GEOLOGY

QUALIFICATION

Advanced Level
Exam Board: WJEC

REQUIREMENTS

GCSE Geography Level 5 preferred
Mathematics Level 5

Why study Geology?

If you've ever wondered why Tsunamis, Earthquakes and Volcanoes cause such carnage on our planet, Geology is for you. You will learn how geological processes deep in the earth impact on our daily lives. You will undertake a minimum of four days fieldwork across the course and develop skills that are readily marketable to employers.

What skills are required?

- Essential knowledge and understanding of different areas of geology and how they relate to each other including civil engineering, engineering geology, hydrogeology, mining geology and petroleum geology.
- Knowledge and understanding of scientific methods as applied in geology through a practice in selecting, using and evaluating a range of quantitative and qualitative skills and approaches as part of their geological studies.
- To understand how society makes decisions about geological issues and how geology contributes to the success of the economy and society.

Course Content

Students complete a programme of study that develops their fundamental knowledge of geology before applying this through study of a range of other topics.

Fundamentals of Geology:

- F1 Elements, minerals and rocks
- F2 Surface and internal processes
- F3 Time and change
- F4 Earth structure and global tectonics

Interpreting the Geological Record:

- G1 Rock forming processes
- G2 Rock deformation
- G3 Past life and past climates
- G4 Earth materials and natural resources

Geological Themes:

- T1 Geohazards
- T2 Geological map applications
- T3 Quaternary geology*
- T4 Geological evolution of Britain*
- T5 Geology of the lithosphere*

Learners study one of the options T3, T4 and T5, indicated with an asterisk.

How it will be assessed:

Geological Investigations	Geological Principals and Processes	Geological Applications
2hr 15min examination worth 35%	1hr 45 min examination worth 30%	2hr examination worth 35%
Practical Endorsement – Non Exam Assessment (NEA) of practical skills which is reported as a separate grade.		

Progression

Students from Oldbury Wells often choose to stay in Geosciences at university. The subject leads well to Environmental Sciences degrees, as well as supporting students who wish to continue their studies in the main sciences. Studying Geosciences can lead to a range of career paths including working in the mining industry, the energy sector or in engineering and environmental industries amongst others.

Staff

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