

“Soon you’ll be a senior former, any thoughts on your subject choice?”

**Choosing Elective Subjects
in the New Senior Secondary Curriculum(NSSC)**

**Personal, Social and Humanities Education
Key Learning Area**





The Six Humanities Subjects in NSSC

Chinese History stresses the development of China in the past two centuries with focus on historical themes. Much importance is placed on the training of critical thinking skills. As students reflect on Chinese history and culture, their understanding of the country is deepened and a stronger sense of national identity is developed.

Economics helps students understand general economic trends and analyse how people make choices. It deals with both theories and their applications.

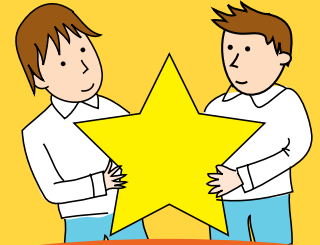
Ethics and Religious Studies helps students explore the meaning of life, seeks self-understanding and an appreciation of how the human community works, so that their life has direction and is based on positive values.

Geography integrates the social and physical sciences and exposes students to the interactions between society, the economy and the environment. It enhances skills in processing spatial information.

History helps students understand the major developments in Asia and other parts of the world in the 20th century. The subject develops analytical power and critical thinking skills.

Tourism and Hospitality Studies provides a sound foundation for students with such career orientations, offering a rich repertoire of specific and generic skills.

Creativity Creativity
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Creativity



Creativity

The Era of the Creative Economy Calls



The 21st century sees the birth of the Era of the Creative Economy, with creative industries being the fastest growing around the globe. Industries that have always valued creativity, such as advertising, publishing and software development, have flourished in recent years. Other industries such as manufacturing, finance and services have to embrace new ideas to revitalise their operations to remain competitive.



The humanities foster creativity. Creativity springs from daily life and nurtures culture, which in turn shapes the way we live. With the expansion of the creative economy worldwide, Hong Kong needs talents equipped with a broad vision, sharp discernment, and sound understanding in history and culture.



Celebrity Quotes

Listen to what they are saying ...



Banking, finance, marketing, public relations, hotel and tourism are all top of the line trades in future society. Careers in these fields require good communication and articulation abilities as well as sound knowledge about history, culture and the geographical environment.

Ms CHOW Yee-ping
Managing Director of a human resources consultancy



Nowadays more and more large corporations are looking for recruits with wide horizons.

Mr Irving KOO
Chairman,
The Hong Kong Examinations
and Assessment Authority



Many employers in Hong Kong are recruiting staff with a thorough knowledge of China. Knowledge of Chinese history helps a lot in understanding the recent development of the country.

Professor Francis T. LUI
Director,
Center for Economic Development,
The Hong Kong University of
Science & Technology



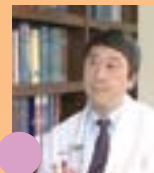
Almost every job requires interacting with other parts of the world; therefore students need foundation knowledge in geography in order to do well.

Mr LAM Chiu-ying
Director, The Hong Kong Observatory



What society needs in the future are people that are well versed not only with a body of professional knowledge, but also a general understanding of culture, history, religion, etc.

Dr Peter T Y CHEUNG
Associate Professor, Department of Politics and
Public Administration,
The University of Hong Kong



Medical professionals face issues of life and death everyday. It is a definite advantage to patients and themselves, if they possess clarity of morals and maturity of character. As an employer and an administrator for student admission in the medical faculty, I put much stress on applicants' moral standards and values, besides their academic achievements.

Professor Joseph J Y SUNG
Associate Dean(General Affairs),
Faculty of Medicine,
The Chinese University of Hong Kong



The tourism and hospitality sector in Hong Kong needs the participation of young and creative minds to reach a new milestone.

Dr Allan ZEMAN
Ocean Park Chairman



When I was studying Economics in the 1970s, the subject was by no means a popular one and few knew what it was about. Now it is completely different in Hong Kong. No matter which profession you plan to take up, be it medicine or engineering, you have to understand some economics.

Mr KWOK Kwok-chuen
The HKSAR Government Economist

Learning the Humanities –Key to Future Workplace!

Group discussion

Group discussion helps students develop an open mind, learn to accept different opinions and appreciate others, as well as improve communication and collaboration skills.

Project learning

Project learning provides opportunities for students to conduct self-directed enquiries and develop skills such as critical thinking, problem solving and creativity.

Role play

Through role play, students learn to consider things from other people's perspectives. Post-role-play briefing helps students analyse complicated situations, strengthens analytical power and problem solving skills, as well as develops empathy for the feelings of others.

Field study

Authentic contexts make meaningful learning. Students put classroom knowledge into practice when they enquire into real life issues. They also acquire new knowledge and skills.

Learning to serve

Serving others is a meaningful experience. Students learn to reflect, expand their horizon and develop deeper views and values.

What the employer looks for in the employee include communication skills, team spirit, language fluency, perseverance and willingness to accept additional responsibilities; but most important of all — **COMMON SENSE**

Enrich your humanistic qualities and you are prepared for a variety of professions.

Song writers and cultural depth

Songs that touch people's hearts come from lyricists who reflect deeply on life, who are sensitive to everyday living and who dream and hope.

Designers and cultural tradition

The essence of design lies in creativity and substance. The long history of Chinese culture, and the unique cultural characteristics of many nations, are sources of rich inspiration for designers. By incorporating elements of traditional cultures into products, designers give deeper meaning to our daily existence.

Journalists, editors, researchers and common knowledge

The skills in acquiring and making good use of common knowledge are especially important for workers in these fields. They must understand the nature of information, organise and sort out different types of information, and have a holistic understanding of the context.

Playwrights and empathy

Playwriting is a highly creative job. The strong emotions a playwright feels for people, things and scenes are often springs of inspiration for the creation of scripts that touch people's hearts.

Financial analysts and a global outlook

To estimate the potential of emerging markets, one needs to know not only their economic situations, but also their geographical locations, socio-political environments, historical and cultural backgrounds, etc. Global trends and factors affecting economic development are important data for financial analysis.

CEOs and interpersonal relationship as well as decision making

The chief executive officer is the highest commander of an enterprise. The office holder needs to have good communication skills and be open to views from different people. Besides, facing an ever-changing commercial world, a CEO needs high analytical and organisational abilities as well as a wide horizon, so that sound and desirable decisions can be made.



Dr Saimond IP, Chief Executive Officer

CEOs or managers of the new generation need to be equipped and trained in humanities so as to develop a zest in their endeavours and a sensitivity to the general trends. The key to success lies in thorough knowledge of the self and of others, and adaptability to change.



Mr Alfred CHEUNG, Director

Attitudes determine emotions. People with good humanistic qualities and knowledge find it easier to understand others' inner feelings. This is a huge advantage to people pursuing careers in the creative and performing arts, in composing, in lyrics writing and film making.



Ms CHIU Lai-yu, former anchor and principal reporter, trainee solicitor

Humanities cover a broad range of academic interests, and these subjects place high demands on language and analytical power. They are very helpful for journalists and legal professionals in their work.

The Benefits of Humanities to NSS Students

Professor Roland CHIN Tai-hong,
Deputy to the President,
The Hong Kong University of Science and
Technology

When we admit students, we do not only consider candidates' examination scores in the subjects of their choice. We hope that those applying for the School of Science or the School of Engineering have wide interests in knowledge outside the subject domain, e.g. knowledge of the humanities. Training in the humanities can help students apply their professional knowledge in authentic social contexts and help people and society. These sorts of knowledge can only be organised in humanities subjects.

Professor CHENG Kai-ming,
Chair of Education, Faculty of Education,
The University of Hong Kong

In the past, students from the science stream did not take any humanities subjects, and those from the arts stream took no science subjects. This is not right. Modern society has become increasingly multidimensional, and one cannot do with just one sphere of knowledge.

Professor Andrew CHAN Chi-fai,
Associate Dean (Undergraduate Studies),
Faculty of Business Administration,
The Chinese University of Hong Kong

Nowadays, facing a complex market environment, a successful business leader needs to make accurate and effective decisions and create value for society. With economies around the globe being increasingly unified, we require workers with more than just a rich body of commercial knowledge. Qualities such as an international outlook, multiperspective thinking, excellent analytical power, good communication skills and leadership are all the more important now. Knowledge of the humanities has become necessary nutrients to the fostering of business managers. It helps them understand and analyse the world, develop a way of thinking, and make sound judgements.



**Multicultural
Capital**

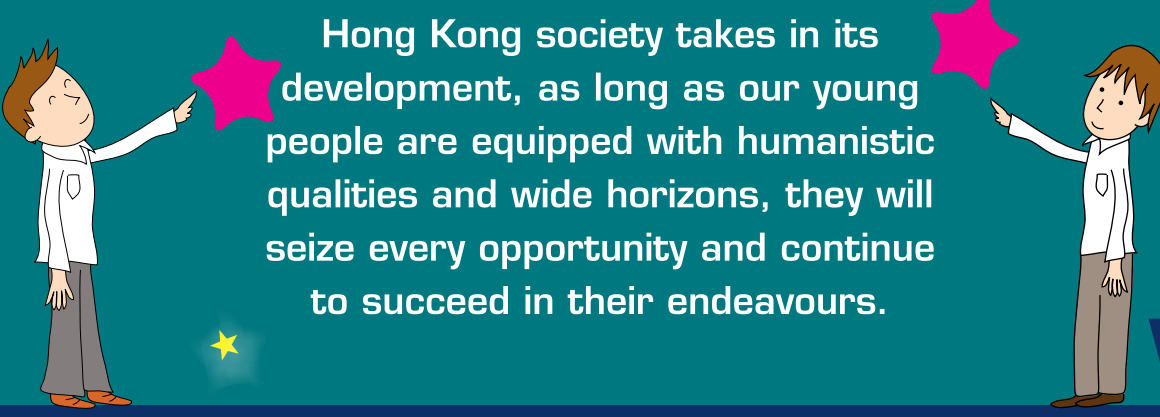
**Asia's
World
City**

**Creative
Capital**

**Sustainable
City**

**International
Financial
Hub**

**International
Convention,
Exhibition &
Tourism
Capital**



No matter how the world changes
in the future, or which direction
Hong Kong society takes in its
development, as long as our young
people are equipped with humanistic
qualities and wide horizons, they will
seize every opportunity and continue
to succeed in their endeavours.