



INTERNATIONAL BACCALAUREATE FACT SHEET

WHAT ARE IB COURSES?

IB courses are upper level classes designed to prepare students for college. IB courses emphasize the learning process: students learn to set goals and reflect on their progress towards them. IB emphasizes the value of education in the modern world: students are encouraged to consider global perspectives and the relevance of class material to the world we live in. In each IB course there are between two and three official IB assessments. Depending on the class, these can include formal examinations, oral presentations, group projects, or the submission of a portfolio of work.

WHAT KIND OF STUDENT IS A GOOD CANDIDATE FOR THE DIPLOMA?

Wilson is looking for organized and hardworking students who are interested in becoming an active participant in an increasingly global society. We hope to find open-minded and curious students who identify as thinkers. Students should want to be a member of a learning community and should know that asking for help is essential for learning.

WHAT IS THE IB DIPLOMA PROGRAMME?

In addition to the Glen A. Wilson diploma that all graduates earn, some students will earn the internationally recognized IB Diploma. The Diploma Programme (DP) is a complete course of study. Over the course of two years, a Diploma Candidate will take six (6) IB Courses - one in each of the traditional subject areas of English, Language, Philosophy, Math, Science, and an Elective. Candidates choose three courses to study at the Higher Level (HL) and three to study at the Standard Level (SL). Students also complete a set of IB Core requirements: Theory of Knowledge (TOK), Creativity, Action, Service (CAS), and the Extended Essay (EE). In addition to completing these requirements, a student must earn a 24 out of a possible 45 points on the final assessments to earn an official IB Diploma.

AT WILSON, CAN A STUDENT TAKE JUST ONE IB COURSE?

Yes. A student who takes fewer than the six required DP courses is considered an IB Course Candidate and may earn individual course certificates, but will not earn the IB Diploma.

WHAT IS TOK?

Theory of Knowledge (TOK) is a requirement for the Diploma Candidates. It is an interdisciplinary class imbedded into our IB Philosophy course designed to help students question and understand how they know what they know. Students ask questions such as “What makes a method scientific?” or “Is historical knowledge scientific?” or “How is reason different than faith?” The course is designed to complement their IB course of study and support them through CAS and the EE.

WHAT IS CAS?

Creativity, Action, Service (CAS), is a requirement for the Diploma Candidates. To complete their CAS requirement students must complete service opportunities, creative projects, and physical activities. Over their two years in the program, diploma candidates must set goals and record their progress toward a set of Learning Outcomes for CAS. All DP candidates also complete at least one CAS project with other DP candidates.

WHAT IS THE EE?

The Extended Essay (EE), is a requirement for DP Candidates. DP candidates work with an advisor to complete an independent research project in an area of personal interest, which culminates in a 4,000 word essay. The focus of the EE is the research process with a goal to provide students with an authentic research experience to develop the skills and writing background expected in Universities.



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HOW DOES IB COMPARE WITH AP?

The fundamental differences between IB and AP has to do with purpose: The IB DP Programme is designed to prepare a student for success in college; AP courses are designed for a student to demonstrate that he or she has already mastered college level content. IB courses place a greater emphasis on process; AP courses place a greater emphasis on content. AP courses have one multiple choice exam at the end of the course (along with an essay for the English courses); IB courses have multiple and varied assessments throughout the course. IB classes have a unified philosophy connected to its core Learner Profile; AP courses do not. Since both are rigorous, students should make course-selection decisions based on their learning style, future goals, and which kind of course better suits their strengths and interests.

HOW DO COLLEGES VIEW THE IB DIPLOMA?

Once in college students who have earned their IB Diploma report that their involvement with the IB has given them the tools needed for success at college. In particular, students comment on their sense of preparedness, self-confidence, research skills, and time management. Colleges recognize these characteristics in applicants who are diploma candidates. The IB DP is internationally recognized as representing one of the highest standards in university preparatory education. More than 1,000 colleges and universities in North America, including the UC and CSU systems, have recognition policies on how they weigh it in admissions, advanced standing, college credit, and scholarships. Many universities, including the UC System offer Advanced Standing to IB Diploma Graduates. A list of colleges and universities that grant credit, scholarships and/or advanced standing for DP courses can be found at www.ibo.org.

HOW DOES IB IMPACT TEACHING PRACTICES AT WILSON?

In addition to the fact that every IB teacher undergoes routine training from certified and experienced IB educators, the IB philosophy influences the way material is taught at Wilson. There is a greater emphasis on student reflection and collaboration leading to students thinking more deeply about themselves and the material they study.

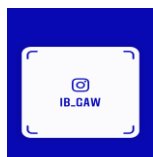
WHAT IB CLASSES DOES GLEN A. WILSON OFFER?

- English HL
- Philosophy HL
- Spanish SL and HL
- Mandarin SL and HL
- Korean SL and HL
- Biology HL
- Design Technology SL and HL
- Chemistry SL
- *Physics SL
- Math Applications and Interpretations *SL
- Math Analysis **SL
- Theater SL
- Dance SL and HL
- Theory of Knowledge

*Physics SL only offered on a case by case basis **HL Math offered upon request

HOW CAN I LEARN MORE?

For additional information, please visit our website at: <https://gwhs-hlpusd-ca.schoolloop.com/ib>



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