

# GEOGRAPHY

## 2 units for each of the Preliminary and HSC Board Developed Courses

### COURSE DESCRIPTION:

The Preliminary course draws on contemporary developments in biophysical and human geography and refines students' knowledge and understanding about the spatial and ecological dimensions of geography. It uses enquires methodologies to investigate the unique characteristics of our world through fieldwork, mastery of geographical skills and the study of contemporary geographical issues.

The HSC course enables students to understand and appreciate geographical perspectives about the contemporary world. It draws on rigorous academic tradition in the discipline of Geography, with specific studies about biophysical and human processes, interactions and trends. The application of enquiry methodologies through fieldwork and a variety of case studies combines with an assessment of the geographers' contribution to understanding our environment and demonstrates the relevance of geographical study.

The course looks in depth at issues in both human and physical geography on a global scale which will help give students a deeper understanding of the world they live in. It allows them to investigate the changes that are occurring in the world every day.

### MAIN TOPICS COVERED:

#### Preliminary Course

Biophysical Interactions	45% of course time
Global Challenges	45% of course time
The Senior Geography Project	10% of course time

#### HSC Course

Ecosystems at Risk	33% of course time
Urban Places	33% of course time
People and Economic Activity	33% of course time

**KEY CONCEPTS INCORPORATED ACROSS ALL TOPICS:** change, environment, sustainability, spatial and ecological dimensions, interaction, technology, spatial justice, management and cultural integration.

### PARTICULAR COURSE REQUIREMENTS:

Students complete a senior geography project (SGP) in the Preliminary course and must undertake 12 hours of fieldwork in both the Preliminary and HSC courses. Students will be required to submit both oral and written geographic reports.

ASSESSMENT: HSC COURSE ONLY			
EXTERNAL ASSESSMENT		INTERNAL ASSESSMENT	WEIGHTINGS
A three hour examination	100	Fieldwork	10
		Geographical research	20
		Interpretation and synthesis of geographical stimulus	30
		Geographical writing	40

Field studies are an integrated part of the course and a number of hours in the field is necessary to satisfy course requirements. Geography is a subject which may be taken up in Year 11 without prior study in Year 10.

Assessment throughout this course will be based on short response, extended response, skills activities, field reports and the Senior Geography Project. This variety of tasks ensures a more balanced result.

The S.G.P. is the presentation by students of work based on their own original research into an aspect of Geography which interests them. The SGP may be presented in a form most suitable for the topic chosen.