TOURISM AND HOSPITALITY STUDIES

INTRODUCTION

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

ASSESSMENT OBJECTIVES

The learning objectives to be assessed in THS are listed below:

- Understanding the structure and nature of the various interdependent components of the tourism and hospitality industry;
- Recognising the relative importance of the tourism and hospitality industry to host destinations and global economy;
- Understanding tourism and hospitality issues and analysing the main factors affecting the demand for and supply of tourism and hospitality services;
- Evaluating sustainable tourism strategies that can be used to minimise the negative economic, environmental and social impacts of tourism and maximise the positive ones;
- Appreciating the importance for tourists and tourism/hospitality operators of fulfilling responsibilities in an ethical manner;
- Applying information technology skills, communication skills, problem-solving skills and critical thinking skills effectively in the context of a dynamic tourism and hospitality industry;
- Demonstrating the basic principles and skills of providing quality customer service.

MODE OF ASSESSMENT

The following table outlines the various components of the public assessment of THS in 2012 HKDSE:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Component</th>
<th>Weighting</th>
<th>Duration</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Public Examination</td>
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<tr>
<td>Paper 1</td>
<td>Section A: Multiple-choice questions</td>
<td>43%</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Section B: Data-based questions</td>
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<tr>
<td>Paper 2</td>
<td>Essay-type questions</td>
<td>57%</td>
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PUBLIC EXAMINATION

The written examination will carry 100% of the total subject marks, and will comprise two papers. Questions in both papers will fall within the Compulsory Part of the Curriculum.

**Paper 1** will carry 43% of the subject marks, and last 1¼ hours. This paper will consist of Section A, multiple-choice questions, and Section B, data-based questions. Candidates will be required to answer questions from both sections. They are advised to spend about 45 minutes and 30 minutes on Section A and Section B respectively.

**Paper 2** will carry 57% of the subject marks, and last 1¾ hours. This paper will consist of five essay-type questions, of which candidates will be expected to answer any three.
SCHOOL-BASED ASSESSMENT (SBA)

SBA will be implemented starting from the 2014 HKDSE. The SBA of THS will carry 30% of the subject marks, and consist of two parts to be done in S5 and S6: (a) a task and (b) course assignments.

(a) The task (20%) requires candidates to undertake an in-depth study on a selected topic in the Elective Part. They can choose either to plan and organise a THS-related event (e.g. design and display a booth in a school to promote fair trade in the tourism and hospitality industry), or to produce a THS theme-based product (e.g. an information booklet on ecotourism destinations in South America). A list of suggested task topics and their specific requirements and mode of delivery will be provided to candidates. The major areas for assessment are: (i) data sourcing, (ii) oral presentation and (iii) product.

(b) Course assignments (10%) take the form of leaflets/posters, reports on visits and news commentaries assigned by the subject teacher for completion in S5. Each candidate is required to submit two assignments based on topic areas in the Compulsory Part and delivered in different modes as stipulated.

The implementation of SBA in THS is scheduled as follows:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year of examination</th>
<th>Implementation of SBA</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2012 &amp; 2013</td>
<td>Schools are not required to submit SBA marks. Public examination results constitute 100% of the final subject result.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Starting from 2014, all schools have to submit SBA marks contributing 30% to the final subject results.</td>
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</table>

The detailed requirements, regulations, assessment criteria and guidelines will be provided in the SBA Handbook (Trial Version) for HKDSE Tourism and Hospitality Studies published by the Hong Kong Examinations and Assessment Authority. During the transition years, the curriculum for THS will remain as it is at present and schools will be expected to conduct the SBA activities as an integral part of learning and teaching and internal assessment as recommended in the Curriculum and Assessment guide. In the light of feedback from schools during the transition years, a finalised version of the Handbook will be published when the SBA is implemented.