ABA OMAN INTERNATIONAL SCHOOL

INSPIRE
EMPOWER
EXPLORE

Middle Years Programme

Assessment

MYP OPTIONS GUIDE



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The IB Middle Years Programme at ABA

ABA Mission Statement

We are a dynamic IB continuum school, working in partnership with our diverse community. Together, we **inspire** and **empower** learners to **explore** their unique pathways to success.

Grade 9 Options

Grade 9 students are able to **choose two subjects** from Group 6: Arts and Group 8: Design. The choices for students are: **Visual Art, Theatre, Music and Design**.

Students that opt to take Design can opt for **two versions** of the MYP Design Course: **Design - Product and Digital** or **Design - Coding**. The Design - Coding option is intended for students that are interested in taking the **Computer Science** course in the Diploma Programme. The course aims to teach the fundamentals of coding that will support students in their further studies. Students are not able to take the ePortfolio in Design - Coding and will have to take this in another subject.

While every effort is made to accommodate students' first choices, we cannot guarantee availability. Therefore, students are asked to submit a first choice, a second choice, and a reserve choice.

Subject information - Group 6: Arts

Theatre, Music, Visual Art

The Arts are a universal form of human expression and a unique way of knowing that engages us in affective, imaginative and productive activity. Learning through the Arts helps us to explore, shape and communicate our sense of identity and understanding of the world. The IB MYP Arts value the process of creating as much as the finished product.

Main objectives

Through a study of the different arts disciplines, students should be able to:

- demonstrate knowledge and understanding of the art form studied in relation to societal, cultural, historical and personal contexts;
- demonstrate knowledge and understanding of the elements of the art form studied, including specialized language, concepts and processes;
- communicate a critical understanding of the art form studied in the context of their own artwork;
- develop an idea, theme or personal interpretation to a point of realization, expressing and communicating their artistic intentions;
- apply skills, techniques and processes to create, perform and/or present art;
- reflect critically on their own artistic development and processes at different stages of their work;
- use feedback to inform their own artistic development and processes;
- demonstrate curiosity, self-motivation, initiative and a willingness to take informed risks;
- be receptive to art practices and artistic works from various cultures, including their own.

Subject information - Group 8: Design

The Design curriculum is carefully crafted to support students in the Middle School (Grades 6-8) and prepare them for the possibility of choosing MYP Design as an option in High School (MYP Grades 9/10). The course consists of four units per year, covering a wide range of topics including product, digital and graphic design. The curriculum aligns with the aims and objectives of the IB MYP Design subject, whilst incorporating and developing specific ATL skills. In Grade 9 students that choose Design will opt to take either Design - Product and Digital or Design - Coding.

Through this curriculum, students will engage in hands-on activities and projects that foster their knowledge and skills in design thinking, problem-solving, and creativity. The units are designed to progressively build upon students' prior knowledge and provide a solid foundation for their future studies in MYP Design, should they decide to pursue it.

The aims of the MYP Design curriculum include:

- Developing students' ability to use the design cycle as a problem-solving methodology, allowing them to identify, analyze, and address real-world problems through design thinking processes.
- Encouraging students to appreciate the impact of design on individuals, societies, and the environment, and empowering them to make responsible and sustainable design choices.
- Fostering students' creativity and innovation by providing opportunities for them to explore and experiment with various design techniques, tools, and materials.
- Cultivating students' communication and collaboration skills through group projects, presentations, and critique sessions, enabling them to effectively express and justify their design decisions.

The objectives of the MYP Design curriculum at the Grades 6-8 level are as follows:

- Developing a foundational understanding of design principles and concepts, such as aesthetics, ergonomics, functionality, and user-centered design.
- Acquiring practical skills in utilizing design software, physical tools and techniques for the creation of solutions to real life situations in both physical and digital design projects.
- Exploring coding and computational thinking concepts relevant to design, enabling students to incorporate interactive elements and automation into their projects.
- Engaging in reflective practices, allowing students to evaluate their design processes, strategies, and outcomes, and identify areas for improvement.

ABA OMAN INTERNATIONAL SCHOOL

ABA OMAN INTERNATIONAL SCHOOL
PO BOX 372, PC 115,
MADINAT AL IRFAN,
MUSCAT - SULTANATE OF OMAN

(+968) 2495 5800/01
www.abaoman.org

