



## Bloomfield Hills High School

*An International Baccalaureate World School*



### What is the IB Diploma Programme?

The IB Programme is a rigorous course of study designed to meet the needs of highly motivated high school students. Today the IB Program is of even greater significance, given our existence in a progressively diverse society where processing knowledge is on the rise. It is essential, therefore, that academic training provides students with the skills and opportunities that will enable them to succeed in the competitive global economy paired with an appreciation and understanding of cultural diversity.

#### The IB Learner Profile

The aim of all IB programmes is to develop internationally minded people who, recognizing their common humanity and shared guardianship of the planet, help to create a better and more peaceful world.

As IB learners we strive to be:

- Inquirers
- Thinkers
- Principled
- Caring
- Balanced
- Knowledgeable
- Communicators
- Open-minded
- Risk-takers
- Reflective

#### The Diploma Programme

The Diploma Programme (DP) is a curriculum framework designed by the International Baccalaureate (IB) for 11<sup>th</sup> & 12<sup>th</sup> grade students.

IB students graduating with the IB diploma are able to study at universities all around the world, often with advanced credit. Students report that their involvement with the IB has given them the tools needed to succeed at college. In particular, students comment on their sense of preparedness, self-confidence, research skills, and their ability to manage their time. Even more important, they have developed a sense of the world around them and their responsibility to it.

Diploma Programme students study six subjects (three at standard level and three at higher level) over two years and complete three additional requirements: the theory of knowledge (TOK), the extended essay, and CAS—creativity, activity and service experiences outside of the classroom. In addition to these requirements, students must earn a minimum of 24 points out of a possible 45 points on the final assessments which are externally marked and moderated by the IB, in order to receive an IB diploma.

#### Theory of knowledge (TOK)

TOK is an interdisciplinary course designed to help students question and understand how they know what they know. Students study how individuals from various disciplines view the world in order to develop their own ways of thinking.

#### Creativity, Activity, Service (CAS)

CAS is an experiential learning component of the DP. Students complete a wide variety of extracurricular, community service and athletic options to fulfill this requirement.

#### Extended Essay

The extended essay introduces students to the demands and rewards of independent work. Emphasis is placed on doing personal research and communicating ideas effectively in order to write a 4,000-word essay in an area of personal interest.

#### Benefits for Students:

IB Students are given a unique education. They will:

- Be encouraged to think independently and drive their own learning
- Take part in programmes of education that can lead them to some of the highest ranking universities around the world
- Become more culturally aware, through the development of a second language
- Be able to engage with people in an increasingly globalized, rapidly changing world



## IB Certificate Course Options

International Baccalaureate courses may be taken by students *not pursuing the full IB Diploma*. In these IB courses, students will take the same internal and external assessments as the IB Diploma students and can earn college credit for passing prescribed IB assessments (3-12 hours depending on scores).

## Do DP students have time for anything beyond academics?

Absolutely. Most successful Diploma Programme students lead very full lives. They are often members of athletic teams and involved in a wide range of activities. Time management and organization are key skills the IB develops in students.

## How does the IB DP differ from other university-preparatory programs such as Advanced Placement?

The IB DP is a two-year comprehensive curriculum with a culminating set of externally graded final exams. IB and Advanced Placement (AP) are both university preparatory, academically rigorous programs. There are important differences, however, in the content and exams. The DP is a cohesive and comprehensive programme, not a collection of individual courses as is the case with Advanced Placement. The most important distinguishing factors are the core of the Diploma Programme (CAS, TOK and Extended Essay) and college credit being earned through a series of assessments throughout the courses.

## College Credit

College credit is granted when a student passes the IB examinations. Individual colleges and universities, not International Baccalaureate Program, grant course credit and placement.

Credits are accepted at US universities and internationally. Generally they require a score of 4 (Out of 1-7) or higher. See individual colleges/universities for their policies.

For more information, contact your BHHS counselor, or the BHHS IB Coordinator

Amy Merchant  
(248) 341-5571  
amerchant@bloomfield.org

You can also learn more at: [www.ibo.org](http://www.ibo.org) or in the IB section of the Bloomfield Hills High School website.

# 10 REASONS WHY THE IB DIPLOMA PROGRAMME IS IDEAL PREPARATION FOR UNIVERSITY

## 1 IT OFFERS ACADEMIC BREADTH & DEPTH

IB Diploma Programme students are 21% more likely to be admitted into 10 of the most prestigious universities, including Harvard, Princeton, Yale and Stanford.



## 2 COLLEGES VALUE STUDENTS WITH MEANINGFUL EXPERIENCES BEYOND THE CLASSROOM

Creativity, action, service (CAS) encourages learning through direct experience.

## 3 IT'S A QUALIFICATION RECOGNIZED BY UNIVERSITIES AROUND THE

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The IB Diploma Programme is internationally benchmarked, allowing graduates to continue their studies anywhere in the world.

## 4 IT CREATES INDEPENDENT LEARNERS & STRONG WRITERS

The extended essay requires independent research through an in-depth study and a 4,000 word essay.



## 6 IT ASSESSES MORE THAN EXAMINATION TECHNIQUES

IB never teaches to the test—exams are externally assessed with no grade inflation for more than 30 years.

## 7 IB STUDENTS HAVE PROVEN TIME MANAGEMENT SKILLS

Research has found that IB students develop strong study habits and critical time management skills, key indicators of college readiness.



## 5 IT CULTIVATES AN INTERNATIONAL MINDSET



An international mindset is a key 21st century learning skill. Second language learning—an IB requirement—has been linked to higher achievement in school and university.

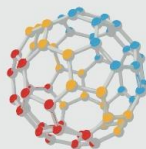
## 8 THE IB ENCOURAGES CRITICAL THINKING

Inquisitiveness and interpretation are among the key cognitive properties of an IB education.



## 9 SUBJECTS AREN'T TAUGHT IN ISOLATION

Theory of knowledge classes encourage students to make connections between subjects and gain the skills they need to be critical thinkers.



## AND HERE ARE 10 MORE REASONS...

The IB learner profile offers 10 qualities underpinning the Diploma Programme—from open-minded to risk-taker to balanced, they form a framework for an international education that meets the needs of a changing world.

For source attribution of any data contained herein, please refer to <http://www.ibo.org/research/>

[www.ibo.org](http://www.ibo.org)

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