

What is Geography about?

“Geography is the only subject that has given me the skills to interpret and understand reality in a way I could not imagine before and that will remain for life.”

A student at the British School of Rio de Janeiro (2013)

Geography is a dynamic subject and occupies a middle ground between social and natural sciences. It focuses on the interactions between individuals, societies and physical processes both in time and space. The Diploma Programme geography course integrates physical, environmental and human geography, and ensures that students acquire elements of both socio-economic and scientific methodologies.

What skills will I develop as a learner from the IBDP Geography course?

As a learner, I will equip myself with the following geographic skills:

- Locate and differentiate elements of the Earth’s surface
- Interpret, analyse and construct tables, graphs, diagrams, cartographic material and images
- Undertake statistical calculations to show patterns and summarize information
- Research, process and interpret data and information
- Evaluate sources, collect and select relevant geographic information
- Produce written material (including essays, reports and investigations)

What does Geography Curriculum look like?

Students will be engaged with a wide range of themes related to physical and human geography. Population, Urban environments, Freshwater management and conflicts, Patterns in resource consumptions and Climate change are contemporary topics that explain the patterns and changes in today’s world. While topics like Power, places and network, Human development and diversity and Global risk and resilience explore the concept of globalisation at the turn of the millennium.

Students can choose to study this course either at higher level or at standard level.

In HL students need to study more number of topics than SL in Paper 1. The number of topics covered in paper 2 is the same in HL and SL. Paper 3 is meant for only students of HL geography.

Teaching time for SL students is 150 hours and that of HL is 240 hours over two years.

How does assessment look like?

Standard Level	Higher Level
External Assessment	External Assessment
Paper 1: 40 marks = 35%	Paper 1: 60 marks = 35%
Paper 2: 50 marks = 40%	Paper 2: 50 marks = 25%
	Paper 3: 28 marks = 20%
Internal assessment	Internal assessment
Fieldwork- Written report (25 marks) = 25%	Fieldwork - Written report (25 marks) = 20%

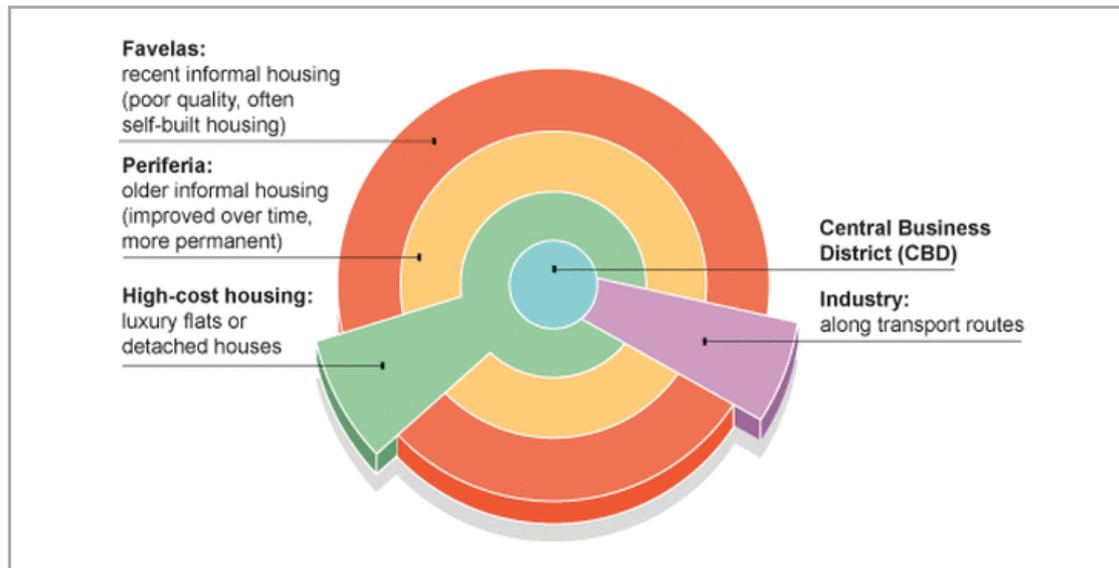
How will this Geography course help me later?

Geography takes advantage of its position to examine relevant concepts and ideas from a wide variety of disciplines. This helps students develop life skills and have an appreciation of, and a respect for, alternative approaches, viewpoints and ideas.

Geography careers offer opportunities to develop solutions to some of the most pressing problems for modern society, including climate change, natural disasters, overpopulation, urban expansion, multicultural integration.

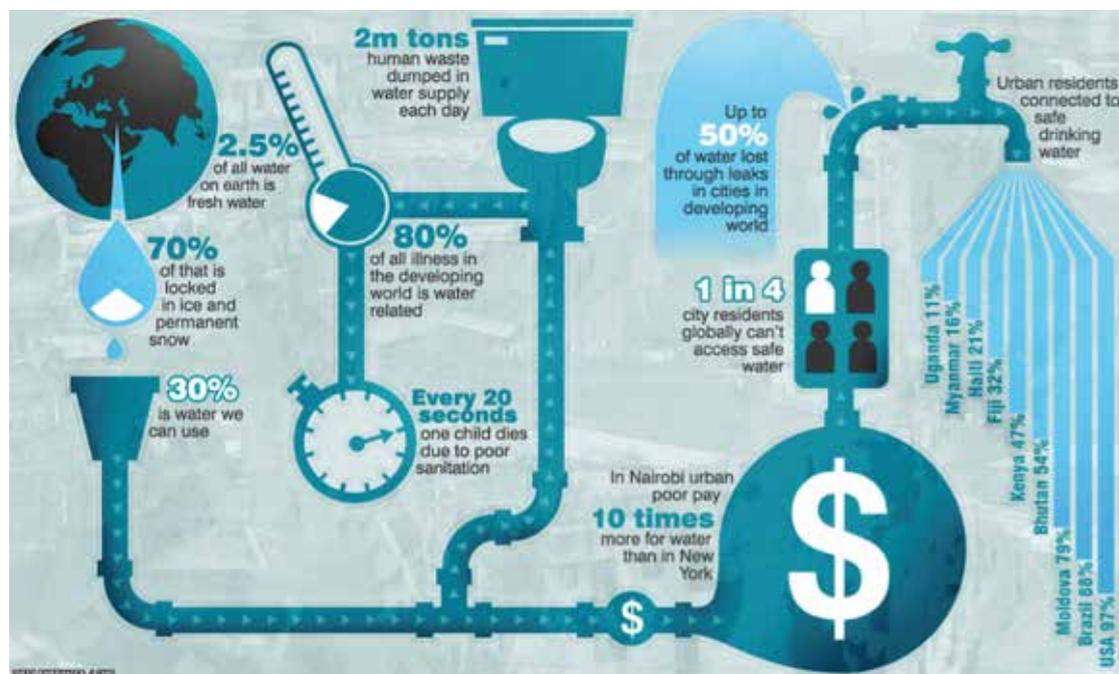
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Urban Model of a developing country; Topic - Urban environments



<http://www.geographypods.com/2-urbanisation-in-brazil.html>

Topic - Freshwater management and conflicts



<http://www.mrgscience.com/ess-topic-42-access-to-fresh-water.html>