



HISTORY AND CURRENT AFFAIRS

INTRODUCTION

The study of History and Current Affairs from a local perspective is increasingly important today. In the contemporary context, one of globalisation and technical development, different cultures and societies are increasingly in contact and interdependent. Now, more than ever, there is a need for an understanding of the present as well as the past.

Integrated Programme History for Years 1 and 2 is a two-year local history course that involves an exciting engagement with the past and present. As an exploratory subject, it fosters a sense of inquiry. It is also an interpretative discipline, allowing opportunity for engagement with multiple perspectives and plurality of opinions. Studying history develops an understanding of the past, which leads to a deeper understanding of the nature of humans and of the world today in Singapore. It is disciplinary based and thus focused upon key historical concepts such as change and continuity, causation, consequence, significance and perspectives.

The curriculum is designed to provide a multi-perspective approach to history. It involves the study of a variety of types of history, including political, economic, social and cultural aspects. The curriculum allows students to think historically and to develop historical skills in addition to gaining historical knowledge. It emphasizes the importance of the development of the skills of critical thinking, in thinking about the ways in which historical knowledge is produced, as well as the uses and abuses of historical narratives. As such, the curriculum involves a critical interpretation and understanding of the past and present, and the discourses that shape it.

A key aim of Integrated Programme History for Years 1 and 2 is the development of local mindedness among the students. Local mindedness, which is exemplified through the promotion of knowing Singapore's place in the global context, intercultural understanding, is developed through an exploration of multiple perspectives. Additionally, students would be exposed to case studies and compare examples drawn from different regions of the world, allowing for the emergence of a transnational perspective.

CURRICULUM GOALS

Content

By the end of the course, students should be able to:

- Grasp the broad fundamental concepts common to all historical explanations.
- Understand local and international affairs and the forces that shaped world history.
- Develop local and international awareness and understanding by promoting empathy for and sensitivity towards different political experiences of people living in diverse places and at different times.
- Appreciate and understand history as a discipline including key historical concepts, the nature and diversity of its sources, methods and interpretations

Skills

By the end of the course, students should be able to:

- Recall, select and deploy relevant historical knowledge and communicate this knowledge in a clear and coherent form.
- Demonstrate understanding of historical terminology and concepts.
- Interpret, analyse and evaluate a wide range of historical sources and their use as evidence.
- Present clear, concise, relevant and well-substantiated analysis and arguments.
- Explain different approaches to, and interpretations of historical events and topics.

CURRICULUM CONTENT

The syllabus is organised around concepts and case-studies.

Year 1 IP

- 1) Fundamentals of History
- 2) History of ACS
- 3) Mythical Singapore (Pre-Raffles)
 - Mirrors between myths from the east and the west (SBGE)



- 4) Colonisation
 - Theories of Colonisation
 - Britain Colonisation of Singapore
 - Soft Colonialism (SBGE)
- 5) Singapore's Vulnerability to External factors
 - Industrial Revolution
 - Opening of the Suez Canal
 - World War I
 - The Great Depression
- 6) Military History of Singapore
 - Theories of Conflict
 - World War II and the Occupation of Singapore and Malaya
 - Goh Keng Swee and the formation of the Singapore Armed Forces

- 3) Political Style and Leadership
 - Theories of Leadership
 - Case studies of Singapore Political Leaders
- 4) Political History
 - Theories and Ideology
 - Singapore's Political Progress from Post-World War II to full internal self-government in 1959
 - Merger and Separation

ASSESSMENT MODES

Assessment for the IP History course is dynamic and non-conventional. It comprises of Continual Assessment (in the form of assignments, portfolios, reflections, historical investigation and oral presentations) with written papers for the Common Test and Final examination.

Term 2	Common Test	30%
Term 3	Coursework	20%
Term 4	Final Examination	50%

Year 4 IP

- 1) Cultural History of Singapore
 - Immigration
 - Theories on Immigration
 - Immigration policies from colonial rule to post September 11 in Singapore
 - Impact of the First World War
 - Theories on Tourism Development
 - Development of tourism in Singapore
 - Link between Food and Nation-Building
- 2) Economic Development of Singapore
 - Basic Economic Theories
 - Phases of Singapore's industrialization progress
 - Gross National Happiness Index

