

DIPLOMA PROGRAMME

What is the Diploma Programme?

IB Diploma Programme students (grades 11-12) study six rigorous courses which are assessed both internally and externally to ensure breadth of experience in languages, social studies, experimental sciences, mathematics and the arts (arts can be replaced with a second content area course).

In addition the programme has three core requirements designed to broaden the educational experience.

- **The Extended Essay** engages students in independent research through an in-depth study of a question relating to one of the subjects they are studying.
- **Theory of knowledge** is a course designed to encourage each student to reflect on the nature of knowledge by critically examining different ways of knowing .
- **Creativity, action, service** requires that students actively learn from the experience of doing real tasks beyond the classroom.



IB Facts and Figures

- Currently, 3,858 schools in 148 countries offer at least one IB program
- There are more than 1,200,000 DP graduates in 141 countries worldwide
- More than 80% of IB Diploma graduates achieved a bachelor's degree within six years of university compared with 59% of all U.S. students in 2011 (nces.ed.gov).



IB MISSION STATEMENT

The International Baccalaureate® (IB) aims to develop inquiring, knowledgeable and caring young people who help to create a better and more peaceful world through intercultural understanding and respect.

To this end the organization works with schools, governments and international organizations to develop challenging programmes of international education and rigorous assessment.

These programmes encourage students across the world to become active, compassionate and lifelong learners who understand that other people, with their differences, can also be right.

Quotes

As a family who lived abroad and whose children attended International Baccalaureate schools in Europe, the IB programme is what brought us to Northville! The IB programme builds leaders and life-long learners and teaches children how to think about and interact with people all over the world. The IB provides an education that extends beyond the walls of the classroom and into the real world.

~ parent

The IB program does hold a lot of weight at University of Florida when it comes to admission decisions. We refigure each student's GPA on a 'UF-scale' and we give an extra 1.0 for all IB classes. With certain test scores, IB classes taken in high school will count for UF credit.

~ University of Florida

"As a prior IB student, I am more prepared when it comes to critical thinking and analyzing within my classes. I am using my IB credit to diversify my schedule and select classes that will distinguish me from other applicants when I apply to medical school."

~ Alma College Student

Why choose the IB DP?

The IB program is built around consistent pedagogical philosophies, course curriculums, program expectations, and varied methods of assessments. IB DP students, consequently, become successful inquirers, learners, thinkers, and collaborators, both on their own and with others. Learning to synthesize various academic and global understandings, IB DP students become contributing citizens locally, regionally, nationally, and globally.

Because of the holistic gains from earning the IB Diploma, interested students are encouraged to take the full Diploma Program. After all, it is the overall design of the "program" that makes many participants – and colleges/universities – value the whole experience as one that is greater than its parts. Students do have the opportunity to explore areas of interest and enroll in individual IB DP courses if they do not want to take part in the program as a whole.

What will the program look like?

Over the course of the two-year program, IB DP students

- study six subjects chosen from the six subject groups
- study three of the six subjects at higher level (courses representing at least 240 teaching hours)
- study the remaining three subjects at standard level (courses representing at least 150 teacher hours)

Is the Diploma Programme right for my child?

The Diploma Programme is offered to students interested in a full array of academically challenging and intellectually invigorating courses in grades 11 and 12. While students can take individual IB courses, students interested in earning an IB Diploma will need to make commitments to all of the academic groupings.

Do Universities recognize IB courses?

The Diploma Programme provides an internationally accepted qualification for entry into higher education, and it is recognized by universities worldwide. Some universities enter IB diploma graduates with a sophomore status, while others grant credit in specific courses. The initial part of the current Common Application does ask if students are Diploma Program candidates. Consult the University your child is interested in attending on specific recognition.