorts of things will I do?

Besides visiting the Tongariro National Park/Waitomo the course also includes the following topics. A global study of the distribution of major fold mountain systems, a significant international commodity (coffee) or human trafficking. Understanding urban patterns requires an explanation of social, economic and physical patterns and processes that are responsible for variations in the urban (city) environment. We look at crime patterns in Chicago. A contemporary New Zealand geographic issue is studied. Typically this may be about conflicts such as managing forestry slash and floods consequences in Tairāwhiti - East Cape, freedom camping, resource use, exporting bottled water, 1080 or swimhole water quality or seabed mining in New Zealand. The context may change from year to year as NZ issues evolve. Geographic research skills (data collection using digital apps Survey123, processing, presentation using GIS mapping, analysis, evaluations and application of geographic concepts) are developed. While field work is an important part of any geography course, development of and using technology (ArcGIS & spatial mapping apps) is becoming increasingly important. Geography will help you to develop your presentation skills while using Google Earth and My Maps in your geographic surveys, research and presenting work. Students will also use ArcGIS to analyse the distribution of homicides in Chicago.

Significant Learning

Significant Learning

Students will gain knowledge, skills, and experience to:

- Understand how the processes that shape natural and cultural environments change over time, vary in scale and from place to place, and create spatial patterns.
- Understand how people's perceptions of and interactions with natural and cultural environments differ and have changed over time.

Rangatiratanga:

Rangatiratanga (self-determination) supports ākonga to achieve. Thinking and meaning-making are promoted.

Learning is meaningful and connected.

To experience success, students will have opportunities to develop their learning dispositions through:

Engagement:

- Actively participate in following teaching instructions, accessing and utilising resources during class, at home, and in self-directed learning.
- Engaging with new learning materials and demonstrate effort in activities and tasks.
- Seeking clarification on learning objectives, assessment criteria, and their personal learning needs.

Managing self:

- Setting personal learning goals and create plans to achieve them.
- Be punctual, prepared, and actively use platforms like Google Classroom.
- Meeting milestones and collaborating with teachers to establish timelines and deadlines for tasks.

Learning relationships:

- Demonstrating effective communication skills and relate well to others.
- Enhancing their learning through questioning, dialogue, discussions, and group work.
- Developing partnerships with teachers and peers to support their learning journey.

What standards can I enter?

Your teacher will work with the whole class and with you to devise a learning programme that is responsive to your strengths, interests, and one that sets you up to aim high and achieve your potential.

NCEA	Standard Number	Name of standard	Assessment mode	Credits (W/R)	Time frame
EXT	91240	Demonstrate geographic understanding of a large natural environment .	Written Assessment	4 (R)	External November
EXT	91243	Apply geographic concepts and skills to demonstrate understanding of a given environment .	Written Assessment	4	External November
INT	91246	Explain aspects of a geographic topic at a global scale	Optional Presentation / Poster/Repor	3	Term 1
INT	91244	Conduct geographic research with guidance.	Optional Presentation / Poster/Repor	5	Term 2
INT	91245	Explain aspects of a contemporary New Zealand geographic issue .	Optional Presentation / Poster/Repor	3	Term 2
INT	91241	Demonstrate geographic understanding of an urban pattern	Optional Presentation / Poster/Repor	3	Term 3
INT	91247	Apply spatial analysis , with guidance to solve a geographic problem.	Optional Presentation / Poster/Repor	3	Term 2/3

Students may choose to complete 4 internal assessments or 3 internal and 1 external assessment.

At Level 2, UE literacy becomes an important qualification for those students with a view to attending university. Level 2 English offers many standards that contain both the reading and writing credits necessary for this qualification.

Key for Credits column:

R - UE reading literacy

W - UE writing literacy

Frequently asked questions

Class trips will incur a charge for transport, entry fees and accommodation if overnight.

- A three-night trip to Tongariro National Park. (Cost to be advised approximately \$280)

“Do I need to have taken geography at level 1 to do this course?” - No

Welcome to Geography.

If you have any questions, contact Kevin Harvey kharvey@ashs.school.nz