HISTORY

INTRODUCTION

The public assessment of this subject is based on the Curriculum and Assessment Guide (Secondary 4—6) History jointly prepared by the Curriculum Development Council and the Hong Kong Examinations and Assessment Authority. Candidates have to refer to the Guide for the knowledge, understanding and skills they are required to demonstrate in the assessment.

The 2014 Assessment Framework may be subject to change based on the experience of the first administration of the HKDSE Examination. Schools and the public will be informed of any changes with adequate advance notice.

ASSESSMENT OBJECTIVES

A. For the Public Examination component
   The objectives of this component are to evaluate candidates’:
   1. knowledge and understanding of the 20th century’s major events and trends, and their interrelationship;
   2. ability to recall, evaluate and select knowledge relevant to the context and to deploy it in a clear and coherent form;
   3. ability to recognise and make use of the concepts of cause and consequence, continuity and change, similarity and difference in time and space;
   4. ability to look at events and issues from the perspective of people in the past;
   5. ability to interpret and evaluate historical evidence: to extract information from historical sources; to distinguish between fact, opinion and judgment; to detect bias; to draw conclusions based on a comparison of various types of historical sources.

B. For the School-based Assessment (SBA) component
   The objectives of this component are to evaluate candidates’:
   1. ability to formulate and evaluate decisions in the process of collecting and analysing information, and listing and ranking alternatives;
   2. understanding that historical conclusions are liable to reassessment in the light of new and reinterpreted evidence;
   3. spirit of impartiality and empathetic understanding in the study of History.
Mode of Assessment

The public assessment will consist of a public examination component and a school-based assessment component as outlined in the following table:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Component</th>
<th>Part</th>
<th>Weighting</th>
<th>Duration</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Public Examination</td>
<td>Paper 1</td>
<td>50%</td>
<td>1¾ hours</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Paper 2</td>
<td>30%</td>
<td>1¼ hours</td>
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<tr>
<td>School-based Assessment (SBA)</td>
<td>A two-task course assignment related to the candidate’s selected electives. The weighting of the tasks are as follows:</td>
<td>20%</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Study outline</td>
<td>7%</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Study report</td>
<td>13%</td>
<td></td>
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</tbody>
</table>

* Theme A (3)(ii) and Theme B (4)(iii)b will only be examined in Paper 2.

PUBLIC EXAMINATION

1. The Public Examination will consist of two papers.
2. Paper 1 will carry 50% of the total subject marks, and will be of 1¾ hours’ duration. The paper will consist of data-based questions, which will fall within the Compulsory Part. Candidates should attempt all the questions. Various types of historical sources will be used, which may include extracts from written sources, statistics, and visual materials such as maps, cartoons and photographs.
3. Paper 2 will carry 30% of the total subject marks, and will be of 1¼ hours’ duration. The paper will consist of seven essay-type questions within the Compulsory Part, of which candidates may attempt any TWO.

SCHOOL-BASED ASSESSMENT (SBA)

1. Candidates should complete a two-task assignment on an aspect of historical study related to a candidate-selected Elective.
2. Candidates should follow the sequence of tasks as follows:
   a. Study outline (7%)  
      Candidates should produce a study outline with a bibliography.
   b. Study report (13%)  
      Candidates should summarise their findings in a study report.
3. The SBA component is compulsory for all school candidates. Private candidates will not need to complete the SBA component. Their subject mark will be based on their public examination results and proportionally adjusted.
4. Candidates are required to keep good custody of their work for inspection and authentication purposes until the release of the HKDSE results.

The detailed requirements, regulations, assessment criteria and guidelines are provided in the SBA Handbook for HKDSE History published by the Hong Kong Examinations and Assessment Authority.

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