

Humanities (Social Studies, Literature)

(Syllabus 2260)

PAPER 1: SOCIAL STUDIES

Philosophy of the Singapore Social Studies Curriculum

At the heart of the Singapore Social Studies curriculum is the preparation of students to be effective citizens by helping them to better understand the interconnectedness of Singapore and the world they live in and appreciate the complexities of the human experience.

Drawing on aspects of society that are of meaning and interest to students, Social Studies seeks to ignite students' curiosity to inquire into real-world issues that concern their lives. Through inquiry and authentic learning experiences, Social Studies helps students to attain relevant knowledge and understanding about these issues, develop critical and reflective thinking skills, and appreciate multiple perspectives.

Social Studies seeks to inculcate in students a deeper understanding of the values that define the Singapore society, nurture dispositions that will inspire them to show concern for the society and the world in which they live and demonstrate empathy in their relationships with others. The curriculum therefore envisions students as informed, concerned and participative citizens, competent in decision-making with an impassioned spirit to contribute responsibly to the society and world they live in.

The syllabus content is organised around **three Issues** and is anchored in a set of knowledge, skills and values outcomes. The three Issues correspond to societal issues that have been shaping Singapore, the region and the world. The knowledge, skills and values acquired through exploring these Issues will develop students' competencies to be informed, concerned and participative citizens.

Issue 1: Exploring Citizenship and Governance

Inquiry Focus – Working for the good of society: Whose responsibility is it? Why this Issue matters

This Issue invites students to begin exploring what it means to be an informed, concerned and participative citizen. Students will deepen their understanding of citizenship and governance and learn how citizens and government play complementary roles in working for the good of society. In a complex society and world, understanding their roles as citizens will influence how they respond to various situations and issues in Singapore and the world. This will serve to develop a stronger sense of civic consciousness, enhancing the roles they play as citizens who are rooted in Singapore with a global outlook.

Key Understandings

- Citizenship is varied and complex.
- Government is a political institution with important functions and roles to govern.
- Different groups of people in society have differing needs, interests and priorities, and experience unequal sharing of costs. Managing these differences often requires trade-offs to be made.
- Both citizens and government can play complementary roles in working for the good of society.

Issue 2: Living in a Diverse Society

Inquiry Focus – Living in a diverse society: Is harmony achievable? Why this Issue matters

This Issue helps students appreciate diversity and the importance of harmony. Students will develop an understanding of who they are as individuals and accept, respect and celebrate diversity as well as common practices and values in a diverse society. This will heighten students' awareness of the need to develop personal and collective responsibility in promoting and maintaining harmony in a diverse society.

Key Understandings

- Identities are diverse and complex.
- Living harmoniously in a diverse society means respecting our differences and appreciating what we share in common.
- People respond to diversity in a variety of ways to achieve harmony.

Issue 3: Being Part of a Globalised World***Inquiry Focus – Being part of a globalised world: How can we respond to globalisation?******Why this Issue matters***

This Issue helps students understand and make meaning of their lives in a globalised world where countries and individuals are interconnected and interdependent. Students will explore the impacts of globalisation in three areas: economy, culture and security. They will understand the complex process of globalisation through examining how the impacts of globalisation in these areas result in trade-offs and different responses from countries and individuals. Students will therefore appreciate the complex decision-making process behind the responses towards the impacts of globalisation. This understanding will help them to make well-reasoned and responsible decisions as informed, concerned and participative citizens in a globalised world.

Key Understandings

- Globalisation shapes the interconnections and interdependence among countries and people.
- Globalisation creates impacts in the economy, culture and security.
- The impacts of globalisation result in differing responses from countries and people.

ASSESSMENT

- One paper of 1 hour 45 minutes.
- Paper comprises 2 sections:
 - Section A: (35 marks)
 - One source-based case study
 - Section B: (15 marks)
 - Two structured-response questions
- Candidates are required to answer the compulsory source-based case study from Section A and the compulsory structured-response questions from Section B.

Paper 2 Literature in English

ASSESSMENT OBJECTIVES:

Candidates will be assessed on their ability to:

- (i) demonstrate, through close analysis, knowledge of the literary texts studied
- (ii) respond with knowledge and understanding to literary texts from the genres of prose, poetry and drama
- (iii) demonstrate understanding of the ways in which writers' choices of form, structure and language shape meanings
- (iv) communicate a sensitive and informed personal response to what is read; and
- (v) express responses clearly and coherently, using textual evidence where appropriate.

The Assessment Objectives are inter-related. Candidates' responses will be assessed holistically on the attainment of these Assessment Objectives in an integrated and meaningful way.

EXAM FORMAT:

One paper will be set (Paper 2262/02). Candidates are expected to answer a total of two questions. Total examination time will be 1 hr 40 minutes.

Please see table below.

Paper 2	Duration and Weighting	Details of Paper and Sections
Prose and Unseen Poetry	1 hour 40 minutes [50%]	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• There will be two sections in this paper.• Candidates will select <u>one</u> question from each of the two sections.• In total, candidates will answer <u>two</u> questions.• Each question is 25% of the total weighting. <p><u>Section A: Prose [25%]</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• For each of the six set texts in this section, <u>one</u> passage-based question and <u>two</u> essay questions will be set.• Candidates will answer <u>one</u> question [25%] based on one of the six set texts.• For every year of examination, <u>one or two</u> Singapore texts will be set. <p><u>Section B: Unseen Poetry [25%]</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• There are no set texts in this section.• There will be a choice of <u>two</u> unseen poems with <u>one</u> question set on each poem.• Candidates will answer <u>one</u> of the two questions [25%].• For every year of examination, <u>one</u> question will be set on a Singapore text.