



# ACADEMIC CHOICES

## ENTERING 3ème & 2nde

*March 2024*



# DISCLAIMER

ROCHAMBEAU FRENCH INTERNATIONAL SCHOOL is an authorized International Baccalaureate (IB) World School for the IB Diploma Program and will be a candidate school\* for the IB Middle Years Program (MYP) pursuing authorization. IB World Schools share a common philosophy—a commitment to improve the teaching and learning of a diverse and inclusive community of students by delivering challenging, high quality programmes of international education that share a powerful vision.

\*Only schools authorized by the International Baccalaureate can offer any of its four academic programmes: the Primary Years Programme (PYP), the Middle Years Programme (MYP), the Diploma Programme or the IB Career-related Certificate (IBCC). Candidate status gives no guarantee that authorization will be granted. For further information about the IB and its programmes, visit [www.ibo.org](http://www.ibo.org)



# THEMES: OUR MOST COMMON QUESTIONS

1. Information & Decision Process
2. Overview of the programs offered at Rochambeau
3. Diplomas and university recognition
4. Curriculum & Choice of subjects





## Q1. What is the timeline for us to choose a program?

### 1. Information & Decision Process

2. Overview of the programs offered at Rochambeau
3. Diplomas and university recognition
4. Curriculum & Choice of subjects

- ✓ When do we have to make a decision?
- ✓ How will we find the information we need?
- ✓ Who can we speak with about our choices?
- ✓ What if I want to change my choice?



## Q1. What is the timeline for us to choose a program?

February

**INFORMATION SESSIONS**  
for students

March

**INFORMATION SESSIONS**  
for students & families

**FIRST "FICHES Dialogue"**

*Conseil de classe 2nd Trimester*

May-June

**SECOND "FICHES Dialogue"**

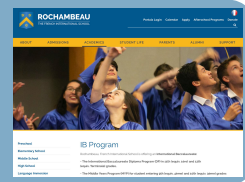
*Conseil de classe 3rd Trimester*



Watch the recordings of our information sessions



Visit the school website



Attend an online session with Mme Gaultier & Mrs. Percy (week of March 4th)

Any additional questions?  
Do not hesitate to speak with  
Mme Gaultier, Mrs. Percy or M.  
Vanhille.

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## Q2. What are the programs offered at Rochambeau?

1. Information & Decision Process
- 2. Overview of the programs offered at Rochambeau**
3. Diplomas and university recognition
4. Curriculum & Choice of subjects

- ✓ What are the different programs offered at Rochambeau entering 3ème/9th and 2nde/10th Grade?
- ✓ What are the similarities and differences?



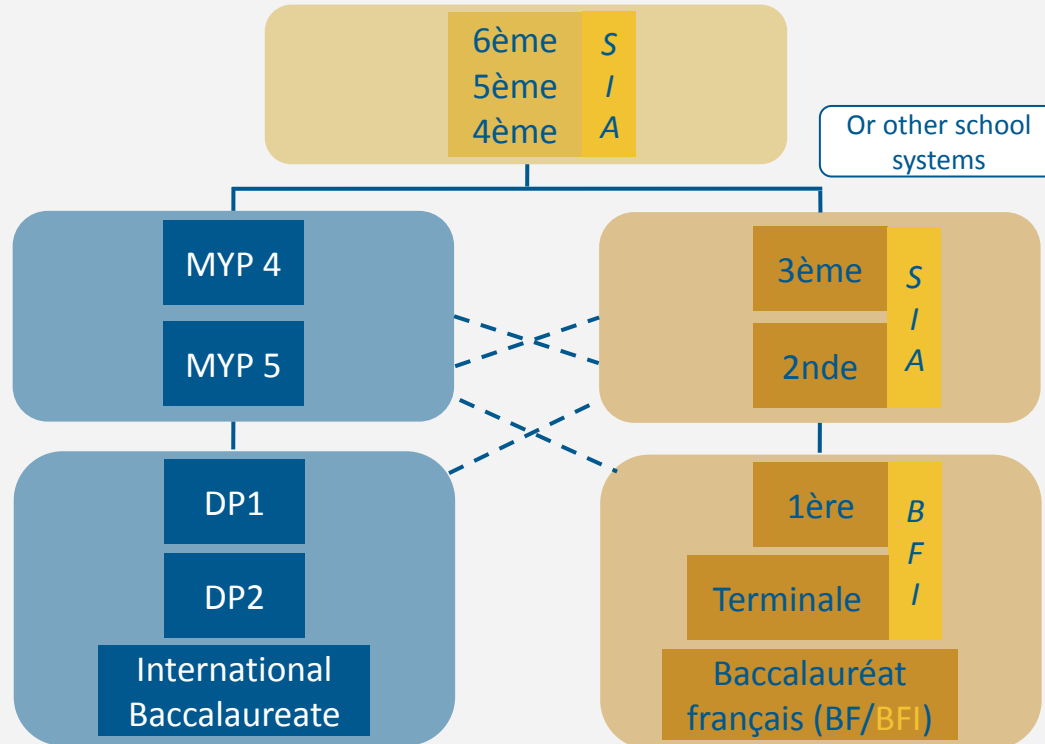
# Q2. What are the different programs offered at Rochambeau?



IB PROGRAM

MYP: Middle Years Program

DP: Diploma Program



FRENCH PROGRAM



SIA: Section Internationale Américaine

BFI: Baccalauréat Français International

+ US High School Diploma



# 1 School, 2 Programs, 3 Diplomas



## IB Program? French Program?

Different organizations (respectively the **IBO** and the **French Ministry of Education**) for accreditation, supervision, and assessment

Different exams and diplomas

Different learning styles and academic experience

Different language experience

<b>French <i>Baccalauréat</i></b>	<b>International Baccalaureate</b>	
<p>French: ~70%</p> <p>English: ~30%</p>	<p><b>Language of Instruction</b></p>	<p><b>DP:</b> English 60-90%</p> <p>French 10-40%</p> <p><b>MYP:</b> English 45%</p> <p>French 45%</p>
<p>Guided Argumentative</p> <p>Focus on analysis &amp; memorization</p>	<p><b>Teaching and Learning Styles</b></p>	<p>Independent &amp; Collaborative</p> <p>Conceptual &amp; In global context</p> <p>Focus on investigation &amp; metacognition</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Core academic curriculum offering a wide range of subjects and 3 “spécialités”.</li> <li>● <i>French, Philosophy, SIA courses, and Bac spécialités are Honors courses.</i></li> </ul>	<p><b>Curriculum</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● DP: 3 core subjects + 6 courses selected by students with two levels (standard and higher).</li> <li>● <i>IB DP higher level courses are Honors courses.</i></li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>☐ Exams at the end of 1ère &amp; Terminale</li> <li>☐ Continued assessment</li> <li>☐ Final examinations</li> </ul>	<p><b>Assessment</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>☐ Exams at the end of Terminale on 2 years of content</li> <li>☐ 60-70% of external assessment</li> <li>☐ 30-40% of internal assessment (all moderated externally by the IB - no continued assessment).</li> </ul>
<p>[Fulfilling community service time (not a requirement of the French Bac)]</p> <p>EPI; Grand Oral</p>	<p><b>Other Requirements</b></p>	<p>--CAS (Creativity/Activity/Service)</p> <p>--A 4,000-word, research-based Extended Essay (EE).</p>

# 1 School, 2 Programs, 3 Diplomas

but both programs are...

Rigorous	<i>Research; writing &amp; oral skills; leadership</i>
Comprehensive	<i>Philosophy; TOK; Arts; Sports...</i>
Multilingual	<i>3 languages; bilingual programs</i>
Broad and balanced	<i>Strong &amp; mandatory humanities; extensive science programs...</i>





## Q3. At the end of High School, what diploma(s) will my child be awarded?

1. Information & Decision Process
2. Overview of the programs offered at Rochambeau
- 3. Diplomas and university recognition**
4. Curriculum & Choice of subjects

- ✓ What diplomas are awarded at Rochambeau?
- ✓ Can you have both the IB and the FB diplomas?
- ✓ What is the High School Diploma?
- ✓ What about university recognition?



## IB DP

OR

## FRENCH PROGRAM

1ère  
11th  
Grade

Term.  
12th  
Grade



11th  
grade

US High School Diploma



# The Maryland High School Diploma

Whatever programs they choose at Rochambeau, **our students qualify for the US/Maryland High School Diploma**. Courses in all programs meet the requirements and allow students to get the credits they need.

You have been at Rochambeau from 4ème/8th through 1ère/11th grade



You joined Rochambeau after 4ème/8th grade = you might miss some credits.

Contact Mme Bessaha, our Registrar:

[bessahad@rochambeau.org](mailto:bessahad@rochambeau.org)

## Maryland High School Diploma Requirements

A minimum of 22 credits.

17 of these credits must be in the following subjects:

- 4 credits English
- 2 credits French
- 2 credits in Social Studies (1 credit in U.S. History)
- 6 credits in Math and Science (including at least 2 in Science and 2 in Math)
- 2 credits in a 3rd language
- 1 credit in Physical Education

+ 5 elective units from any curricular area.



## University recognition



The FB/BFI & the IB Diploma recognize students' level of achievement and completion of a challenging program.

**It opens the doors of universities worldwide.**

However, each university, regardless of the diploma, has specific admission criteria. It is important to check with your university counselors.



## Q4. What is the Curriculum in each program?

1. Information & Decision Process
2. Overview of the programs offered at Rochambeau
3. Diplomas and university recognition
- 4. Curriculum & Choice of subjects**

- ✓ What subjects are offered?
- ✓ Are all subjects mandatory?
- ✓ Are there electives?
- ✓ What will the schedule look like?
- ✓ How much work will the program represent for a student?





# PROGRAMME FRANCAIS

# French Program/SIA CURRICULUM

Broad

Rigorous

Multidisciplinary

Three languages

## 12 subject + electives



Mandatory subjects

+



Choice of Electives

31 hr + 1 hr vie de classe = 32 hours of class  
 With SIA = 35.5 hours of class  
 With SIA + 1 elective = 37.5 hours of class

27.5 hr + 1 hr vie de classe = 28.5 hours of class  
 With SIA = 30.5 hours of class  
 With SIA + 1 elective = 32.5 hours of class

# 3ème BF SUBJECTS

ENGLISH/SIA	4/6 hrs	ENG
FRENCH	5	FR
LVB	3	SPA / GER / ARA
<b>HISTORY GEOGRAPHY/HG SIA + EMC + US History</b>	<b>3/4.5 0.5 + 2</b>	<b>FR/FR+ENG FR/ENG</b>
PHYSICS & CHEMISTRY (SPC)	1.5	FR
EARTH & LIFE SCI. (SVT)	1.5	FR
MATHEMATICS	4	FR
PHYSICAL & HEALTH EDUCATION	3	FR
Arts plastiques + Musique	1+1	FR
<b>SC.NUMERIQUES ET TECHNOLOGIES</b>	<b>1.5</b>	<b>FR</b>
Optional: US Maths / Latin	2 each	ENG/FR
Vie de classe	1	

# 2nde BF/SIA SUBJECTS

ENGLISH/SIA	4/5 hrs	ENG
FRENCH	4	FR
LVB	3	SPA / GER / ARA
<b>HISTORY GEOGRAPHY/HG SIA</b>	<b>3/4</b>	<b>FR/FR+ENG</b>
PHYSICS & CHEMISTRY (SPC)	3	FR
EARTH & LIFE SCI. (SVT)	1.5	FR
MATHEMATICS	4	FR
PHYSICAL & HEALTH EDUCATION	2	FR
ECONOMICS (SES)	1.5	FR
<b>SC.NUMERIQUES ET TECHNOLOGIES</b>	<b>1.5</b>	<b>FR</b>
ELECTIVES (Optional) UP TO 2	2 each	FR



Clear, structured expression in French  
Oral and written skills  
Critical and reflective thinking  
Understand, interpret and argue

**Finding oneself, building oneself**  
**Living in society, participating in society**  
**Looking at the world, inventing worlds**  
**Acting on the world**

Scientific progress



## How much work will the French Program/SIA represent for a student?

The numbers correspond to the total hours of class and do not account for regular personal work (e.g. reading, homework...).

	3ème	2nde	Research & Service
French Program	~32 hrs	~28 hrs	
Fr. Pr. with SIA	~36 hrs	~30 hrs	
Fr. Pr. electives (US Math, Latin...)	38-40 hrs*	32-34 hrs*	
IB MYP	33 hrs	33 hrs	75 hrs minimum/year

\*Numbers vary depending on whether a student is enrolled in the SIA and if they choose to do 1 or 2 electives.



# **THE INTERNATIONAL BACCALAUREATE**

## **MIDDLE YEARS PROGRAM**

### **(IB MYP)**

# IB MYP CURRICULUM

Holistic

Internationally minded

Interdisciplinary

Multilingual

**8 subject groups**

All subjects mandatory



~~SL (standard level)  
HL (higher level)~~

~~Electives~~









**31 hours**

**+1 hr for advisory**









**= 32 hours of class**



# Year 4 (3ème) IB MYP SUBJECTS

	1	ENGLISH A	4 hrs	ENG
		FRENCH A <i>OR</i> FRENCH B	4	FR
	2	LANGUAGE 3	3	SPA / GER / ARA
	3	WORLD HISTORY + US HISTORY	4	ENG
	4	EARTH & LIFE SCI. + PHY/CHEM	4	FR / ENG
	5	MATHEMATICS	4	ENG
	6	VISUAL ARTS + MUSIC	4	FR / ENG
	7	PHYSICAL & HEALTH EDUCATION	2	FR
	8	DESIGN	2	FR

# Year 5 (2nde) IB MYP SUBJECTS

	1	ENGLISH A	4 hrs	ENG
		FRENCH A OR FRENCH B	4	FR
	2	LANGUAGE 3	3	SPA / GER / ARA
	3	WORLD GEOGRAPHY	4	FR & ENG
	4	BIO, PHY, CHEM ( <i>choose 2</i> )	4	FR / ENG
	5	MATHEMATICS	4	ENG
	6	FILM + THEATER	4	ENG
	7	PHYSICAL & HEALTH EDUCATION	2	FR
	8	DESIGN	2	FR



## A PRESCRIBED APPROACH, BUT NO PRESCRIBED CONTENT

Our curriculum will combine new concepts and content with content from the French Program and High School Diploma requirements

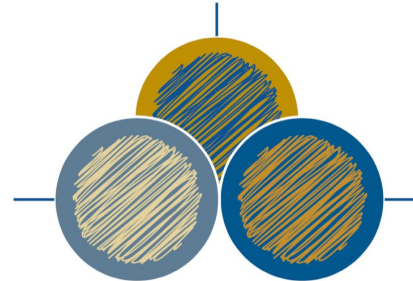
## CONCEPTUAL LEARNING & TEACHING

6 global contexts help frame a curriculum that promotes **multilingualism, intercultural understanding and global engagement**

## SERVICE & INDEPENDENT WORK

### *Service as Action*

Students' participation in local and global communities through community service projects.



### *Interdisciplinary unit*

At least one collaboratively planned interdisciplinary unit that involves at least two subject groups each year.

### *Personal Project in Year 5*

A culminating experience in which students apply their approaches to learning skills to complete an extended, self-directed piece of work.

## CONNECTIONS BETWEEN SUBJECTS AND INTERDISCIPLINARITY



## How much work will the MYP represent for a student?

The numbers correspond to the total hours of class and do not account for regular personal work (e.g. reading, homework...).

	3ème	2nde	Research & Service
French Program	~33 hrs	~31 hrs	
Fr. Pr. with SIA	~36 hrs	~33 hrs	
Fr. Pr. electives (US Math, Latin...)	35-40 hrs*	33-37 hrs*	
MYP	33 hrs	33 hrs	75 hrs minimum/year

\*Numbers vary depending on whether a student is enrolled in the SIA and if they choose to do 1 or 2 electives.



## How much work will the IB MYP represent for a student?

	1ère	Terminale	Research & Service
MYP	33 hrs	33 hrs	75 hrs minimum/year

But there is more than just class time. In the IB MYP both service and research are requirements:

### Research



As part of the MYP, students conduct several projects including one mandatory Personal Project completed in 2nde/10th Grade. The project amounts for a recommended **25 hours of research** and is presented in a **15-pages report** sent to the IB.

### SAA Service as Action



Students need to complete **some service each year of the program.**

## Languages “A”? Languages “B”?

All IB language courses aim to develop students skills in listening, writing, speaking, and reading

The IB MYP offers two types of language courses to suit a student’s language profile

### A. Language & Literature courses:

critical, creative, personal approaches to studying and analyzing literary and non-literary texts (in a student’s best or second best language)

### B. Language Acquisition courses:









comfort and autonomy, and knowledge of the culture (in a student’s second best or another language)

At Rochambeau, each student will study **3 languages**

Language A	English	4
Language A	French	4
Language B	Arabic German Spanish	3

**OR**

Language A	English	4
Language B	French	4
Language B	Arabic German Spanish	3

	1	English A	ENG
		French A <i>OR</i> French B	FR
	2	Language 3	SPA/ GER/ARA
	3	Individuals & Societies	FR / ENG
	4	Science	FR / ENG
	5	Mathematics	ENG
	6	Arts	FR / ENG
	7	Physical & Health Ed.	FR
	8	Design	FR

## Language Learning through Subjects

Languages of instruction:

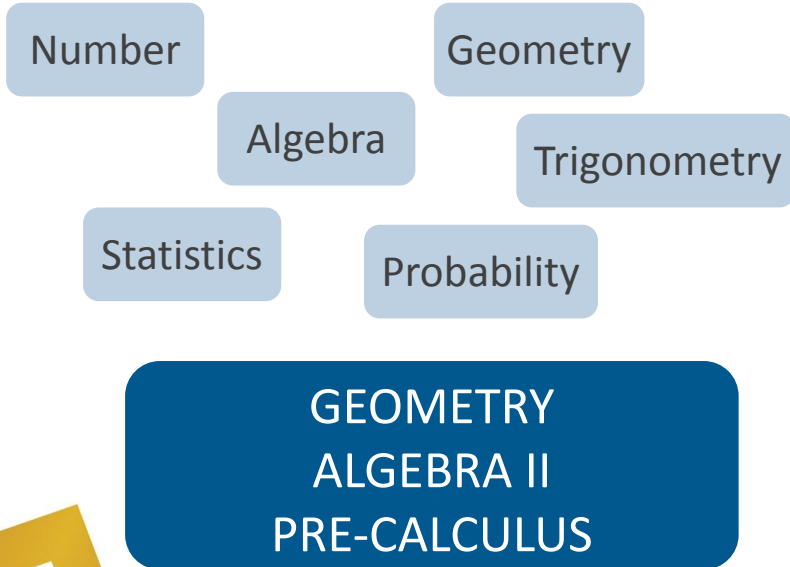
English ~54-60%

French ~36-30%

Language 3 ~10%

Percentages vary slightly between 3ème/9th grade and 2nde/10th grade MYP. See slides #25 or 26 for the details of each grade level.

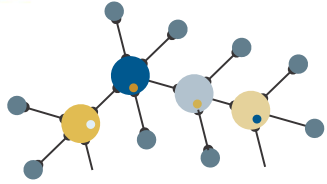
## What is MYP MATH ?



### 4 branches of Math study

1. Numerical and abstract reasoning
2. Thinking with models
3. Spatial reasoning
4. Reasoning with data





## How many & which SCIENCES can a student take?

### In 3ème MYP

A common foundation  
No choice

**Earth & Life Sciences**  
**(2 hrs, in FR)**

+

**Physics & Chemistry**  
**(2 hrs, in EN)**

### In 2nde MYP

A choice of 2 sciences  
from:

**Biology (2 hrs, in FR)**  
**Chemistry (2 hrs, in EN)**  
**Physics (2hrs in EN)**

### In 1ère IB DP

1 mandatory Science

**Biology (FR)**  
**OR**  
**Physics (EN)**

+

Art, Lang. 3 **OR**  
another science:  
**Chemistry (EN)**



# IN CONCLUSION



## How to choose?

- ❖ **INQUIRE** about courses offered in each track (content, programs, expectations, grading, exams...)
- ❖ **DISCUSS** with your teachers, your guidance counselors, juniors and seniors
- ❖ **REFLECT** on your plans for the future, but also your profile and your academic results.

**No good or bad diploma.**

**It is about choosing the program that best suits a student's interests, academic results, and project. A program where they will succeed the best.**



## Is the IB MYP for my child?

My child:

- Is fluent in English and prefers to study in this language
- Enjoys research
- Is organized, has a strong work ethic, and enjoys independent work
- Collaborates
- Is curious about world issues
- Is a critical thinker who asks “how” and “why” questions rather than “what”.





## Is the French Program for my child?



**MINISTÈRE  
DE L'ÉDUCATION  
NATIONALE  
ET DE LA JEUNESSE**

*Liberté  
Égalité  
Fraternité*

My child:

- Is more comfortable in French and prefers to study in this language
- Needs structure and an organized environment
- Enjoys lectures
- Demonstrates analytical and memorization skills
- Thrives in an academics-oriented learning environment



*Thank you!*

## Contacts

K. Gaultier, Guidance Counselor, [gaultierk@rochambeau.org](mailto:gaultierk@rochambeau.org)

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