
VCE UNITS INFORMATION

VCE Geography Units 3 and 4

CONTENT

Unit 3: Changing the Land

This unit focuses on two investigations of geographical change: change to land cover and change to land use. Land cover includes biomes such as forest, grassland, tundra and wetlands, as well as land covered by ice and water. Land cover is the natural state of the biophysical environment developed over time as a result of the interconnection between climate, soils, landforms and flora and fauna and, increasingly, interconnections with human activity.

Students investigate three major processes that are changing land cover in many regions of the world: deforestation, desertification, and melting glaciers and ice sheets.

At a local scale students investigate land use change using appropriate fieldwork (overnight camp) techniques and secondary sources.

Unit 4: Human Population – Trends and Issues

In this unit, students investigate the geography of human populations. They explore the patterns of population change, movement and distribution, and how governments, organisations and individuals have responded to those changes in different parts of the world. In this unit, students study population dynamics before undertaking an investigation into two significant population trends arising in different parts of the world. They examine the dynamics of populations and their economic, social, political and environmental impacts on people and places. Many factors influence population change, including the impact of government policies, economic conditions, wars and revolution, political boundary changes and hazard events.

OUTCOMES

Unit 3

- Students should be able to analyse, describe and explain land use change and assess its impacts
- Students should be able to analyse, describe and explain processes that result in changes to land cover and discuss the impacts and responses resulting from these changes

Unit 4

- Students should be able to analyse, describe and explain population dynamics on a global scale
- Students should be able to analyse, describe and explain the nature of significant population issues and challenges in selected locations and evaluate responses

ASSESSMENT

School Assessed Coursework for each of Units 3 and 4 will contribute 25% of the study score. The level of achievement for Units 3 and 4 will also be assessed by an end of year examination, which will contribute 50% to the study score.

Please Note: Refer to the Subject Cost Schedule for details of costs relevant to this program.