



Academic Course Catalog  
2009 - 2010

International Baccalaureate  
Programme

Current As Of: 4/6/09

## The International Baccalaureate Program

Founded in 1960, one of the main goals of the IB Program is the hope that a shared academic experience emphasizing critical thinking and exposure to a variety of viewpoints will foster tolerance and intercultural understanding among young people. The educational philosophy of the organization is found in its mission statement adopted in 1996: *Through comprehensive and balanced curricula coupled with challenging assessments, the International Baccalaureate Organization aims to assist schools in their endeavors to develop the individual talents of young people and teach them to relate the experience of the classroom to the realities of the world outside. Beyond intellectual rigor and high academic standards, strong emphasis is placed on the ideals of international understanding and responsible citizenship, to the end that IB students may become critical and compassionate thinkers, lifelong learners and informed participants in local and world affairs, conscious of the shared humanity that binds all people together while respecting the variety of cultures and attitudes that makes for the richness of life.*

*Diploma candidates are required to select one subject from each of the six subject groups: English, World Languages, History, Experimental Sciences, Mathematics, and Arts and Electives. Additionally, diploma candidates must take the Theory of Knowledge course in Junior and Senior year.*

### Group 1 Language A

IB ENGLISH (HL)-1700 - Juniors - First year of a two-year course	1 credit
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The aim of the Language A-1 program (Higher Level) is foremost to encourage student appreciation of literature and an understanding of the techniques involved in literary criticism. Students taking this class will study works from other cultures as well as works that have been translated from other languages. Students will engage in an intense study of written text; furthermore, development of oral and written expression as a means of communicating about literature will be included in the Language A-1 program. Student assessment will be based on the internal assessments required by the IB Program and other means included by the Language A-1 teacher. One external assessment paper will be started by the end of the spring in a student's junior year.

IB ENGLISH (HL)-1701 - Seniors	1 credit
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This course continues the curriculum outlined in the 1700 course.

### Group 2 Language B

IB ITALIAN (SL)-5700 - Juniors - (First year of a two-year course)	1 credit
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IB Italian is the third year of a sequential study of the Italian language and culture. IB Italian is designed to further develop the four primary skills of listening, speaking, reading and writing. All language skills are studied through a range of texts and materials including newspapers, magazines, literature, the internet and films. Students will develop a greater awareness of, and sensitivity to the Italian culture and discuss similarities and differences with their own culture. There is an emphasis on writing and creating original compositions which will be prepared for both

the internal and external assessment as part of the IB score. Students are required to take the IB Italian SL exam in May of their senior year.

Prerequisite: Department approval.

IB ITALIAN II (SL)-5701 - Seniors
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1 credit
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This course continues the curriculum outlines in the 5700 course.

IB SPANISH (SL)-5702 - Juniors - (First year of a two-year course)
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1 credit
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IB Spanish is the third year of a sequential study of the Spanish language and culture. IB Spanish is designed to further develop the four primary skills of listening, speaking, reading and writing. All language skills are studied through a range of texts and materials including newspapers, magazines, literature, the internet and films of the Hispanic world. Students will develop a greater awareness of, and sensitivity to the Hispanic culture and discuss similarities and differences with their own culture. There is an emphasis on writing and creating original compositions which will be prepared for both the internal and external assessment as part of the IB score. Students are required to take the IB Spanish SL exam in May of their senior year.

Prerequisite: Department approval.

IB SPANISH (SL)-5703 - Seniors
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1 credit
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This course continues the curriculum outlined in the 5702 course.

### Group 3 Individuals and Societies

IB HISTORY OF THE AMERICAS (HL)-2700 - Juniors - (First year of a two-year course)
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1 credit
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The first course in the two-year Individuals and Society sequence of the IB program is a comprehensive study of the 3 regions within North America; Canada, the United States and Latin America. The course will address a variety of political, economic, social and cultural aspects within the development of each region with an in depth study of a 100 year period.

IB HISTORY OF THE AMERICAS II (HL)-2701 - Seniors
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1 credit
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The second course in the two-year History and Society sequence of the IB program looks at a number of historical events that took place within the 20<sup>th</sup> century. Case studies involving the changing face of war, the rise and fall of dictators and the changing relationships of countries involved in the Cold War will all be evaluated. This course will require an internal assessment along with Papers 1, 2, and 3.

### Group 4 Experimental Sciences

IB BIOLOGY (HL)-4700 - Juniors - (First year of a two-year course)
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1 credit
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This is a higher level, two-year biology course. The course consists of 180 hours of lecture (theory) and 60 hours of laboratory investigations. An interdisciplinary research project is mandatory and will account for 10-15 of the

60 required lab hours. The aim of this course is to present students with a large amount of information and have those students acquire a limited body of facts while at the same time developing a broad, general understanding and appreciation of the principles of the subject. There are four basic biological concepts that run throughout the course: relationships between structure and function, universality vs. diversity, equilibrium within systems, and evolution.

IB BIOLOGY II (HL)-4701 - Seniors

1 credit

This course continues the curriculum outlined in the 4700 course.

### Group 5 Mathematics

IB MATH STUDIES (SL)-3700 - Sophomores/Juniors

1 credit

This Standard Level course is the first of a two-year sequence which seeks to develop proficiency in mathematics. It is designed for IB students of varied mathematical abilities in order to build an appreciation for the discipline itself, as well as its usefulness. The universality of mathematics, which includes its international dimensions, is an underlying theme. Problem-solving skills will play a dominant role in this course, which integrates various topics in intermediate algebra, trigonometry, and statistics. The course aims to build persistence and confidence in one's approach to mathematical studies by properly developing logical and abstract thought. Students will take their knowledge of mathematics to a practical level as they begin the required project - a piece of written work involving the collection, analysis and evaluation of data. Students will be preparing to take the external IB exam in Math Studies after the completion of the course in the subsequent year. Prerequisite: departmental approval.

IB MATH STUDIES II (SL)-3701 - Juniors/Seniors

1 credit

This Standard Level course is the second of a two-year sequence which seeks to develop proficiency in mathematics. It is designed for IB students of varied mathematical abilities in order to further build an appreciation for the discipline itself, as well as its usefulness. The universality of mathematics, which includes its international dimensions, is an underlying theme. Problem-solving skills will continue to play a dominant role in this course, which integrates various topics in statistics, logic and differential calculus, as well as provide review for the external IB exam in Math Studies upon completion of the course in May. Students will take their knowledge of mathematics to a practical level as they complete the required project - a piece of written work involving the collection, analysis and evaluation of data. Prerequisite: successful completion of *IB Math Studies I* and departmental approval.

### Group 6 Arts and Elective

IB VISUAL ART(SL)- 7700 - 2<sup>nd</sup> & 3<sup>rd</sup> semester of a 3 semester course - Seniors

1 credit

IB Art will be offered as a Standard Level course. There are two options: SLA and SLB. Recommended teaching times for both levels is 150 hours. Therefore, it may be necessary to spend some time outside of the school day to complete assignments, either before or after school or on a few Saturdays. An "Investigation Workbook" (IW) is a critical aspect of IB Art. Each student starts with a bound book with blank pages and begins to explore areas of his or her choice in written and sketch form. Research on those topics, including international perspectives, will be recorded on those pages as well.

SLA In the Spring of Senior year, an IB Examiner will come to St Edmund to view an exhibit of the student's work and to interview him or her about the work on exhibit and the IW.

66% - devoted to Studio work (practical exploration and artistic production)

34% - Investigation Workbook (Independent critical research and analysis, visual and written with an emphasis on multiculturalism.)

SLB This option should be particularly attractive to students who are interested in art but whose strengths do not lie in practical studio work. Students following this option should devote most of their time to the Investigation workbooks. A final visit is not required but is an option for the SLB student. The emphasis for the examiner, however, will be the Investigation Workbook.

66% - Investigation Workbook (Independent critical research and analysis, visual and written with emphasis on multiculturalism.)

34% - devoted to Studio work (practical exploration and artistic production)

*Prerequisites: to be determined*

IB MUSIC (SL)-7702 - Juniors - (First year of a two-year course)
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1 credit
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The art of music demands that the educated musician and music lover be able to recognize and articulate musical elements realized in diverse examples of music making. A vibrant musical education fosters curiosity in, and sensitivity to, the musical worlds which surround us. The alert mind trained in the disciplined study of music will appreciate the ways in which music integrates and manifests knowledge on multiple levels. With careful listening, the musician may become humbled by the power of music to change lives.

The aims of the IB Music programme are to:

- give students the opportunity to explore and enjoy the diversity of music throughout the world
- encourage students to develop perceptual skills through a breadth of musical experiences,
- where they will learn to recognize, speculate, analyze, identify, discriminate and hypothesize in relation to music
- enable students to develop creatively their knowledge, abilities and understanding through performance and composition assist students to develop their potential as musicians both personally and collaboratively, in whatever capacity, to the full.

IB MUSIC II (SL)-7703 - Seniors
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1 credit
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This course continues the curriculum outlined in the 7702 course.

IB PSYCHOLOGY (SL)-2702 - Juniors/Seniors
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1 credit
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This course that will examine in depth the social learning perspective, cognitive perspective, biological perspective and abnormal perspective of psychology. Students will be expected to do independent research and reading outside of the classroom. The format for all tests will be essay. A major research project examining the replication of a simple experimental study is required. In order to receive IB credit the student must successfully complete the research project and 2 comprehensive written exams in essay format.

THEORY OF KNOWLEDGE-0700 - Juniors - (Spring Semester of a two-semester course)	.5 credit
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The TOK course, a flagship element in the Diploma Programme, encourages critical thinking about knowledge itself, to try to help students make sense of what they encounter. Its core content is questions like these: What counts as knowledge? How does it grow? What are its limits? Who owns knowledge? What is the value of knowledge? What are the implications of having, or not having, knowledge? TOK activities and discussions aim to help students discover and express their views on knowledge issues.

The course encourages students to share ideas with others and to listen to and learn from what others think. In this process students' thinking and their understanding of knowledge as a human construction are shaped, enriched and deepened.

THEORY OF KNOWLEDGE II-0701 - Seniors -	.5 credit
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This course continues the curriculum outlined in the 0700 course.