GEOGRAPHY

G..C.E. Advanced Level

Grades 12 and 13 Syllabus

(From year 2009)



Department of Social Sciences National Institute of Education Maharagama. 2009

Introduction

The new syllabus relevant to the General Certificate of Education Advanced Level Examination pertaining to the New Education Reforms Programme is implemented in year 2009.

Accordingly, the new syllabus for Geography has been prepared to promote student competencies in accordance with the national policies. This curriculum has been built up drawing special emphasize on Sri Lanka incorporating new trends in geography.

In preparing the new syllabus, attention is drawn on the study of the physical and human landscape from a holistic approach according to modern perspectives in geography. New themes of current importance have been incorporated in replacing some themes that were included in the old syllabus.

Units such as climatic changes, conservation of water, biome conservation, natural hazards, hazard management, Environmental conventions and agreements, International Environmental Organizations, New trends in Human geography, characteristics of the world population, people and cultural dimensions, trends in urbanization, trends in world agriculture and industries, globalization, information technology international trade, which are areas that need emphasize on a global scale have been included on the basis of a comparative study of Sri Lanka and the world. Apart from these, attention has been drawn on GIS, GPS which are new modern techniques applied in Geography.

Under the new syllabus, it is proposed to make a few changes in the teaching learning and evaluation process of the Geography syllabus. As such assessment and evaluation will be implemented while maintaining the identity and quality of the subject geography.

The Objectives of the Syllabus

- Training to live in harmony with each other as well as with the environment while understanding the diversity prevailing in the world where one lives.
- Acting with an understanding about the components, characteristics and processes of the physical and human landscape.
- Promoting positive attitudes which help in conserving and maintaining the physical and human landscape.
- Using geographical techniques in the analysis, interpretation and presentation of data and information.
- Promoting special livelihood maintaining skills which help in overcoming the challenging situations in life.
- Studying the interrelationship between nature and society, their patterns and processes from a spatial and temporal perspectives.

Geography - I Physical geography	Geography II Human geography	Practical geography
First term (No. of periods 48)	First term (No. of periods 40)	First term (No. of periods 25)
1.0 (1.1, 1.2, 1.3, 1.4 1.5)	1.0 (1.1, 1.2)	1.0 (1.1, 1.2)
2.0 (2.2, 2.2)	2.0 (2.1, 2.2, 2.3, 2.4, 2.5)	
3.0 (3.1)		
Second term (No. of periods 44)	Second term (No. of periods 46)	Second term (No. of periods 20)
3.0 (3.2)	2.0 (2.6,2.7)	2.0 (2.1, 2.2)
4.0 (4.1, 4.2, 4.3)	3.0 (3.1,3.2) 4.0 (4.1, 4.2)	
Third term (No. of periods 36)	Third term (No. of periods 28)	Third term (No. of periods 24)
5.0 (5.1, 5.2, 5.3)	5.0 (5.1, 5.2, 5.3, 5.4)	3.0 (3.1, 3.2)
6.0 (6.1, 6.2)	6.0 (6.1, 6.2, 6.3)	
7.0 (7.1, 7.2)		

Grade 12 - Proposed Level of Competencies for the term

Grade 13 - Proposed Level of Competencies for the term

Geograph Physical ge	-	-	aphy II 1 geography	Practical geography		
First term (N 8.0 (8.1,8.2) 9.0 (9.1,9.2)	No. of periods 42)	First term 7.0 (7.1,7.2,7.3) 8.0 (8.1,8.2)	(No. of periods 47)	First term 4.0 (4.1,4.2)	(No. of periods 25)	
Second term (N 10.0 (10.1,10.2) 11.0 (11.1,11.2,11.3)	No. of periods 44)	Second term 9.0 (9.1, 9,2,9.3 10.0 (10.1,10.2) 11.0 (11.1,11.2))	Second term 4.0 (4.3)	(No. of periods 20)	
Third term (N 12.0 (12.1)	Jo. of periods 20)	Third term 12.0 (12.1) 13.0 (13.1) 14.0 (14.1) 15.0 (15.1)	(No. of periods 40)	Third term 5.0 (5.1)	(No. of periods 24)	

3.0 Syllabus

	Competency		Competency Level		Subject Content	No. of Periods
1.0	Examines the nature and processes prevailing	1.1	Identifies the elementary features in the Geo system.	•	Introduction of Geosystems	14
	in the environment where one lives and contributes to conserve	1.2	Explains the nature and importance of the atmosphere.	•	Atmosphere	
	its equilibrium.	1.3	Describes the nature and importance of the hydrosphere.	•	Hydrosphere	
		1.4	Explains the structure and importance of the lithosphere.	•	Lithosphere	
		1.5	Presents the nature and importance of the Bio sphere.	•	Bio sphere	
2.0	Come forwards to conservation through examines the components, characteristics and processes of the physical	2.1	Explains with facts the structure and composition of the earth.	•	 Structure and composition of the earth Interior of the earth Crust of the earth Formation of rocks Types of rocks 	10
	landscape of the earth	2.2	Examines the formation of rocks, minerals and soils of Sri Lanka.		 Rocks and minerals of Sri Lanka Formation and Properties of soils Soils of Sri Lanka 	

3.1 - Grade 12 Geography I - Physical Geography

	Competency		Competency Level	Subject Content	No. of Periods
3.0	Examines the processes in the physical landscape and acts with sensitively to the environment.	3.1	Shows with examples the endogenic processes that affect land form formation.	 Types and processes of landform formation Endogenic forces Plate tectonics Earth movements Vulcanicity and earth quakes 	14
		3.2	Shows with examples the exogenic processesses that effect landform formation.	 Exogenic forces Factors of denudation as running water, wind, glaciers, waves, ground water, mass movements 	20
4.0	Identifies and the basic concepts and methodologies that help in understanding the physical and human landscape and adapts to those.	4.1	Explains the elements of weather.	 Elements of weather Temperature Humidity Rainfall Pressure and winds Visibility 	08
•		4.2	Explains with examples the factors that control climate.	 Factors which control climate Intensity of insolation and the changes which occurs a result of latitudinal location The distribution of land and water Oceans and ocean currents The location of semi-permanent low pressure and high pressure systems. Prevailing winds Mountain barriers 	08

	Competency	Competency Level	Subject Content	No. of Periods
		4.3 Explains the diversity of climates with reference to Koppens' climatic classification.	 Classification of climates Introducing the different types of climates Classification 	08
5.0	Appreciates the speciality in the climate	5.1 Makes a study of the features of the climate of Sri Lanka.	• Introduction of the climate of Sri Lanka	04
	of Sri Lanka and contributes to its protection.	5.2 Inquires about the sources of rainfall in Sri Lanka.	 How rainfall occurs in Sri Lanka Monsoons, inter-monsoon rain, convectional and cyclonic rain 	04
		5.3 Explains with facts the differences in the climatic zones of Sri Lanka.	Variations in temperatureClimatic zones	04
6.0	Examines the processes and factors which have contributed to global climatic changes.	6.1 Shows comparatively the natural causes and influences which have caused climatic changes.	 Causes and other impacts leading to climatic changes Green house effect Temperature variations on surfaces of oceans Volcanoes Sunspots and cycles El Nino and La Nino 	06

Competency	Competency Level	Subject Content	No. of Periods
	6.2 Shows comparatives the human activities and their impacts leading to climatic changes.	• Human activities and impacts on climatic changes	06
7.0 Makes a contribution for conservation of water.	 7.1 Makes a study of the global hydrologic balance with the aid of data and maps. 7.2 Shows the importance of water conservation while studying the factors which influence the global hydrological balances. 	 Surface water Oceans Land Ground water Atmospheric water Water conservation 	08 04

	Competency	Competency Level	Subject Content	No. of Periods
1.0	Examines the foundations of human geography uses it's concepts to the human activities with	1.1 Examines the spatial patterns and processes of the phenomena relevant to Human Geography.	 The foundations of Human Geography The spatial patterns and processes of the phenomena relevant to Human Geography 	05
	meaningfully.	1.2 Shows comparatively the interactions and inter- connections between human and physical phenomena.	• The interactions and inter-connections between human and physical phenomena	05
2.0	Examines the main features of population and acts to minimize problems related to population.	2.1 Shows the main features of the world population with reference to a few areas.	 World Population The main features of population Size Growth Distribution Composition 	08
		2.2 Emphasizes the importance of population as a resource.	• The importance of population as a resource	02
		2.3 Explains the main features of the population of Sri Lanka.	 The population of Sri Lanka Size Growth Distribution Composition 	08

Geography II - Human Geography

Competency	Competency Level	Subject Content	No. of Periods
	2.4 Examines the recent trends in the characteristics of the population of Sri Lanka.	Recent trends	02
	2.5 Analyses the factors which influence the dynamism of the world population.	 The dynamism of world population Rate of natural increase World migration patterns Internal Internal 	10
	2.6 Examines the dynamism of the population of Sri Lanka.	 The dynamism of the population of Sri Lanka Rate of natural increase Migrations Internal International 	05
	2.7 Examines the trends which have an impact on the dynamic nature of the population of Sri Lanka.	 Recent trends Rural/urban Establishing new rural settlements Displacement of people Natural hazards War 	05

	Competency	Competency Level	Subject Content	No. of Periods
3.0	Evaluates the values of the main cultural dimensions of population.	3.1 Examines the cultural dimensions of the world population.	 The cultural groups of the world population Religious Languages Others Tribal Indigenous 	08
		3.2 Examines the cultural dimensions of the population of Sri Lanka.	 The cultural groups of the population of Sri Lanka Ethnic Religious Language 	08
4.0	Examines the basic settlement types and geographical patterns.	4.1 Classifies the functions of the basic settlements of the world and their location.	 World settlements Rural Urban Basic features Functions Various types Trends 	10
		4.2 Classifies the functions of the main settlement types of Sri Lanka and their location.	 Settlements of Sri Lanka Rural Urban Plantation 	10

Cor	npetency	Competency Level	Subject Content	No. of Periods
			 Planned settlements Main features Functions - types Trends 	
urbani main i Sugges issues	nes world zation and the ssues related, and sts minimizing the related to zation of Sri	5.1 Explains the characteristics of world urbanization giving examples.	 World urbanization Urbanization Processes Levels Patterns Trends 	03
		5.2 Examines the social and economic issues of world urbanization.	 Social and economic issues Shanties Slums Anti-social activities Social isolation (marginalization) Electricity Urban congestion 	04
		5.3 Discusses the issues related to the environmental health and sanitation of world urbanization.	 Environmental issues Urban pollution Shanties 	04

	Competency		Competency Level		Subject Content	No. of Periods
				•	 Disposal of waste Issues related to health and Sanitation Scarcity of drinking water facilities Epidemics 	
		5.4	Examines the issues of world urban management.	•	 Urban management Planning and implementation Financial and administrative problems Demarcating urban limits 	03
6.0	Examines the main issues related to urbanization in Sri Lanka and Presents proposal for effective urban planning.	6.1	Examines the features of urbanization in Sri Lanka.	•	 Urbanization in Sri Lanka Urbanization Process Level Patterns Trends 	07
		6.2	Analyses the social economical and environmental issues of urbanization in Sri Lanka.	•	Issues in socio-economic fieldEnvironmentalHealth and sanitationUrban management	07

Competency	Competency Level	Subject Content	No. of Periods
1.0 Applies geographical techniques in analyzing, interpreting and presenting data and information.	1.1 Examines the importance of Practical geography in geographical studies.		10
2.0 Acts with an	1.2 Uses new cartographic techniques.	 Various type of maps and new cartographic techniques Introducing various types of maps Thematic maps Topographical maps Introducing new techniques and methodologies use in maps and their uses 	15
understanding about he basic concepts and methodologies that help in comprehending the physical and human landscape.	2.1 Identifies the nature physical features shown in a map.2.2 Identifies the nature of cultural features shown in a map.	 Identifying the physical and cultural features depicted in a map Physical features in 1:50,000 maps. Cultural features in 1:50"000 maps 	10 10

Practical Geography (Should be under school - based evaluation)

Competency	Competency Level	Subject Content	No. of Periods
3.0 Applies the holistic approach in interpreting understanding and analyzing the physical and human landscape.	3.1 Interprets information included in a map.	 Interpretation of information in a map Physical features Cultural features Inter relationship between the physical and cultural features 	14
	3.2 Makes use of maps in day to day life.	 Use of maps Importance of using maps Benefits from the maps when using maps in various activities Various occasions of using maps 	10

	Competency		Competency Level		Subject Content	No. of Periods
8.0	Contributes in the conservation of water in Sri Lanka.	8.1	Examines the hydrological properties of Sri Lanka.	•	Water resources of Sri LankaSurface waterGround water	10
		8.2	Explains the importance of water conservation in Sri Lanka.		Water conservation	06
9.0	Examines the components, characteristics and processes in the physical, Human landscape and contributes to the conservation.	9.1	Explains the world distribution of biomes and their characteristics.	•	 Distribution of biomes Tropical forests Temperate forests Mediterranean woodlands Grasslands and savannah Taiga forest Deserts Tundra 	10
		9.2	Explains the distribution and characteristics of biomes of Sri Lanka.	•	 Distribution of biomes in Sri Lanka Forests Woodlands Grasslands Wetlands 	16

3.2 - Grade 13 Geography I - Physical Geography

Competency	Competency Level	Subject Content	No. of Periods
10.0 Examines how the interactions of physical and human activities make an impact on the physical and human environment.	10.1 Explains with examples how natural hazards occur in the world.	 Natural hazards in the world earthquakes cyclones drought lightning avalanches landslides tornadoes floods wildfire tsunami 	10
	10.2 Examines the physical and human impacts caused by natural hazards in the world.	 The - physical impacts human impacts caused by natural hazards 	06
11.0 Acts with positive attitudes which help in the conservation and maintenance of the physical and human landscape.	11.1 Contributes actively in the management of natural hazards that occur in Sri Lanka.	 Natural hazards management in Sri Lanka Natural hazards management cycle facing the hazard assessing the danger strategies in minimizing the danger making awareness awareness and use early warning systems 	12

Competency	Competency Level	Subject Content	No. of Periods
	11.2 Evaluates the strategies adopted for management and conservation of eco-systems in Sri Lanka.	 Selected eco-systems in Sri Lanka Wetlands - coast Forests and Wildlife Reserves Bio-systems in water-bodies/ tanks Environmental concepts and Ethics 	08
	11.3 Examines the relevance of Declarations, conventions and Draft schemes etc. concerning environment which have an influence on Sri Lanka.	 Forests and wildlife Climatic changes Wetlands Chlorofluro Carbon (Cfcs) 	08
12.0 Acts showing concern and attention on the earth and its inhabitants in order to promote harmonious inter- relationship between nature and society.	12.1 Examines the role of international and Regional organizations which are concerned about issues of ecological importance.	 South Asian Cooperation for Environmental Programme (SACEP) United Nations Conference on Environment and Development (UNCED) United Nations Environmental Programme (UNEP) Inter-Government Programme on Climatic changes (IPCC) International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN) National Aquatic Resources Research Authority (NARA) Central Environmental Authority (CEA) International Water Management Institute (IWMI) Coast Conservation Department (CCD) 	20

	Competency		Competency Level	Subject Content	No. of Periods
7.0	Examines the recent trends in agriculture and contributes to agriculture with effective ways.	7.1	Explains the nature of world agriculture in relation to technology, production and marketing.	 World agriculture Agricultural technology technology related to the Green Revolution Gene technology Expansion in Production (wheat, paddy, vegetables, fruits, fish and animal husbandry, cattle, poultry, pigs) Increasing yields Extension of cultivated lands Short term yields Process of string and Processing Marketing process Multi-national companies agro-plantations agricultural organizations market information 	14
		7.2	Explains the nature of agriculture in Sri Lanka in relation to technology production and marketing.	 Agriculture in Sri Lanka Agricultural technology Use of modern machinery green revolution gene technology use of organic fertilizers irrigation technology 	20

Geography II - Human Geography

	Competency	Competency Level	Subject Content	No. of Periods
		7.3 Studies the recent trends in	 Increasing Production Extension of land area Increasing yields Cutting down wastage Use of modern machinery Marketing process Economic Centres Agreements with private organization Drawing attention on quality Showing concern on consumer taste and convenience Land utilization 	03
		the agricultural land utilization in Sri Lanka.	 Gradual loss of agricultural lands Introduction of substitute crops Introduction of seasonal crops 	
8.0	Examines the trends in mines and activities and contributes to protection.	8.1 Studies the nature and distribution of the world mining Industry.	 The main mine and related Products petroleum Coal iron copper gold 	05

	Competency		Competency Level		Subject Content	No. of Periods
		8.2	Analyses the trends in the world mining industry with reference to production and trade.	• • • •	Distribution Production and other industries related to it Trade Problems in mining Hazards	05
9.0	Examines the value of mineral resources in the Economy of Sri Lanka and usest those effectivily.	9.1	Examines the distribution of mineral resources in Sri Lanka.	•	 Mineral resources of Sri Lanka gems mineral sands iron plumbago apatite distribution production trends 	06
		9.2	Emphasizes the importance of mineral resources in the Economy of Sri Lanka.	•	 The Economy of Sri Lanka and mineral resources as an industrial raw material value addition related to changes in utility employment for regional development contribution to national income 	04

Competency	Competency Level	Subject Content	No. of Periods
	9.3 Takes action to minimize the damages to the environment in the utilization of mineral resources of Sri Lanka.	 Utilization of mineral resources and its environmental impact impact on drainage impact on landscape impact on health Minimizing environmental damage promoting eco friendly attitudes implementing the relevant legislation political dedication political dedication 	10
10.0 Examines the locational process of industries and presents suggestions to promote the industries of Sri Lanka.	10.1 Examines with examples the factors of location of industries in the world.	 The factors that influence the location of manufacturing industries in the world iron and steel motor vehicles, ships, aeroplanes electronic industries perto-chemicals milk products 	10
	10.2 Examines the factors of location of a few industries in Sri Lanka.	 Industries of Sri Lanka Traditional handicrafts Cement Sugar Garments 	10

	Competency		Competency Level		Subject Content	No. of Periods
					 Industries related to rubber and plastic factors of location specialized factors current change State Policy related to the location of industries 	
11.0	Examines the Potentials in Sri	11.1	Examines the features of the Tourist industry in Sri Lanka.	•	 Present status of the Tourist Industry The impact of the Tourist Industry economically culturally and socially environmentally 	07
	Lanka for the Tourist Industry and presents suggestions.	11.2	Proposes course of action that could be adopted in promoting the tourist industry of Sri Lanka.	•	Action that could be taken in the development of the tourist industry.	03
		12.1	Examines information technology as a factor which influences globalization.	•	What is Information technology What is globalization The impact of information technology on globalization	10

	Competency		Competency Level		Subject Content	No. of Periods
12.0 13.0	Examines the nature of globalization comparatively and presents examples which could apply to Sri Lanka Examines the contribution of	13.1	Examines comparatively how information technology has influenced the socio- economic transformation in Sri Lanka.	•	 The use of information technology in the socio-economic changes in Sri Lanka Economic Political Cultural Social 	10
	information technology on the socio-economic transformation in Sri Lanka and	14.1	Examines comparatively the impact of multi-national trade.	•	 International Trade In capital investment In transfer of technology In the extraction of resources 	10
14.0	contributes to it. Examines the role of multi-national corporations in international trade and Contribute to empower the nation's economy	15.1	Examines the functions of a few selected Regional Organizations.	•	 In management Regional organizations Sourth Asian association for Regional Cooperation South East Asian Association European Community North American Free trade Association African Economic Commission 	10
15.0	Examines the role of Regional organizations and tends to regional					

coorporation.

	Competency		Competency Level	Subject Content	No. of Periods
4.0	Uses statistics and graphical methods in analyzing, interpreting and presenting data and information.	4.1	Examines data sources. Examines methods of collecting data.	 Identifying data Definition Special characteristics of data Type of data Data bank Data generation Classification and Tabulation Presentation of data Collection of data What as meant by a sample Observation Measurements Discussions Questionnaires Library sources Computerized sources Maps, aerial photographs, satellite images, and pictures 	Periods 10 15
				pictures	

Geography III - Practical Geography

Competency	Competency Level	Subject Content	No. of Periods
	4.3 Analyses and interprets data.	 Analysis and interpretation of data Organising and tabulating data Frequency Table Preparation Using simple statistical techniques for spatial data Central tendency -mode mean -median dispersion measurement Range Quartiles Inter quartile range Mean deviation Representation of data Graphs and Diagramms-Introduction Graphs Histograme Frequency Polygon Cumulative Frequnce and Percentage Cummulative frequency 	16

Competency		Competency Level	Subject Content	No. of Periods
5.0 Shows correct spatial distribu the physical human compon the world.	tion of and	1 Marks and names on outline maps of the world locations and distributions.	 Diagramms * One Dimentional Diagrams Bar diagrams (simple, complex, pyramid) Scatter diagram * Two Dimentional Diagrams Wheel diagrams Linear diagrams * Three Dimentional Diagrams * Three Dimentional Diagrams * Pictorial Diagrams * Choropleth maps & Isopleth maps Marking on outline maps of the world Places and regions of geographical importance Principles of map marking and activities 	16

Note: It is expected that during particular teaching learning situations, the distribution maps relevant to all the units should be mapped out and interpreted.

4.0 Proposed Teaching-Learning Methodologies

Geography is a live and practical subject creation of a pleasant learning environment which makes the pupils active and which promotes optimistic attitudes and also one that trains them in collective work rather than competition is the aim of teaching geography. Moreover, teaching learning process should be made effective by making optimum use of technology. Apart from this, a few learning methodologies relevant to this subject are proposed below.

Field work

Most of the concepts in geography could be achieved through field activities. More beneficial results could be obtained by field work which are pre-planned and organized and effected patiently and collectively. There are a few occasions where such field activities could be organized.

• Making use of the immediate environment

By carrying out field activities based on the students' immediate environment, learning methods such as observation, exploration and collection of data could be carried out very easily. In this manner, students get the opportunity of obtaining direct/ real experiences about the diverse activities taking place in the immediate environment and also to understand the immediate environment without going too far away from their school or homes.

• Mapping out the environment

It is through studying the relief features in the environment and mapping them out that the basic concepts in Geography could be easily understood. In this manner it is possible to develop further the student skills about practical geography. It is expected that an understanding about direction, scale and symbols could be obtained when mapping out an area.

• Educational trips

Educational trips are very useful in giving the knowledge and understanding required for a few topic relevant to the syllabus. This is possible through identifying the objectives clearly and should be carried out with pre-planning and organized by students themselves. In this manner basic concepts could be easily understood.

Making and using the Field Book

It is very essential to direct the students to collect pictures and information on various incidents of geographical importance taking place in the immediate neighbourhood of the school and in Sri Lanka. The information thus collected help in widening students' knowledge and building creativity.

New learning methodologies could be used by using computes. For instance obtaining geographical experiences through methods such as conceptual maps. power point presentations, Internet and use of encyclopedia.

5.0 School Policies and Programmes

It is the responsibility of the administrative authorities in the school to compile programmes of work where every student could participate so that the subject content in the Syllabus could be transformed into real life experiences. As a guideline a few co-curricular activities are given below

• Establishment of a Geographical Society.

Through this, students could be directed to various programmes, exhibitions, wall news-papers, magazines, General knowledge programmes which are relevant to the scope of this subject.

- Field work, field trips and educational trips could be organized.
- Directing students to gain experiences by working together with other environmental and community-organized Institutions.
- Making the students to exchange experiences with other universities, Higher Education Institutions and other Institutions in the area.
- Drawing their attention to read International magazines, watch Discovery and National Geographical TV channels and other environmental programmes.
- Providing opportunities for students to use Internet Encyclopedia, other Atlases and Electronic Encyclopedia.

6.0 Assessment and Evaluation

It is intended to implement this syllabus in schools with the School Based Assessment (SBA) Process. Teachers will prepare creative teaching – learning instruments on the basic of school terms.

The First Examination under this syllabus will be held in 2011.

The details together with the format and the nature of questions will be introduced by the Department of Examination.