

Class No 05 for B.A. Part. II (Hons.) - GEOGRAPHY

PAPER - V - GEOGRAPHICAL THOUGHT

SECTION - A - UNIT - 01

TOPIC - Relation of Geography with other Sciences.

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Geography is a discipline of synthesis. It attempts spatial synthesis and history attempts temporal synthesis. Its approach is holistic in nature. It recognises the fact that the world is a system of inter dependencies.

All the sciences, whether natural or social, have one basic objective of understanding the reality. Geography attempts to comprehend the associated phenomena as related in sections of reality. Every discipline concerned with scientific knowledge is linked with geography as many of their elements vary over space.

Relations of Geography with Natural Sciences.

Astronomy and Geography.

Astronomy deals with celestial bodies & Geography attempts to identify and measure the impact of the motion of the celestial bodies on the surface of the Earth.

The interaction of astronomy and Geography has given rise to "Cartography" in geography.

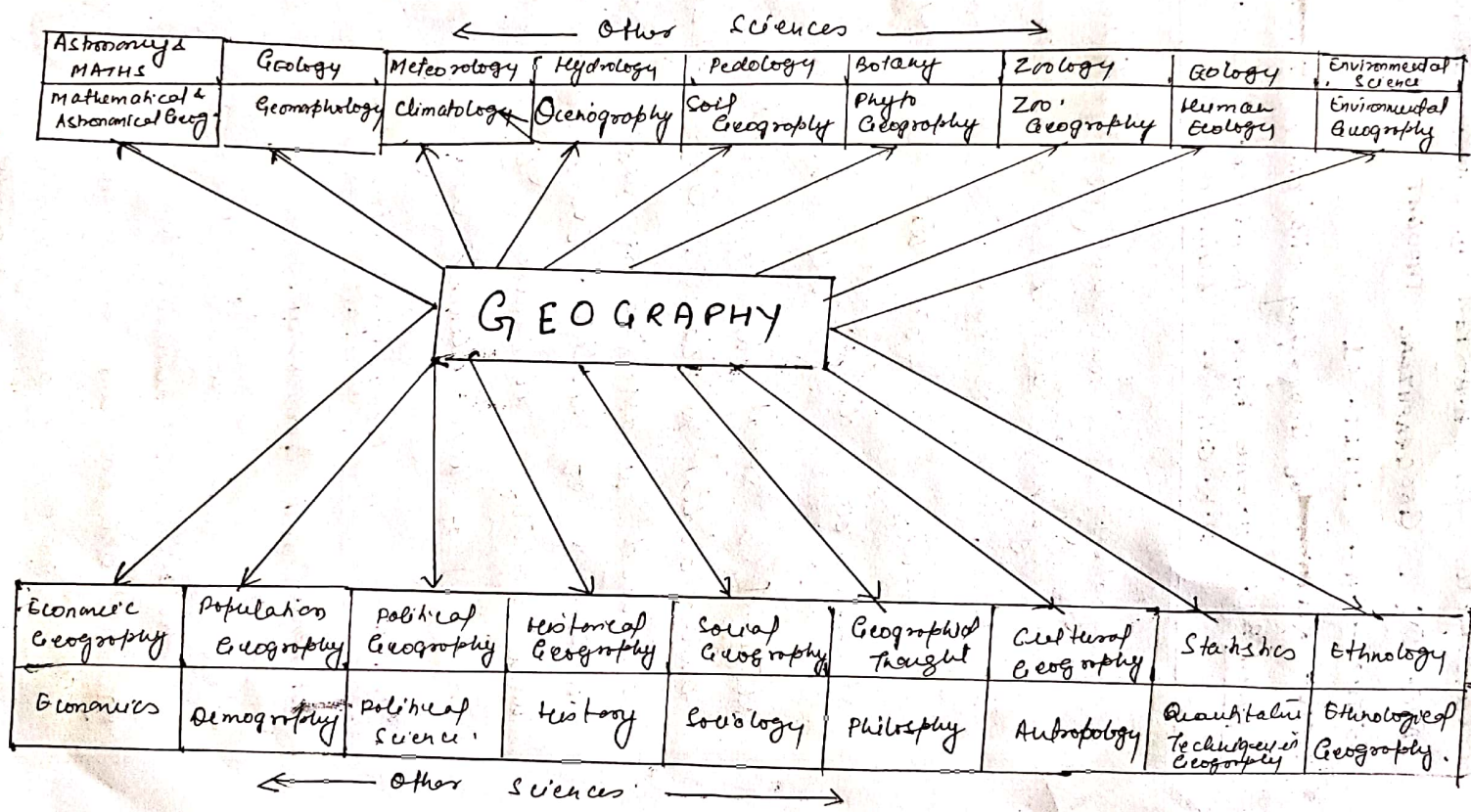


Figure-01. Relation of Geography with other subjects (source: NCERT)

Geography and Geology.

Geology is the study of rocks and their arrangement etc. Geography also studies the earth's surface in detail. Interaction between Geology and Geography leads to Geomorphology or Land Form Geography.

Physics and Geography.

Various branches of Physics like Meteorology, Hydrology have resemblance with their geographical counterparts like Climatology and Oceanography. Even lithospheric processes and changes are studied within the framework of Physics.

Secondly it is from physics that theoretical Geography has been able to develop into model-building precisely because it works with abstract and quantifiable phenomenon.

Botany and Geography & Zoology & Geography.

It is ecological traditions in Botany and Zoology which brought them much closer to Geography. Ecology study the natural relationships whereby particular species of plants and animals are dependent on each other and on the non-organic environment.

Geography especially population Geography and Synecology can be said to parallel traditional biological ecology. Even ecosystem approach in Geography brings Geography & Biological Science together.

Relationship with Social Sciences

Economics and Geography.

Geography's interaction with economics has given rise to Economic Geography, which is the study of the spatial variation on the earth's surface of activities related to producing, exchanging and consuming goods and services.

Sociology and Geography.

Sociology is mainly concerned with the institutional aspects of society. Social Geography is the logical expression of the interaction between sociology & Geography as it studies social phenomena in the spatial context.

History and Geography.

History and Geography are traditionally idiographic in nature and are mutually interdependent.

There can be no history without Geography. History provides the framework into which the multiplicity of historical facts are ordered, the area provides the skeleton for Geography and both the fields are concerned with integrating different kinds of phenomena.