

*St. Rose of Lima's College*  
*Social Science Department*

**New Senior Secondary Curriculum**  
**History**

**1. Introduction**

The study of history helps to develop a global perspective and an enhanced understanding of the processes of interaction, diversification and rapid change in today's world. Upon completion of this course, students should have mastered higher-order thinking skills, such as historical interpretation and analysis that will enable them to appreciate where they stand in the long flow of human history. They should also have cultivated the values and attitudes that are the attributes of a responsible citizen.



**2. Curriculum Aims**

The overall aims of the History curriculum are to enable students:

- ◆ To discover where they stand in the contemporary world through understanding the origins and development of modern events;
- ◆ To develop the skills of critical thinking, making sound judgments and effective communication through exploring historical issues;
- ◆ To approach past and current events in an impartial and empathetic manner, using a variety of perspectives;
- ◆ To understand the characteristics and values of their own culture, and appreciate the shared humanity and common problems of the world's many peoples;
- ◆ To cultivate both national consciousness and the consciousness of being citizens of the global community, and thus to become rational and sensible members of the local community, the nation and the world; and
- ◆ To be prepared to explore in greater depth an issue of personal interest, or that may be of relevance to their future careers and professional studies.

### 3. Curriculum

The curriculum comprises a compulsory and an elective part to achieve a balance between breadth and depth in the study of history.

**The compulsory part** of the History curriculum includes the following areas:

1. The Making of the Modern World
2. Modernization and Transformation in Twentieth – Century Asia
  - ◆ Modernization and transformation of Hong Kong
  - ◆ Modernization and transformation of China
  - ◆ Modernization and transformation of Japan and Southeast Asia
3. Conflicts and Cooperation in the Twentieth-Century World
  - ◆ Major conflicts and the quest for peace
  - ◆ The quest for cooperation and prosperity

**The elective part** provides opportunities for students to specialize in an aspect of 20<sup>th</sup> century history that they deem most relevant to their needs, interests and ability level.

Students are required to choose one of the followings:

- ◆ Comparative studies
  - ◆ Issue-based studies\* and
  - ◆ Local heritage studies
- (\* The elective part chosen by our school.)

#### 4. Proposed Schedule of Topics

Year	Topics
Form 4 (SS4)	Compulsory part:
	1. The Making of the Modern World (i) The foundation of Western supremacy (ii) Western expansion and the formation of colonial empires (iii) Asia's reactions to Western expansion (iv) Towards international cooperation Information Processing
	2. Major conflicts and the quest for peace (i) International relations from 1900 to 1914 (ii) The two world wars and the peace settlements (iii) Major conflicts after WWII and attempts to make peace
	3. The quest for cooperation and prosperity (i) International economic cooperation (ii) International social and cultural cooperation
	Elective part:
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◆ Introduction of Issue-based studies</li> <li>◆ Choosing of topic for inquiry</li> </ul>
Form5 (SS5)	Compulsory part:
	1. Modernization and transformation of Hong Kong (i) Political and institutional changes (ii) Development as an international city
	2. Modernization and transformation of China (i) Early attempts at modernization – reforms and revolutions (ii) Socialist modernization in the Maoist period and the evolution of “socialism with Chinese characteristics” in the post-Mao period
	3. Modernization and transformation of Japan and Southeast Asia (i) Japan: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◆ modernization in the early 20th century</li> <li>◆ reconstruction and growth after WWII</li> <li>◆ relations with other Asian countries</li> </ul> (ii) Southeast Asia: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◆ from colonies to independent countries</li> </ul>
	Elective part:
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◆ Presentation of research report</li> </ul>
Form 6 (SS6)	Compulsory part:
	Revision
	Elective part:
	Written report

## 5. Details of the School-based Assessment

Students have to complete a mini-research study within three years. It will be divided into three stages.

- i. Topic design and data collection  
Students have to do preliminary planning by deciding on the topic they are interested in researching and collecting relevant materials.
- ii. Data analysis  
Students would brief their teachers and classmates on the work they have done so far and get feedback that may help them to address any problems or sharpen their arguments before drafting their study reports. The output of this task will be an enquiry outline and an oral presentation.
- iii. Study report  
Students have to summarise their findings in short reports, and should elaborate them in the light of the approach adopted in their selected Electives.

## 6. Public Assessment

Component		Weighting	Duration
Public examination	Paper 1 Data-based questions (Students have to attempt all)	50%	1 hour 45 minutes
	Paper 2 Essay-type questions (Students have to choose any two out of the seven)	30%	1 hour 15 minutes
School-based assessment	A two-task course assignment related to the candidates' selected electives. The weightings of the tasks are as follows: <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>◆ Topic design and data collection 4%</li><li>◆ Data analysis 7%</li><li>◆ Study report 9%</li></ul>	20%	

## 7. Useful links

- ◆ <http://www.hkedcity.net/resources/>