Geography

Curriculum Structure

The Compulsory Part comprises seven geographical issues and problems that have strong relevance for Hong Kong students and are expected to be of considerable public concern for a reasonable period of time. They are structured around three major themes, namely "Living with our physical environment", "Facing changes in the human environment" and "Confronting global challenges".

Living with our physical environment

- (1) Opportunities and Risks Is it rational to live in hazard-prone areas?
- (2) Managing Rivers and Coastal Environments: A continuing challenge

Facing changes in the human environment

- (3) Changing Industrial Location How and why does it change over space and time?
- (4) Building a Sustainable City Are environmental conservation and urban development mutually exclusive?

Confronting global challenges

- (5) Combating Famine Is technology a panacea for food shortage?
- (6) Disappearing Green Canopy Who should pay for the massive deforestation in rainforest regions?
- (7) Climate Change Long-term fluctuation or irreversible trend?

These three themes are developed from patterns, problems and issues arising from various aspects of our natural and human environments and their respective interactions. All the modules developed in these three themes are designed to incorporate key geographical concepts of "location and distribution", "place and region", "people-environment interaction and interrelationship", "change and development in physical and human environments" and "environmental management and sustainable development". This design also aims to enhance students' understanding of the planning and management aspects, as well as of the decision-making processes, in relation to the geographical issues and problems included in the modules.

The Elective Part is designed to cater for the senior secondary students who are expected to have a wider range of abilities, interests and needs. The four electives, out of which students study two, range in nature from those which place a stronger emphasis on academic rigour and conceptual frameworks to those with a more career-related focus and a greater relevance to recent developments in Hong Kong and its neighbouring regions. The electives serve as an extension to the Compulsory Part of the curriculum. In some cases, such as "Weather and Climate", they develop further the basic geographical concepts and knowledge included in

the Compulsory Part. Others, such as "Transport Development, Planning and Management", aim at broadening the scope of study by introducing other major branches of Geography that have not been incorporated into the Compulsory Part of the curriculum. The four electives are as follows:

- (1) Dynamic Earth: the building of Hong Kong
- (2) Weather and Climate
- (3) Transport Development, Planning and Management
- (4) Regional Study of Zhujiang (Pearl River) Delta

MODE OF ASSESSMENT

The following table outlines the various components of the public assessment of Geography in 2022 HKDSE:

	Paper 1		Paper 2	
Weighting:	75%		25%	
Duration:	2¾ hours		1¼ hour	
Scope:	Compulsory Part		Elective Part	
Section/ Question type:	A. Multiple-choice	(20%)	E. Data/Skill-based/Structured	(15%)
	B. Fieldwork-based	(15%)	F. Short Essay	(10%)
	C. Data/Skill-based/Structured	(30%)		
	D. Short Essay	(10%)		

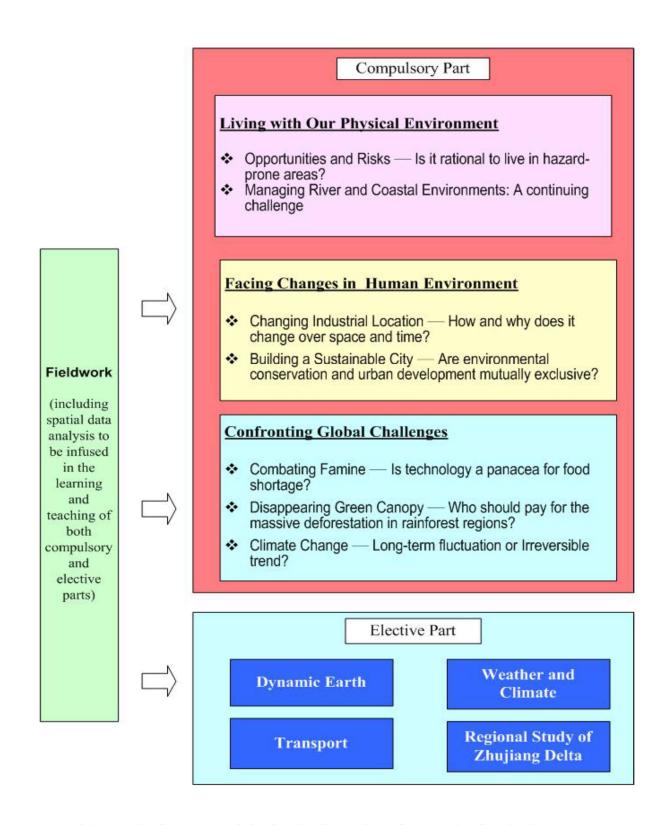


Figure 2.1 The Structure of the Senior Secondary Geography Curriculum

PUBLIC EXAMINATION

- 1. The examination will consist of two papers.
- 2. Paper 1 will consist of 4 sections (A, B, C & D) and questions will be set from the Compulsory Part. Section A will include multiple-choice questions, which will cover any topic from the Compulsory Part. Candidates are expected to answer all questions and are advised to spend about 30 minutes on this section.

Section B will be a compulsory fieldwork-based question. Candidates are advised to spend about 45 minutes on this section.

For the 2022 HKDSE, candidates are expected to have fieldwork experiences in the following modules:

- Opportunities and Risks
- Managing River Environment
- Combating Famine

Section C will have 4 data/skill-based/structured questions and Section D will have 3 short essay questions. Candidates will be required to answer 2 questions from Section C and 1 question from Section D. They are advised to spend about 30 minutes on each question in these two sections. However, candidates are free to make their own time allocation for the four sections in this paper.

- 3. Paper 2 will consist of 2 sections (E & F) and the questions will be set from the Elective Part. Both Sections E and F will consist of 4 questions each. Candidates are required to choose 1 question from each section, of which the 2 questions chosen can be taken from the same or different electives.
- 4. Both Papers 1 and 2 may include the testing of skills, attitudes and values, and map work using local topographical maps (1:20 000/1:5 000), and/or simplified map extracts.

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