geographical field techniques are utilized in the collection of geographic information and for conducting field research into physical, cultural and developmental problems. While no grades or unit credits are given for this camp, the student must complete the programme to the department's satisfaction for graduation.

GEOG 3591-2 Honours Project(3,*,*) (E)Prerequisite:GEOG 3590 Field Camp

This is an independent honours project to be taken during the third year of study of BSocSc (Hons) in Geography and normally concerns a particular geographic problem relating to Hong Kong. The project topic is to be selected in consultation with a departmental adviser. Evidence of original research and presentation of professional quality is required.

GEOG 3600 Geographical Information Systems (3,2,2) (E) Prerequisite: GEOG 1150 Cartography

Geographical Information System (GIS) is an information system that is specially designed for handling spatial (or geographical) data. It combines a set of interrelated sub-systems that create, edit, manipulate, analyse and display data both in text and graphic forms. GIS supports spatial analysis and modelling for the discipline of geography (e.g. location, proximity, and spatial distribution), so that it becomes a vital tool for modern geography. With the rapid progress of computing and Internet technology, GIS technology allows easy and fast access to important geographical information on the region, environment and society.

GEOG 3610 Remote Sensing and Image (3,2,2) (E) Interpretation

Remote sensing is defined as the science and art of acquiring information about material objects without being in touch with them. These measurements are possible with advanced airborne and space-borne remote sensing platforms and sensors that are capable of observing any part of the world frequently with various details. It is discovered that each earth cover has its own spectral reflectance characteristics. The characteristics are so unique that they are called "signature" which enable us to discern the objects from its intermixed background. The final remote sensing process is completed by the analysis of the data using image interpretation and image processing techniques. Some key elements, or cues from the imagery, such as shape, size, pattern, tone or colour, shadow and association, are used to identify a variety of features on earth. The techniques of image interpretation can be further enhanced by the techniques of image processing that can restore, enhance and extract geographical information from original remote sensing images. These altogether yield valuable information on earth resources and living environment of human beings.

GEOG 3620Advanced Climatology(3,3,0) (tbc)Prerequisite:GEOG 1200 Earth Systems: Atmosphere and
Biosphere or consent of the instructor

An introduction to synoptic climatological methods and applications, with particular emphasis on the climate of China. Climate change and climate modelling are also discussed and provide a comprehensive introduction to applied climatology.

GEOG 3630 Advanced Quantitative Methods (3,2,1) (E) in Geography

Prerequisite: GEOG 1130 Introduction to Quantitative Methods in Geography or consent of the instructor

This course teaches students the application of quantitative methods to geographic problem solving. Statistical methods that are commonly used in geography and regional analysis and spatial analysis methods are introduced. Emphasis is placed on the application of analytical tools to real-world geographic problems and interpretation of analysis results. Topics include regression models, factor analysis, spatial pattern analysis and cluster analysis, etc. The course also provides students with opportunities to learn one of the most widely used statistical software for social sciences—SPSS. **GEOG 3640** Applied Geomorphology (3,2,1) (tbc) An examination of the applied aspects of geomorphology and development of the student's knowledge and understanding of Earth surface processes and landscape development. Emphasis is placed on the interaction of man and the physical environment using case histories throughout the world, but with emphasis on the Southeast Asia. Attention is given to methods of measurement, monitoring and interpretation of collected data from various spheres. Field study will be required.

GEOG 3650 Geography of Economic (3,3,0) (E) Development

An analysis of the economic problems and prospects of developing countries. A variety of ideological perspectives on the development experiences of developing countries are examined, and assessment is made of the different economic strategies which have been used in attempts to alleviate problems.

GEOG 3660 Political Geography (3,3,0) (E)

An examination of how geographical factors affect political organization at national and international levels. The effects of geographic elements such as territory, population, boundaries, and distance from the sea are covered, followed by a treatment of the capital, the core area of a state, selection of a unitary or federal form of government, emergence of the Third World following the dismemberment of the colonial empires, supra-national organizations, and the complex issues involved in the law of the sea treaty. Moreover, certain major theories in political geography are presented.

GEOG 3670 Geography of Transportation (3,2,1) (E) This is an introductory course of transportation geography. It first introduces some economical and spatial aspects of transportation geography and various transportation systems. In this connection, the basic concepts of supply chain management and logistics will be introduced. This is followed by the introduction of two important transportation analysis methods: spatial interaction and network analysis. Next, characteristics of urban travel and problems related to urban transportation are discussed. The final module of the course deals with the externalities of transportation activities in the context of sustainable transportation and policies that may mitigate traffic congestion and meet the objective of sustainable development.

GEOG 3680 Coastal Environments and (3,2,1) (E) Processes

Much of the territorial area of Hong Kong and southern China lies below sea level, yet few people are fully aware of how coastal processes operate or what marine resources and problems exist. This course will familiarize students with the processes that dominate local marine settings and introduce them to major coastal environments, especially in the Hong Kong region. It also aims at developing an understanding and awareness of management issues relating to the offshore areas of the territory and the adjacent South China coastline. Offshore and onshore fieldwork form an integral part of this course.

GEOG 3710 Urban Planning (3,2,1) (E) Prerequisite: GEOG 2180 Urban Geography or consent of the

rerequisite: GEOG 2180 Urban Geography or consent of the instructor

Theoretical, practical, and methodological issues in policy studies and urban planning are addressed. Urban planning practices in Hong Kong are illustrated. Towards the end of the course, students are expected to conduct independent projects in which they should demonstrate their abilities to (1) identify planning problems, (2) diagnose the cause of such problems, and (3) propose logical strategies to resolve the problems. Fieldwork may be required. 163