New India

The purpose of this module is to explore what is often referred to in the media as ‘New India’. The module focus is on how changing human processes are influencing the transformation of India as a place and how it is representing itself and being represented in the wider world. Importantly the module focuses on how the changes to India's society and economy are often influenced by values and attitudes, similar or different to the students’ own, reflecting the diversity of the world in which we live and helping to foster cultural understanding in examining geographical issues. The module encourages students to explore India’s diverse and multicultural population and how this diversity is linked to inequality in wealth and quality of life.

The module starts by establishing what the students already know and how they perceive India. They may have heard that the country is changing. Its economy, population and levels of consumption are growing rapidly but how do they personally feel connected to India? Here they explore how their personal geographies might be linked to India.

In order that students’ learning is grounded in geographical space they learn where places and landscapes are located and that this has implications for the population especially in terms of its distribution and density. An overview of the physical geography of India and how this has influenced human geography is included in this module. The importance of climate with particular reference to Monsoon is included.

Bangalore is a useful case study for examining how globalisation is changing cities in India and both positive and negative experiences of globalisation are explored.

The study of globalisation leads on to looking at the new interdependence that India experiences through global companies and the wider global economy. Finally, students examine how globalisation is shaping India’s own sense of place in the world in contrast to that of the UK and consider alternative futures for India.

Focus on Key Concepts:
Place
Interdependence
Cultural understanding and Diversity