

THE IB FRAMEWORK

The **IB Diploma Programme (DP)** is a curriculum framework designed by the International Baccalaureate (IB) for students in the last two years of high school.

The IB DP is a holistic program focused on developing well-rounded students who will be leaders in our global society. Students study six subjects over two years and complete three additional requirements:

- Theory of Knowledge (TOK)
- Extended Essay (EE),
- Creativity, Activity, and Service (CAS)

IB FRAMEWORK	
<p>CORE</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Required for the IB Diploma</i> • <i>Earn a total of 3 points towards the diploma</i> 	<p>CAS (Creativity, Activity, Service)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Students are consistently engaged for 18 months in experiences and reflections as well as a project, which they compile in their portfolio. • The CAS Coordinator meets with students as a group once a week and also meets individually as needed.
	<p>TOK (Theory of Knowledge)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • This is a course which meets for 100 hours over the course of 2 years. • Class meets for half a block every other day. • Assessments: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ 1600-word paper ○ Exhibition
	<p>EE (Extended Essay)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 4000-word research paper • This is not a taught course; however, time is scheduled to work on EE skills. • The EE Coordinator meets with students as a group 1-2 times per week. • The EE Supervisor (subject-area specialist) meets with individual students for formal and informal check-ins.
<p>COURSES</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Required for the IB Diploma</i> • <i>Must take six courses in a total of 5-6 groups</i> • <i>Earn up to 7 points per course</i> 	Group 1: Studies in Language & Literature
	Group 2: Language Acquisition
	Group 3: Individuals & Societies
	Group 4: Experimental Sciences
	Group 5: Mathematics
	Group 6: The Arts <i>Students may opt to take an additional course in another group instead of an Art</i>

Standard Level (SL) vs Higher Level (HL) in IB DP Courses

Differences between SL and HL

- Students take three HL courses and three SL courses.
- SL courses => 150 total hours of teaching time
- HL courses => 240 total hours of teaching time plus additional assignments and more in-depth work

SL only courses

- Self-taught Literature
- Language ab initio
- Environmental Systems and Societies

HL Pre-requisites

- Student receives information regarding SL and HL differences (either through meeting or handout)
- Student attends meeting with DP Coordinator to choose HL courses
- Student is in good standing in their current course:
 - No outstanding units
 - Scheduled to finish all units by the end of the year
 - More As than Bs
- Student receives teacher approval from...
 - Current teacher in that subject area
 - Current IB teacher in that subject

Note on Syllabus/Assessment Details

- The details listed in this guide are intended to give an overview of the subjects and the SL/HL differences in order to help students make a decision. They are subject to change.

Important Note about University/Career Paths

- Every university is different, and every university/career path is different. Please check with the school counselor as well as the university you want to attend for specific recommendations.
- The statements “HL is for students...” are based around *student interest* and not university requirements.

GROUP 1

LANGUAGE & LITERATURE	
<p>SL LANGUAGE & LITERATURE Syllabus Details:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Four works, of which: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ a minimum of one must be written originally in the language studied, by an author on the prescribed reading list ○ a minimum of one must be a work in translation by an author on the prescribed reading list ○ two can be chosen freely – from the prescribed reading list or elsewhere – and may be in translation. • Works must be selected to cover two major literary forms, two periods and two places covering at least two continents. • A number of non-literary texts from a range of different text types <p>Assessments:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Individual Oral (15 minutes) • Exam: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Paper 1: guided textual analysis of one non-literary passage (1 hour 15 minutes) ○ Paper 2: comparative essay (1 hour 45 minutes) 	<p>HL LANGUAGE & LITERATURE Syllabus details:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Six works, of which: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ a minimum of two must be written originally in the language studied, by authors on the prescribed reading list ○ a minimum of two must be works in translation by authors on the prescribed reading list ○ two can be chosen freely – from the prescribed reading list or elsewhere – and may be in translation. • Works must be selected to cover three major literary forms, three periods and three places covering at least two continents. • A number of non-literary texts from a range of different text types <p>Assessments:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Individual Oral (15 minutes) • HL essay (1200-1500 words) • Exam: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Paper 1: 2 separate guided textual analyses of 2 different non-literary passages (2 hours 15 minutes) ○ Paper 2: comparative essay (1 hour 45 minutes) <p>HL is for students who are interested in literary theory, sociolinguistics, media studies, and critical discourse analysis.</p>

GROUP 2

LANGUAGE AB INITIO STANDARD LEVEL ONLY
<p>SL LANGUAGE AB INITIO</p> <p><i>Ab initio is an intensive fast-moving language acquisition class intended for students with no previous experience in the language or with minimal previous experience (and thus Language B would be too challenging). Students with two years-experience in the language or basic communication skills in the language are not able to take ab initio. Ab initio is more intense than a regular Language I and Language II course and should not be looked at as an “easy” alternative to Language B.</i></p> <p>Students should consider university choices when choosing ab initio over Language B. Some universities may require more than two years of a language or may not look favorably on a mid-secondary language change.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Completion of one oral assessment: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Individual oral: a conversation with the teacher, based on a visual stimulus and at least one additional course theme • Two external examination papers: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Paper 1 (productive skills): two written tasks of 70-150 words each from a choice of three tasks, choosing a text type for each task from among those listed in the examination instructions ○ Paper 2 (receptive skills): <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Listening comprehension (three audio passages) ▪ Reading comprehension (three written texts)

LANGUAGE B

Language B is a language acquisition course designed for students with some previous experience in the target language. In the Language B course, students further develop their ability to communicate in the target language through the study of language, themes, and texts. In doing so, they also develop conceptual understandings of how language works, as appropriate to the level of the course.

SL LANGUAGE B

Assessments:

- **Internal Assessment:**
 - Individual oral: 15 minutes' preparation time and a 10-minute (maximum) presentation and discussion with the teacher, based on a visual image
- **Exam:**
 - Paper 1 (productive skills): one writing task from a choice of three (around 250-400 words)
 - Paper 2 (receptive skills): separate sections for listening and reading

HL LANGUAGE B

Syllabus details (unique to HL):

- 2 novel studies
- HL students are held to a higher standard of accuracy and language expression showing a more sophisticated command of the language and an ability to express more abstract ideas.
- HL students will have more complex reading comprehensions that require in-depth understanding
- HL students will also focus on developing argumentative productive skills - the argumentation structure, use of cohesive devices, providing relevant examples, facts, statistics etc.

Assessments

- **Internal Assessment:**
 - Individual oral: 15 minutes' preparation time and a 10-minute (maximum) presentation and discussion with the teacher, based on a studied literary work
- **Exam:**
 - Paper 1 (productive skills): one writing task from a choice of three (around 450-600 words)
 - Paper 2 (receptive skills): separate sections for listening and reading

HL is for students who are at a near-native level of the language and willing to engage in novel studies. Students will be expected to understand and use higher level vocabulary, more idioms, and almost perfect grammar.

ADDITIONAL HL PRE-REQS:

- (Language) III
- **or** (Language) II and Teacher Recommendation

GROUP 3

BUSINESS MANAGEMENT	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> HL and SL students will examine decision making within a business TOK questions are related to the concepts of change, culture, ethics, globalization, innovation, and strategy 	
<p>SL BUSINESS MANAGEMENT</p> <p>Assessment:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Internal Assessment: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Business Research Project (1800 words) Exam: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Paper 1 (1 hour 30 minutes): structured and extended response questions based on a case study Paper 2 (1 hour 30 minutes): structured and extended response questions based on material with a quantitative focus 	<p>HL BUSINESS MANAGEMENT</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> HL Students will examine additional concepts such as international marketing <p>Assessment:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Internal Assessment: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Business Research Project (1800 words) Exam <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Paper 1 (1 hour 30 minutes): structured and extended response questions based on a case study Paper 2 (1 hour 45 minutes): structured and extended response questions based on material with a quantitative focus Paper 3 (1 hour 15 minutes): one question based on material about a social enterprise <p><i>HL is for students who are interested in providing solutions to contemporary business problems.</i></p>

ECONOMICS	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> SL and HL students use economic theories to examine how choices are made in an environment of scarce resources SL and HL students apply these theories to Micro, Macro, and Global environments 	
<p>SL ECONOMICS</p> <p>Assessment:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Internal Assessment <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Portfolio of 3 commentaries (800 words per commentary) Exam: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Paper 1 (1 hour 15 minutes): extended response Paper 2 (1 hour 45 minutes): data response 	<p>HL ECONOMICS</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> HL students develop quantitative skills in order to provide informed policy advice, which is assessed in Paper 3 <p>Assessment:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Internal Assessment: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Portfolio of 3 commentaries (800 words per commentary) Exam: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Paper 1 (1 hour 15 minutes): extended response Paper 2 (1 hour 45 minutes): data response Paper 3 (1 hour 45 minutes): policy paper <p><i>HL is for students who are interested in making informed decisions within a policy mindset.</i></p>

PSYCHOLOGY	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Both SL and HL study the biological, cognitive, and sociocultural approaches to understanding behavior as well as approaches to researching behavior. 	
<p>SL PSYCHOLOGY</p> <p>Assessment:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Internal: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Experimental study Exam: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Paper 1 (2 hours): 3 short-answer questions and one essay Paper 2 (1 hour): one question 	<p>HL PSYCHOLOGY</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> HL students will explore additional topics within the core. HL students will be directly assessed on their understanding of approaches to research <p>Assessment:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Internal: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Experimental study Exam: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Paper 1 (2 hours): 3 short-answer questions and one essay Paper 2 (2 hours): 2 questions Paper 3 (1 hour): 3 short-answer questions from a list of six static questions on approaches to research

GROUP 4

BIOLOGY

- All SL and HL students take:
 - Cell biology, Molecular biology, Genetics, Ecology, Evolution and biodiversity, Human physiology
- Options (one of the following is taught):
 - Neurobiology and Behavior, Microbes and Biotechnology, Ecology and Conservation, Further Human Physiology

SL BIOLOGY

Assessment:

- Internal:
 - Scientific Investigation with a writeup (6-12 pages)
- Exam:
 - Paper 1 (45 minutes): multiple choice questions
 - Paper 2 (1 hour 15 minutes): short-answer and extended response data-based questions
 - Paper 3 (1 hour): short-answer and extended response questions on experimental skills and techniques, analysis and evaluation, using unseen data linked to the core material

HL BIOLOGY

- A solid foundation in biology and a good working knowledge of chemistry are required for this course.
- Additional topics are taught, such as Metabolism, Plant Biology, and Animal Physiology.

Assessment:

- Internal:
 - Scientific Investigation with a writeup (6-12 pages)
- Exam:
 - Paper 1 (1 hour): multiple choice questions
 - Paper 2 (2 hours 15 minutes): short-answer and extended response data-based questions
 - Paper 3 (1 hour 15 minutes): short-answer and extended response questions on experimental skills and techniques, analysis and evaluation, using unseen data linked to the core material

HL is for students who are interested in college and university courses in biology, medicine, biochemistry, environmental studies, etc.

CHEMISTRY

- All SL and HL students take:
 - Stoichiometric relationships, Atomic structure, Periodicity, Chemical bonding and structure, Energetics/ thermochemistry, Chemical kinetics, Equilibrium, Acids and bases, Redox process, Organic processes, Organic chemistry, Measurement and data processing
- Options (one of the following is taught):
 - Biochemistry, Materials, Energy, Medicinal chemistry

SL CHEMISTRY

Assessment:

- Internal:
 - Scientific Investigation with a writeup (6-12 pages)
- Exam:
 - Paper 1 (45 minutes): multiple choice questions
 - Paper 2 (1 hour 15 minutes): short-answer and extended response data-based questions
 - Paper 3 (1 hour): short-answer and extended response questions on experimental skills and techniques, analysis and evaluation, using unseen data linked to the core material

HL CHEMISTRY

- HL Chemistry requires previous knowledge as certain areas of the subject are studied in considerable detail.
- Additional topics are taught.

Assessment:

- Internal:
 - Scientific Investigation with a writeup (6-12 pages)
- Exam:
 - Paper 1 (1 hour): multiple choice questions
 - Paper 2 (2 hours 15 minutes): short-answer and extended response data-based questions
 - Paper 3 (1 hour 15 minutes): short-answer and extended response questions on experimental skills and techniques, analysis and evaluation, using unseen data linked to the core material

HL is for students who are interested in college and university courses in chemistry, medicine, biochemistry, pharmacology, environmental studies, chemical engineering, etc.

ADDITIONAL HL PRE-REQS:

- Chemistry
- **OR** Teacher Recommendation **plus** additional independent work to prepare for Chemistry HL

GROUP 5

MATHEMATICS ANALYSIS AND APPROACHES	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Students who choose Mathematics AA at SL/HL level should be comfortable with using algebraic expressions, recognizing patterns, and understanding the mathematical generalization of these patterns. This course recognizes the need for analytical expertise in a world where innovation is increasingly dependent on a deep understanding of mathematics. It places emphasis on constructing, communication, and justifying correct mathematical arguments. 	
<p>SL ANALYSIS AND APPROACHES</p> <p>Assessment:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Internal: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Mathematical exploration (written work that involves investigating an area of mathematics) Exam: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Paper 1 (1 hour 30 minutes): short-response and extended-response questions, no technology allowed Paper 2 (1 hour 30 minutes): short-response and extended-response questions, technology required <p><i>SL is for students who are moderate at mathematics and do not intend to study to study a mathematics-heavy field in university.</i></p> <p><i>***Note: Check with your preferred universities before relying on this statement. Some universities require HL Mathematics even for degrees that are not explicitly mathematics-based.</i></p>	<p>HL ANALYSIS AND APPROACHES</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Students who wish to take Mathematics: Analysis and Approaches at HL will have strong algebraic skills and the ability to understand simple proof. They will be students who enjoy spending time with problems and get pleasure and satisfaction from solving challenging problems. <p>Assessment:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Internal: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Mathematical exploration (written work that involves investigating an area of mathematics) Exam: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Paper 1 (2 hours): short-response and extended-response questions, no technology allowed Paper 2 (2 hours): short-response and extended-response questions, technology required Paper 3 (1 hour): extended- response problem-solving questions, technology required <p><i>HL is for students who are strong at mathematics and intend to pursue mathematics or engineering after high school.</i></p> <p><i>***Note: Check with your preferred universities for their requirements. Some universities require HL Mathematics even for degrees that are not explicitly mathematics-based.</i></p>
	<p>ADDITIONAL HL PRE-REQS:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Advanced Mathematics 1 and Teacher Recommendation Advanced Mathematics 2

GROUP 6

VISUAL ARTS	
<p>SL AND HL</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> SL&HL students will explore and acquire skills, techniques and processes, through engagement with a variety of media and methods. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> including 2D forms like drawing, painting, and printmaking, 3D forms, and digital based art. SL & HL students will research a variety of artists and art traditions and develop their informed response to these works, leading to a Comparative Study – a comprehensive comparison of two artists’ works. <p>SL & HL students will curate their own exhibition.</p>	
<p>SL VISUAL ARTS</p> <p>Artwork submission:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 10-15 screens which compare and examine at least three artworks, by at least two different artists <p>Process Portfolio:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 9-18 screens representing their works (including some sketchbook pages); the works have to be in at least two art-making forms (for example, some paintings and some digital work) <p>Exhibition:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 4-7 works curatorial rationale not exceeding 400 words 	<p>HL VISUAL ARTS</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> HL students are expected to produce a larger body of work, use greater variety of media and make a connection between an artist explored in the comparative study and their own work. <p>Artwork submission:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 10-15 screens which compare and examine at least three artworks, by at least two different artists An additional 3-5 screens which analyze the extent to which their work and practices have been influenced the the art and artists examined <p>Process Portfolio:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 13-25 screens; works need to be created in at least three art-making forms (for example, some drawings, some paintings, and some digital work or sculpture) <p>Exhibition:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 8-11 works curatorial rationale not exceeding 700 words <p><i>HL is for students who are interested in pursuing a career in an art-related field.</i></p>