

Combined Science

(for students studying in S5 or S6 in the 2013/14 sy and taking the 2015 or 2014 HKDSE Exam)

Why do you need to study Combined Science?

The Combined Science Curriculum adopts a combined approach to the study of science. Students who have diverse interests and wish to be exposed to knowledge and understanding of different Key Learning Areas may study Combined Science. The curriculum provides science-related learning experiences for students to enable them to develop scientific literacy, so that they can participate actively in our rapidly changing knowledge-based society, prepare for further studies or careers in fields related to science, and become lifelong learners in science and technology.

What will you learn from Combined Science?

This curriculum consists of three parts: Physics, Chemistry and Biology. Students should choose any two parts to form a basis of study. Hence, there are three options: Combined Science (Phy, Chem), Combined Science (Bio, Phy) and Combined Science (Chem, Bio). The curriculum structure of the subject is as follows:

Physics part:	Chemistry part:	Biology part:
I. Heat II. Force and Motion III. Wave Motion IV. Electricity and Magnetism	I. Planet Earth II. Microscopic World III. Metals IV. Acids and Bases V. Fossil Fuels and Carbon Compounds VI. Redox Reactions, Chemical Cells and Electrolysis VII. Chemical Reactions and Energy	I. Cells and Molecules of Life II. Genetics and Evolution III. Organisms and Environment IV. Health and Diseases

How will you be assessed in Combined Science?

Public examination

Physics part: (1 hour 40 minutes)	Chemistry part: (1 hour 40 minutes)	Biology part: (1 hour 40 minutes)
The examination paper comprises two sections: A and B. Section A consists of multiple-choice questions and carries 14% of the subject mark. Section B includes short questions, structured questions and an essay question, and it carries 26% of the subject mark.	The examination paper comprises two sections: A and B. Section A consists of multiple-choice questions and carries 12% of the subject mark. Section B includes short questions, structured questions and an essay question, and it carries 28% of the subject mark.	The examination paper comprises two sections: A and B. Section A consists of multiple-choice questions and carries 12% of the subject mark. Section B includes short questions, structured questions and an essay question, and it carries 28% of the subject mark.

School-based Assessment

Physics part:	Chemistry part:	Biology part:												
The minimum number of assessments and the percentage weighting in subject required in S5 and S6: <table border="1" data-bbox="108 1624 555 1769"> <thead> <tr> <th></th> <th>Minimum number of assessments</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>S5</td> <td>1 (5%)</td> </tr> <tr> <td>S6</td> <td>1 (5%)</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>		Minimum number of assessments	S5	1 (5%)	S6	1 (5%)	The minimum number of assessments and the percentage weighting in subject required in S5 and S6: <table border="1" data-bbox="587 1624 1034 1758"> <thead> <tr> <th></th> <th>Minimum number of assessments*</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>S5</td> <td>1 (5%)</td> </tr> <tr> <td>S6</td> <td>1 (5%)</td> </tr> </tbody> </table> * Over the two years of S5 and S6, there should be at least one assessment for Volumetric Analysis and one assessment for Other Experiments.		Minimum number of assessments*	S5	1 (5%)	S6	1 (5%)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> In S5 and S6, candidates will be assessed in two ability areas: A and B. Ability area A concerns the practical abilities of candidates, whereas ability area B focuses on the planning and reporting of scientific investigation. Ability area A carries 4% of the subject mark, while area B carries 6% of the mark. The minimum number of assessments in both areas is 1. Generic guidelines / guiding questions on the design of the investigation and report writing can be provided in the task sheets.
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For further information, please refer to EDB's website "New Academic Structure Web Bulletin" (<http://334.edb.hkedcity.net/EN/>) or consult your teacher.