An Overview of the IB Diploma Program

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The Diploma Program

- IB Facts and Figures
- Curriculum and Assessment
- Central Elements
What is the International Baccalaureate Program?

A pre-university diploma

- Honors Diploma
- Utilizes local and international standards
- Based on an integrated curriculum
- Fosters “intercultural literacy”
What is the International Baccalaureate Diploma?

- 2900+ schools in 144 countries; many are International Schools
- 948 Diploma Programs in the United States alone
- 10 Diploma Programs on Long Island; we are the oldest
The 11th and 12th grade advanced curriculum in all subject areas meets the requirements of the International Baccalaureate.
To meet the IB Diploma Requirements, students must first:

- take 3 Higher Level Courses
- + 3 Standard Level Courses

from each of 6 core curriculum groups.

- **HL** → requires two years of study; completed Senior Year
- **SL** → completed after one or two years of study; two SLs may be taken Junior Year
## IB COURSE OFFERINGS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>STUDIES IN LANGUAGE &amp; LITERATURE</th>
<th>ENGLISH</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>LANGUAGE ACQUISITION</td>
<td>SPANISH</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>FRENCH</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>INDIVIDUALS &amp; SOCIETY</td>
<td>HISTORY</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>BUSINESS</td>
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<tr>
<td>SCIENCES</td>
<td>CHEMISTRY</td>
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<td></td>
<td>BIOLOGY</td>
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<td>PHYSICS</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>MATHEMATICS</td>
<td>MATH SL</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SIXTH SUBJECT</td>
<td>VISUAL ARTS</td>
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<td></td>
<td>THEATRE ARTS</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>MUSIC</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>FILM STUDIES</td>
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</table>

**OR SECOND SCIENCE**  
**SECOND INDIVIDUALS AND SOCIETY**  
**SECOND FOREIGN LANGUAGE**
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Higher Level</th>
<th>Standard Level</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>✓ English</td>
<td>✓ Math <em>(Studies or SL)</em></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>✓ History</td>
<td>✓ World Language <em>(French or Spanish)</em></td>
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**Choice:** What will the 3rd HL be?

**Choice:** What will the 3rd SL be?
## An IB Diploma Sequence

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<tr>
<td>- Biology or Chemistry</td>
<td>- Physics SL <em>(Jr yr)</em></td>
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**Sciences**
## An IB Diploma Sequence

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<td>✓ World Language <em>(French or Spanish)</em></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>✓ Env. Systems <em>(Sr yr)</em></td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>❑ Business Management</td>
<td>❑ Physics SL <em>(Jr yr)</em> or Env. Systems <em>(Sr yr)</em></td>
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<td>✓ World Language <em>(French or Spanish)</em></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>❑ Visual Arts or Music or Theatre or Film</td>
<td>❑ Physics SL <em>(Jr yr)</em> or Env. Systems <em>(Sr yr)</em></td>
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</tbody>
</table>
To meet the IB Diploma Requirements, students must also:

accumulate a **minimum of 24 points**; each course is graded on a scale of 1-7.

**Note**: Higher grades in one course may be used to make up for lower grades in another course, provided that the total points is 24+. 
The International Baccalaureate uses multiple assessment methods to measure student achievement in all its courses.

- Internally- and externally-graded assessments, using established grading criteria
- Varied skills are tested across disciplines
Assessment varies across the disciplines

HL English, Language and Literature
(2-year courses)

- Formal, face-to-face oral
- Written assignments:
  - current seniors – 2 written tasks;
  - next year’s seniors – the HL essay
- Two written examinations
Assessment varies across the disciplines

**Sciences**

- Lab Work
- Individual Investigation
- Group Project
- Multiple Choice
- Data-based, short answer and extended response questions
Assessment varies across the disciplines

- Projects and investigations in Mathematics
- Research Study in Psychology
- Exhibition of 8-11 artistic pieces in Visual Arts
- Creating and performing in Music

sciences.cornell.edu
What Do the Colleges Say?

“Students with the IB Diploma gain a breadth and depth of knowledge that no other high school curriculum offers. They come to campus with comprehensive knowledge that allows them to perform very well on the college level. IB diploma candidates certainly have an advantage in the admissions process.”  – JR Gaige, Director of Admissions, SUNY Albany

“A transcript that reveals a student’s enrollment in IB courses serves notice to the admissions officer that the applicant is someone who accepts rather than avoids educational challenges... that commitment will serve to influence admissions decisions at the University of Michigan.”  – Joseph Gore, Asst. Director of Admission, Univ. of Michigan

“[The IB Program] is a thoughtful and genuinely intellectual curriculum with an unusually high degree of integrity and connectedness. There is no other curriculum anywhere that does a superior job of both educating students and inspiring a true and broad-based love of learning.”  
- William Shain, Dean of Admission, Vanderbilt University
What Do the Colleges Say?

- [ ] http://www.ibo.org

- University Policy Index - a list of universities with their IB Policies (admissions credential, college credit or placement policies)

- Visit the websites of colleges your child is interested in; many post their IB recognition policies
Creativity, Activity, Service

- **Creativity**: arts and other experiences that involve creative thinking
- **Activity**: physical exertion contributing to a healthy lifestyle
- **Service**: an unpaid and voluntary exchange that has a learning benefit for the student
Experiential Learning

- PLAN
- DO
- REFLECT

A good CAS program should be both challenging and enjoyable, a personal journey of self-discovery.
Learning Outcomes

1. Identify your own strengths and develop areas for growth
2. Undertake new challenges and develop new skills in the process
3. Initiate and plan CAS experiences
4. Show perseverance and commitment to your CAS experiences
5. Recognize the benefits of working collaboratively
6. Engage with issues of global importance
7. Consider the ethical implications of your choices and actions
Extended Essay

- An opportunity to investigate a topic of special interest
- Develops the kind of independent authentic research and writing skills expected at the college level

Steinbeck’s East of Eden
Extended Essay

- Original Research - 4,000 words
- Completed over two years, under the guidance of a mentor
- Reflection on the process is a key component
Theory of Knowledge
Consider these TOK writing prompts:

- Given access to the same facts, how is it possible that there can be disagreement between experts in a discipline?
- Can literature “tell the truth” better than other Areas of Knowledge?
- "Error is as valuable as accuracy in the production of knowledge." To what extent is this the case in two areas of knowledge?
The IB is an **inclusive program** at South Side. Any student is welcome to pursue an IB Diploma, provided they have the right mix of courses.
Thank you...

Enjoy the rest of your evening!