



ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCE

A Level

Course Outline

A Level Environmental Science is an engaging and thought provoking course, especially for students with a keen interest in the sustainability of our planet. Environmental Science investigates important issues such as the conditions for life on Earth, conservation of biodiversity, the atmosphere, climate change, water use, land management. You will cover field work techniques, as well as, mining, soil fertility, soil erosion, energy use and conservation, pollution and their controls, farming, fishing and forestry. Case studies and news reports show that we all interact with our surroundings and Environmental Science finds out how humans and living organisms interact with each other with the intention of tackling some of the world's most pressing issues.



Useful skills and experience

A background in Geography, Biology and other sciences would be useful for your understanding of the course. An interest in the environment, hard work and commitment will help. It is important to appreciate that there are often a range of different viewpoints for environmental issues.



How will I learn?

In the classroom there will be discussions, debates, power points and enquiries involving internet research. Reports, essays, past examination questions and investigations will be assessed regularly. Expect to be involved in practical work, data collection in the field, visits, and local group investigations.



Assessment

There are 2 papers for the linear A level with no separate coursework assessment. (Paper 1, 3 hours, 50% of the A level. Paper 1 assesses the physical environment, energy resources, pollution and research methods. Paper 2, 3 hours, 50% of the A level and assesses the living environment, biological resources, sustainability and research methods). You will take your A level Environmental Science papers in the May or June of Year 13.



Where could this subject take me?

The course is intended to be interesting and enjoyable. It will help you to appreciate and understand your surroundings and responsibilities. It is a useful qualification for a wide range of further education courses. Universities offer degree courses in Environmental Science and courses related to the environment, ecology, and conservation. The subject also provides the knowledge and skills for a variety of career opportunities such as water monitoring, land management, conservation consultant, sustainability executive, pollution analyst and many more.



Exam Board and Specification



Entry Notes

Grade 5 in GCSE Core Science. Grades 44 in GCSE Trilogy Science preferred.

Grade 4 in GCSE Biology / Chemistry or Physics



Complementary Subjects

- Biology
- Geography
- Mathematics
- Sciences



Related Additional Activities

There will be an opportunity to go on 4 or more fieldwork days in Guernsey, Herm and Jersey.



What our students say

I loved doing the different experiments outside of the classroom, this will enable to help me get into my chosen field of Ecology.

