

# A Study Tour Course Design for Rizhao Dongyi Town: An Exploration of Geographical Practical Abilities

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**Abstract** Engaging students in the examination of the local significance of newly established historic districts within real-life contexts serves as a crucial method for exploring the geographical practical ability. This study utilizes Dongyi Town in Rizhao City as a case study, employing text analysis, field research, and interviews. It draws upon the theoretical frameworks of place and placelessness, while integrating research resources from two distinct perspectives: the evolution of the landscape and the emotional attitudes of various subjects towards the neighborhood. Students will be encouraged to investigate the environmental characteristics of the natural geography inherent in Dongyi Town, the current state of urban development and its implications for the local economy, culture, and environment through field visits and firsthand experiences. By employing the theory of place and placelessness, students will gain a deeper understanding of the underlying subjects and values associated with the landscape. Furthermore, they will learn to utilize this theoretical framework to reflect on the significance of districts to individuals, thereby enhancing their geographical practical abilities.

**Keywords** Place and placelessness, Geographical practical ability, Historical and cultural district, Study tour course design, Dongyi Town

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The *Geography Curriculum Standards for General Senior Secondary Schools (2017 Edition, Revised in 2020)* explicitly define geographical practical ability as the combination of will and the capacity for action exhibited by individuals during geographical practical activities, including expeditions, experiments, and investigations. An exploration of the connotations, formation processes, and evolutionary characteristics of cultural landscapes is essential for facilitating students' comprehension of geographical phenomena<sup>[1]</sup>. In light of this context, the active engagement of students in practical activities is essential for the enhancement of their practical skills and scientific literacy. The newly implemented curriculum framework emphasizes that the cultivation of core geographical literacy must be facilitated through practice, with study tours serving as an effective means to accomplish this objective. The *Opinions on Promoting Study Tours for Primary and Secondary School Students*, issued by the Ministry of Education and 11 other departments in 2016, not only elucidated the concept of study tour, but also underscored their important role in education<sup>[2]</sup>. By facilitating first-hand experiences, perceptions, and thinking, study tours create an open-ended environment for geography education. This approach effectively enhances students' observational, practical, inquiry-based, and research skills, while also deepening their understanding of geographical knowledge and their awareness of the relationship between

humanity and the earth.

In the design of the study tour course, several key steps are emphasized<sup>[3]</sup>. Firstly, it is essential to establish a theme for the study tour that is closely aligned with the actual needs of the students and the educational objectives. Secondly, a comprehensive study tour plan should be developed to delineate critical elements such as the schedule, location, and content of the activities. Thirdly, a variety of study tour activities should be implemented, with a focus on providing students with practical experiences that facilitate learning and personal growth in real-world environments. Finally, a systematic process for summarizing feedback and conducting scientific evaluations of the students' learning outcomes should be established, thereby offering valuable insights for future instructional practices. Nevertheless, the current study tour framework in China exhibits several limitations. Specifically, there is a deficiency in the focus on practical applications, an absence of targeted guidance strategies, and an inadequate evaluation mechanism. To address these limitations, this study introduces the theory of place and placelessness to enhance and optimize the design of the study tour case. This initiative seeks to underscore the significance of local characteristics and cultural heritage in the study tour process, while also fostering the development of students' geographical practical ability in accordance with their specific circumstances. The goal is to enable students to more effectively

apply their acquired knowledge in real-world contexts.

The reason for selecting historic districts as destinations for study tours is multifaceted. Currently, these districts are confronted with two significant challenges. The first challenge pertains to the commercialization crisis affecting traditional historic districts. Excessive commercial development has resulted in the swift erosion of the cultural deposits within districts, leading to a loss of distinctive district characteristics. This transformation has rendered the originally vibrant historical districts uniform, thereby diminishing their unique regional attributes and the historical and cultural atmosphere<sup>[4]</sup>. The examination of renowned historical districts, such as Nanluoguxiang in Beijing and Shantang Street in Suzhou, reveals that while these areas have successfully attracted a significant influx of tourists and business activities, the phenomenon of over-commercialization has progressively weakened the historical and cultural heritage of these districts. Secondly, there exists the issue of stylistic and cultural discontinuity resulting from the new construction and renovation of historic districts. For instance, in the Fuzimiao area of Nanjing, while certain new projects have endeavored to replicate traditional architectural styles during the renovation process, a significant disparity remains between these new constructions and the original historical buildings. This incongruity adversely impacts the historical and cultural atmosphere of the entire

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district. Niu Yu et al.<sup>[5]</sup> have identified that the rigid protection of original authentic culture, coupled with the phenomenon of over-commercialization, poses significant challenges to the sustainable development of historic districts. Bao Jigang et al.<sup>[6]</sup> contend that the commercialization of tourism is primarily evidenced by the comparison between the quantity of retail establishments catering to tourists and local residents, as well as the uniformity of tourist commodities. This phenomenon arises from the imbalance between the conversion of cultural capital and economic capital. Although the commercialization of tourism can facilitate the development of the regional tourism industry and its associated support infrastructure to some degree, excessive commercialization has a direct impact on tourists' perceptions of tourism value and their overall satisfaction<sup>[7]</sup>.

The fundamental viewpoints of the theory of place and placelessness encompass three essential dimensions of place<sup>[8]</sup>. Firstly, place is understood as a product of human interaction with the natural environment. This perspective posits that place transcends mere geospatial coordinates, emerging instead from the interaction between humans and their surroundings. Secondly, each location possesses a distinct significance. Every place is characterized by its own unique culture, history, and ecosystem, and these elements are interrelated, collectively contributing to the distinctive sense of place. A city may be recognized for its rich historical and cultural heritage, distinctive architectural style, or beautiful natural scenery, all of which collectively contribute to the city's unique sense of place. Thirdly, the authenticity of a location is essential for individuals<sup>[9]</sup>. An authentic environment fosters a sense of belonging and security, contributing to a positive experience of habitation. This sense of authenticity is derived not only from the physical characteristics of the location but also from individuals' emotional identities and their cultural connections to the place. When individuals experience comfort, ease, and a sense of meaning within a particular location, that location holds significant reality for them. This study aims to conduct a comprehensive evaluation of places to uncover their distinctiveness and value by integrating multiple dimensions, including their natural environment, cultural traditions, social relationships, and human activities<sup>[10]</sup>.

Through the introduction of the theory of place and placelessness, students will have the opportunity to engage with the local geographic environment in a practical manner. They will

be encouraged to observe and analyze the transformations occurring within the geographical environment, with particular emphasis on the environmental changes in their hometowns and homelands. This type of concern not only fosters an awareness of environmental protection and a sense of responsibility among individuals, but it can also motivate them to engage in actions that contribute to the safeguarding of the environment. Simultaneously, this design emphasizes the enhancement of students' critical thinking. Ultimately, by incorporating the theory of place and placelessness into the development of the study tour evaluation scale, students are encouraged to reflect on the distinctions between district landscapes and their own attitudes. This reflective process contributes to the improvement of their geographical practical abilities and fosters their overall competencies, thereby facilitating the preservation and advancement of local culture.

## 1 Study area and methods

There are two primary reasons for selecting Dongyi Town in Rizhao City, Shandong Province, as the focus of this research. Firstly, Dongyi Town, established in 2012, comprises a collection of ancient buildings that exhibit historical characteristics. This setting provides a representative case for investigating the authenticity involved in the reconstruction of historical districts. The town has effectively showcased the charm of its local traditional culture while preserving its original historical buildings. Nevertheless, Dongyi Town has encountered various controversies regarding the balance between conservation and development, as well as the methods for transmitting and promoting traditional culture within contemporary society. Secondly, the strategic location of Dongyi Town within the downtown area of Rizhao, coupled with the proximity of one of the authors' hometowns, facilitates the researcher's ability to employ a diverse array of research methods, including field trips and interviews.

In this study, textual analysis and interviews were employed as methods for data collection and information analysis. Based on the research findings, students were guided to engage in discussions regarding the entire inquiry process, with the aim of enhancing their geographical practical abilities. The textual analysis method was primarily employed to explore the historical context, development planning, and practical challenges of Dongyi Town. This was achieved through the collection and analysis of relevant

literature, policy documents, news reports, and various electronic and print materials. The interview method was employed to gain insights into the perceptions and expectations regarding the locality and authenticity of Dongyi Town. This was achieved through face-to-face interactions with various subjects, including foreign operators, community residents, and tourists.

## 2 Development and integration of curriculum resources for geography study tours in Dongyi Town

### 2.1 Integration of study tour resources from the perspective of landscape evolution in Dongyi Town

Dongjiatan Village, which served as the original site of Dongyi Town prior to 2012, is bordered by the Yellow Sea in the south and the Rizhao Sishan Mountain in the north. From a geographical perspective, Dongjiatan Village features a predominantly flat topography and is classified within a typical maritime monsoon climate zone, characterized by distinct seasonal variations. The region experiences mild winters and cool summers, characterized by an average annual temperature of 12.6 °C, an average annual sunshine duration of 2,532.9 h, and total annual precipitation of 916 mm. Summer weather can occasionally be influenced by typhoons. Dongjiatan Village is situated along the golden coastline of Rizhao City, characterized by its flat sandy beaches. The area is enriched with salt deposits left by the sea during low tide, making it highly suitable for salt drying activities. The water quality in this marine area is not only excellent but also abundant in biological resources, thereby creating a favorable environment for the advancement of fisheries<sup>[11]</sup>.

The original settlements of the indigenous population were characterized by a small scale and predominantly featured a courtyard layout, which is representative of the architectural style found in Jiaodong villages. The primary source of livelihood for the local community and surrounding villages is fishing, although some residents are also involved in salt drying activities. The fishery in this region represents more than a mere fishing operation, but has developed into a comprehensive industrial chain encompassing fishing, processing, and sales. From middle August to May each year, fishing boats depart in the early morning, and fishermen cast their nets to capture fresh fish and prawns. At the fishing harbor, between 4:00 and 6:00 in the morning, fishermen engage in the sorting and weighing of

nets containing fish and prawns, subsequently transporting these catches to processing facilities. The fish and prawns are then processed into a diverse array of seafood products intended for both domestic consumption and the local market. The primary natural disasters encountered in the region include typhoons, floods, droughts, and storm surges. In response to these natural disasters, the local population has implemented a range of effective countermeasures, including the construction of water conservation infrastructure and the enhancement of disaster resilience. The region is characterized by distinct local religious beliefs, customs, and folklore, which include rituals associated with the Dragon King Temple and various forms of folk art. Since 2004, many villagers have capitalized on their proximity to the Olympic Water Park and the coastline by converting their homes into homestays, thereby participating in the fisherman's paradise catering and accommodation industry. Currently, the predominant form of tourism consists of group tours. Family hotels in the area can accommodate groups of up to 30 individuals. However, due to insufficient management, health standards, and service awareness, the destination known as fisherman's paradise has not experienced significant popularity. Despite its location in the central region of Rizhao's coastal tourism, the level of engagement in folk tourism among local villagers remains low, resulting in limited income opportunities.

Following 2012, Dongyi Town experienced significant opportunities for reconstruction. To facilitate the implementation of the tourism city strategy, Rizhao City, after conducting thorough investigations and analyses, has identified the planning and construction of Dongyi Town as a

critical breakthrough and a pivotal project in the transformation and enhancement of the tourism industry. Through the innovative application of tourism + reconstruction of old city, along with the strategic implementation of shantytown redevelopment policies, the Rizhao Urban Construction Investment Group has invested in the original site of Dongjiatan Village. This initiative has resulted in the development of 9.67 hm<sup>2</sup> of tourist town, encompassing a building area of 68,000 m<sup>2</sup>, characterized by coastal tourism features. The formerly dilapidated and chaotic fishing village has undergone a transformation into a simple yet elegant tourist town. The previously scattered and low-end fisherman's paradise has been restructured into a cohesive area featuring standardized characteristic shops and star-rated hotels. The overall planning of this development has achieved a high degree of integration with the Wanpingkou Scenic Area and the Rizhao Central Vitality Zone. The planning and construction of Dongyi Town not only addresses the challenges associated with the transformation of old villages, the underdeveloped folk tourism industry and low standards of service for fishermen's paradise, but also optimizes spatial utilization and provide strong support for the enhancement of the quality of coastal tourism in Rizhao. The impetus for this redevelopment is rooted in the modifications to Rizhao urban planning, as well as the establishment of the high-speed railway station, Wanpingkou Marine Park, and various other projects. Throughout the planning and construction phases, the town has taken into account factors such as ecological preservation and regional cultural heritage, with the aim of cultivating a distinctive regional character.

During the construction period, Dongyi

Town in Rizhao City faced numerous challenges. The primary challenge stemmed from a lack of understanding and support for the construction plan among local residents. Many residents expressed skepticism regarding the future development of the town and voiced concerns that the construction efforts would adversely affect the local living environment and cultural traditions. Secondly, the construction process faced both financial and technical challenges, necessitating the identification of appropriate solutions to overcome these obstacles. To address these impediments, the construction teams implemented a series of strategic measures. Based on comprehensive consultations with local residents, construction personnel have modified and enhanced their construction plans. They have also proactively sought government support and investment to secure sufficient funding for the project, thereby creating additional employment opportunities and income sources for the residents.

Following the overcoming of numerous construction challenges, Dongyi Town has evolved into a multifaceted area that integrates historical and cultural elements, tourism and leisure activities, as well as residential living. The landscape of the district has experienced several changes. The spatial organization of the district is centered around a primary river axis, with clusters of buildings serving various functions distributed along both sides. The district features several squares on both sides, where a variety of cultural activities, including folk art performances and demonstrations of intangible cultural heritage, are regularly conducted, thereby offering visitors a rich cultural experience. The scenic area is home to a variety of cultural facilities, including several temples, Taoist



Fig.1 Ordinary architectural landscape and religious landscape in Dongyi Town



temples, and other religious structures (Fig.1). These buildings have been meticulously designed to showcase the exceptional craftsmanship of their builders, evident in the intricate carvings, vibrant paintings, and thoughtful architectural layouts. The religious structures within the scenic area also serve the purpose of hosting a variety of religious activities, including Buddhist assemblies and Taoist prayer rituals. These events attract numerous devotees and tourists who come to visit and engage in worship.

## 2.2 Integration of Dongyi Town study tour resources based on the cultural attitude of multiple subjects

Local residents have indicated that historically, in response to natural disasters such as storms, droughts, floods, and typhoons, communities have implemented various preventive and control measures, including the construction of reservoirs and dykes, as well as making avoidance decisions informed by weather forecasts. After the establishment of Dongyi Town, local residents frequently visit the town during holidays, particularly during the Spring Festival and summer, to enjoy recreational activities and delicious food. The scenic area has undergone a transformation from a private residence into a tourist town. Certain elements of the landscape have retained their historical character, including a lighthouse reminiscent of the former water tower. Additionally, a water channel excavated outside the town connects to an artificial lake, which is accessible for boat tours. The land that was previously cultivated with flowers in front of the town has now been developed into a vast floral display. The emergence of new landscapes is influenced by the interplay between the preservation of traditional culture and the demands of economic development. For instance, the newly constructed Dragon Temple draws inspiration from the historical Dragon King Temple. Additionally, the transformation of previously filled ponds into residential areas reflects a shift in urban planning priorities. The town now emphasizes aesthetic landscape effects, creating a well-proportioned blend and the character of the old town. The profit-sharing model implemented in Dongyi Town during the Spring Festival is predicated on an equity system, which ensures a stable income for its residents. The town's development can be attributed to the progressive vision of its founders; however, the lack of preservation of historical memories has led to a sense of regret among the indigenous population.

Reports from external operators indicate that visitor traffic to the site is predominantly

observed during the summer months and on holidays. While the operation combines catering and entertainment services, there is a need for a more organized approach to landscaping to enhance the overall experience. Middle Street primarily functions as a snack street, characterized by standardized pricing and controlled raw materials, which alleviates pressure on traders and contributes to a favorable environment. In contrast, North and South Streets experience low traffic, where competition among ceramics and other commodities is intense and often homogenized, leading to detrimental practices aimed at artificially lowering prices. Non-affiliated retail establishments often engage in detrimental competitive practices, which complicate regulatory oversight. The combination of elevated rental and labor expenses, coupled with minimal profit margins, results in a decreased willingness among investors to engage in these markets. However, the appealing coastal attributes continue to attract potential investors.

Visitors have expressed concerns regarding the lack of distinctiveness and cultural connotation in the attractions of Dongyi. The town predominantly features newly constructed buildings that offer views of the lake and the sea, as well as establishments serving beer. Dongyi culture remains inadequately understood; however, the town is abundant in maritime elements, effectively showcasing local culture through its snack bars, natural landscapes, foods, and dialects. The architectural style has been modified to accommodate commercial requirements, resulting in a design that does not fully align with the environmental context of the fishing village. This raises concerns regarding potential over-construction, as the local characteristics are not distinctly represented. Although there is a convergence of snacks from various regions around the world, the term speciality may not accurately reflect the actual offerings. Some tourists believe that they will only return during specific events, perceiving Dongyi Town as an appropriate location for a brief visit to experience the local cuisine of Rizhao.

## 3 Implementation process of the study tour course in the perspective of geographical practical ability

### 3.1 Implementation process of the study tour course in Dongyi Town

In light of the integration of the aforementioned study tour resources and in alignment with the *Geography Curriculum Standards*

*for General Senior Secondary Schools (2017 Edition, Revised in 2020)*, a route sketch (Table 1) has been developed for the study tour to Dongyi Town. This initiative aims to enhance students' practical geographical skills.

### 3.2 Evaluation scale for study tour courses based on the theory of place and placelessness

This study utilizes the theory of place and placelessness to guide students in recognizing the local characteristics of historic districts through two distinct dimensions (Table 2). One dimension pertains to the landscape style, specifically whether the landscape is an original entity characterized by historical significance or whether it is a landscape that has evolved from the development of historic landscapes within the region. Another dimension to consider is the extent to which it holds a positive connotation for individuals. This includes its role as a public service and its subjective significance in relation to local identity. This category encompasses elements that are not derived from individual authenticity but are instead associated with the spiritual support and cultural identity of the community. In summary, the extent to which the district provides individuals with a sense of comfortable living can be evaluated from the standpoint of infrastructure development and the availability of public services in tourist areas. This approach facilitates students' comprehension of the landscape's significance for the diverse subjects in the district, as well as for their own experiences.

This study tour route is beneficial for fostering secondary school students' sense of local identity, enhancing their ability to assess the authenticity of various locations, and cultivating their sense of homeland and geographical practical ability. (i) The preliminary assessment of the application's effectiveness extends beyond students' self-evaluations to include reciprocal evaluations among students, teachers and students, as well as parents and students. (ii) The assessment of the effectiveness of the application extends beyond direct study tour reports and PowerPoint presentations; it also encompasses indirect evaluations by teachers, questionnaires, and feedback from educational informants. (iii) Educators and students seek innovative methods for assessing the effectiveness of study tours.

## 4 Conclusions and discussion

### 4.1 Conclusions

The study derived three primary conclusions from its regional investigation of Dongyi Town.

(1) Utilizing the concept of place and placelessness as a theoretical framework for the integration of study tour resources, a systematic classification of the locality of each element of place has been conducted. This approach offers a novel perspective for analyzing regional integration. The authenticity evaluation within the framework of place and placelessness theory encompasses two primary dimensions. The first dimension pertains to the original authenticity of the landscape style, specifically assessing whether the landscape, architecture, and cultural attributes of the town accurately represent its local characteristics and historical heritage. The second dimension pertains to the positive impact of

authenticity on individuals, specifically regarding whether the characteristics of a town can foster a sense of identity, belonging, and pride among its residents. This aspect highlights the dual nature of place authenticity, encompassing both the intrinsic authenticity of the location and the authenticity ascribed to it by its inhabitants. Consequently, this evaluation offers a novel perspective for assessing place authenticity.

(2) The design of the study tour case substantiates the practical applicability of the theory of place and placelessness within study tour activities, and it has a significant impact on enhancing independent exploration of geographical practical ability. The concept of place under-

scores the integration of the course with local culture, thereby enhancing students' identification with their surroundings. Conversely, the notion of placelessness promotes the transcendence of geographical limitations, encouraging students to engage with global issues and develop an international perspective. Additionally, the concept of authenticity, which emphasizes the pursuit of a place's genuine characteristics, fosters critical thinking and independent problem-solving skills among students, ultimately enhancing their geographical practical abilities.

## 4.2 Discussion

This study examines the practical applicability of the theory of place and placelessness

**Table 1 Study tour route in Dongyi Town**

Specific ideas	Main content
Identification of study tour themes	Recognizing the elements of place and placelessness in Dongyi Town
Formulation of study tour objectives	(1) Elucidating the transformations that occurred before and after the establishment of Dongyi Town, facilitating students' comprehension of concepts associated with the theory of place and placelessness, while also encouraging them to acknowledge the authenticity of place; (2) observing the landscape features of Dongyi Town, thinking about their relationship with human activities from the perspective of human-land coordination; (3) conducting a synthesis and analysis of the localities and sources associated with Dongyi Town historic district, employing integrative thinking; (4) summarizing the key characteristics of the town and proposing ideas for both development and conservation, with a focus on regional cognition; (5) cultivating an awareness and ability in utilizing study tours, experiments, and investigations to address practical problems within the field of geography.
Selection of study tour resources	Dongyi Town was initially established as a small traditional fishing village located in Dongjiatan Village, Qinlou Street, Rizhao City, Shandong Province. In 2012, the local government proposed the development of Dongyi Town based on the concept of demolishing an existing village, introducing industrial activities, and enhancing the economic well-being of the residents. This project encompassed the construction of 150,000 m <sup>2</sup> of resettlement housing for relocated villagers, as well as the development of a 70,000 m <sup>2</sup> island dedicated to fishery culture and a folk culture experience island. The town consists of four distinct islands: the Fishery Culture Theme Island, the Folk Culture Experience Island, the Exotic Culture Style Island, and the Leisure and Entertainment Sightseeing Island. This town highlights the themes of Dongyi culture and marine culture, while integrating traditional northern architecture and fishermen's folk courtyards with tourism and recreational activities.
Setting up study tour tasks	(1) Comprehending the theory of place and placelessness, along with the concept of place authenticity; (2) investigating the local culture of Dongyi Town and examining the historical transformations that have influenced its development; (3) engaging in small group discussions that analyze the relationships among the town's residents, foreign operators, and tourists, while elucidating the sources of the town's sense of locality and the impact of human activities on the perception of that locality.
Planning of study tour routes	Rizhao Shanhaitian Resort → Main entrance of Dongyi Town → Activity centre square of Dongyi Town → Snack street → Side street cultural souvenir merchant street → Dragon God Temple → Lake scenery around the town → Wooden bridge over the lake → Dongyi Culture Museum → Landmark building Dongyi Town fishing boat
Explanation of the key contents of the study tour	(1) Locality: people can visit the original landscape sites, including the lakeside views throughout the town and the wooden bridge that spans the lake, in order to experience the authenticity of the local landscape through personal observation of traditional landscape and architectural styles. Furthermore, visits to cultural sites, including the Dragon God Temple and the Dongyi Culture Museum, offer opportunities for direct engagement with traditional culture, thereby enriching students' comprehension of the cultural significance of these locations. The research framework for interviewing and facilitating communication between students and vendors has been established. By addressing local issues identified by each group, students are able to appreciate the positive impact of the development of Dongyi Town on the community. Furthermore, they experience a sense of authenticity derived from their identity, belonging, and pride. (2) Placelessness: The design of study tour session provides an opportunity for students to engage in a comparative analysis by contrasting the aerial view of the former Dongyi Town site with a map that depicts variations in architectural styles. This exercise allows students to identify and articulate the transformations that have occurred before and after the establishment of Dongyi Town. As a result, they are able to appreciate the characteristics of placelessness and deepen their understanding of the criteria for evaluating authenticity.
Evaluation of the effectiveness of the study tour	Detailed evaluations are presented in Section 3.2.

**Table 2 Study tour evaluation scale in Dongyi Town**

Evaluation process	Primary evaluation indicator	Secondary evaluation indicator	Teacher evaluation 50% (A <sub>1</sub> )	Self-evaluation 20% (A <sub>2</sub> )	Group evaluation 30% (A <sub>3</sub> )
Performance evaluation (60%)	Landscape awareness dimensions	Collection of district landscape elements and types (30 points)			
	Cognitive dimensions of subject attitudes	Collection of cultural attitudes and types of subjects involved in the district (30 points)			
	District perception capacity	Recognition of place and placelessness in district based on the above two types of elements (40 points)			
Formative evaluation (40%)	Result showcase	Study tour report (25 points)			
		Theme-based reporting (25 points)			
		Drawing works (25 points)			
		Photographic works (25 points)			
Overall performance of study tour activities=A <sub>1</sub> ×50%+A <sub>2</sub> ×20%+A <sub>3</sub> ×30%					

within the context of study tour activities by designing specific case studies. The findings not only offer innovative insights and directions for the organization and design of study tour activities but also contribute to the development of essential competencies in students, including place identity, global perspective, and critical thinking. A regional exploration was conducted utilizing Dongyi Town as a case study. While this case is representative and typical, it is relatively limited in scope. Future research should consider expanding to additional regions and areas to validate and enhance the conclusions and findings of this study.

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decrease in the area of cultivated land. The most significant influence on forest land was precipitation, with human factors contributing approximately 30% to this impact. In contrast, the effects of both human and natural factors on water bodies were more uniformly distributed. The findings indicate that all forms of landscape alterations within the study area are collectively influenced by both human and natural factors. However, urban expansion and human interventions exert a more significant impact on the various landscape types in the region. Consequently, the direction and rate of changes in land use landscape are still affected by a range of socio-economic factors.

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