

WORLD DEVELOPMENT

AS/A Level

WJEC

Structure & Specification

Year 1- World Development AS GCE (2391)

Year 2- World Development A2 GCE (3391)

Syllabus details

WJEC syllabus is followed.

What does the course include?

There are two AS units WD1 (35%) and WD2 (15%):

Year One- AS

WD1: This unit is an exam based unit, consisting of two themes that explore the development issues faced in LEDCs and MEDCs. Theme 1 focuses upon Development, Resources and Global Citizenship, this is a chance to study challenges facing development in countries such as sustainable development and energy security. Theme 2 explores the problems faced by different groups in society who face poverty and inequality and possible solutions. Both themes adopt a case study approach to learning.

WD2: Portfolio analysis of World Development Issues

You will produce an analysis of 3 articles on Theme 1-Development, resources and global citizenship-500 words, and a comparative essay of up to 1000 words on Poverty and Inequality. The essay will allow you to compare an aspect of poverty and inequality affecting different groups in different countries or regions.

Year Two- A2

WD3: Concepts and Processes of World Development

This unit consists of two themes. Theme 3 enables you to examine and evaluate theoretical approaches to development studies. Theme 4 focuses upon the interrelationship between economic, social and political development.

WD4: Individual Investigation

This is an exciting opportunity to carry out an individual investigation using primary sources on a development issue that interests you. You will collect and analyse data.

How will I learn?

The course is divided between two teachers. The course adopts a case study based approach, you will explore development issues by analysing different groups, societies and cultures through discussion, presentations and written work. At A2 level you will be expected to be able to evaluate development approaches in essay form. Independent study will also be a key part of the course, you will be expected to use a variety of primary sources and articles to support your portfolio

How will my work be assessed?

AS: WD1 compulsory exam 2 hours (35%) and WD2 which is a portfolio/coursework (15%)

A2: WD3 3 hour written paper, consisting of 3 essays, one of which is synoptic (35%) and WD4 which is an individual investigation 3000 words (15%)

What skills will I need to be successful in this subject?

Enthusiasm for development issues is important and the ability to look critically at solutions to development. You must have good independent research and study skills as the portfolio element of the course requires you to work on your own and to produce analysis of a high standard.

What are the entry requirements?

Five GCSEs including a grade C in English. An interest in development is essential.

What are the opportunities after this course for further/higher education and employment?

AS/A Level World Development at grade C or above would enable progression to degree courses in Development Studies and International Development or employment in development fields including working for NGOs and field based work.