



International Baccalaureate®  
Baccalauréat International  
Bachillerato Internacional



# **IB students bring a passion for learning to your campus**

The IB Diploma Programme  
and higher education institutions

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

**“Diploma Programme students are well-rounded, multifaceted, multiskilled and have studied in depth. They have good time-management skills. They score higher than students in other national systems, and the IB score is worldwide the same measure.”**

**Hrilina Lock**, undergraduate admissions manager,  
London School of Economics, UK

Recognized as the leader in international education, the International Baccalaureate (IB) Diploma Programme cultivates the knowledge, skills and attitudes that enable students to excel in university.

Through the IB Diploma Programme, students gain rigorous and balanced academic preparation, an ability to draw on knowledge and understanding of various cultures and histories, and the experience of learning how to think critically and apply what they have learned in different contexts and across disciplines.

The IB understands that success in higher education and beyond involves thinking critically and creatively. The IB Diploma Programme’s challenging curriculum educates the whole student, developing the capacity for inquiry, research and problem solving as well as essential skills for communication and collaboration.

Success in the 21st century requires intercultural understanding and respect. At its heart, the IB is motivated by a desire to create a better world through education, as embodied in the IB mission statement:

***The International Baccalaureate aims to develop inquiring, knowledgeable and caring young people who help to create a better and more peaceful world through intercultural understanding and respect.***

***To this end the organization works with schools, governments and international organizations to develop challenging programmes of international education and rigorous assessment.***

***These programmes encourage students across the world to become active, compassionate and lifelong learners who understand that other people, with their differences, can also be right.***



**“IB is well known to us as excellent preparation. Success in an IB programme correlates well with success at Harvard. We are pleased to see the credential of the IB Diploma Programme on the transcript.”**

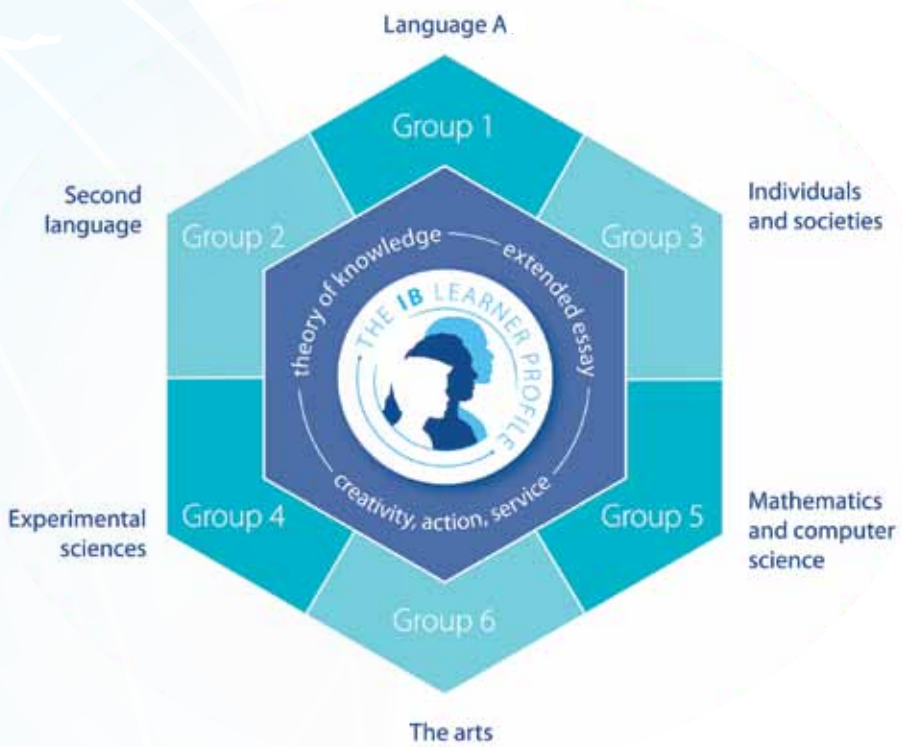
Marlyn McGrath Lewis, assistant dean of admissions,  
Harvard University, USA

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## **The same high standards of quality anywhere in the world**

IB assessments are known for strong reliability and validity in scoring, resulting in consistent IB diploma pass rates for the past 40 years. Whether the school is in Alexandria, USA, or Alexandria, Egypt, the standards and assessments are uniform. Both external and internal assessments are used to evaluate students and factor into a students' final grade.

**The IB has educated nearly 1 million students since it was founded more than 40 years ago, earning a reputation for quality education, high standards, consistent and rigorous assessment and leadership in international education.**



## The essentials of the IB Diploma Programme

*An academically challenging and balanced two-year programme prepares students for university.*

The IB Diploma Programme includes six subject areas; an extended essay of 4,000 words; experiential learning through creativity, action, service (CAS); and theory of knowledge (TOK), a course that fosters critical thinking.

Assessment in each of the six subject areas is based on student performance against set standards rather than each student's position in the overall class ranking.

External assessments include a variety of tasks that emphasize higher-order cognitive skills and may take the form of written essays and examinations. Internal assessments, marked by teachers and moderated by the IB, are factored into the students' final grades.

Ongoing and regular reviews of the curriculum ensure that the latest developments in research and theory are incorporated into what students are learning.

## Standard level and higher level courses

*Standard level courses require rigorous study leading to a breadth of knowledge; higher level courses require intensive study leading to mastery.*

All students in the IB Diploma Programme take a combination of standard level (SL) and higher level (HL) courses. Standard level courses are intense, rigorous options that meet state, provincial and national requirements and include a broad curriculum with 150 teaching hours. In addition, Diploma Programme students take at least three higher level courses that allow them to explore additional topics in further depth over an extended period of 240 teaching hours.



## Why do universities value IB students?

*IB students are prepared for academic success.*

- IB students are more likely than others to enroll in and graduate from selective higher education institutions.\*
- Based on their experiences, IB students possess a broader range of skills that enhance their ability to adapt and contribute to university life.
- IB students demonstrate a level of emotional and intellectual maturity for managing the demands of challenging coursework and make meaningful contributions.
- They have extensive experience doing independent research and presenting what they have learned through presentations, papers and other projects.
- They think critically and draw on diverse perspectives that reflect an international outlook.
- Participation in the IB Diploma Programme shows that students have excelled in multiple and diverse academic challenges and is a strong predictor for success in university.\*

**“We very much value the learning that IB students have had through their Diploma Programme. I have personally seen, over the years that I have been in charge of admissions at HKU, that they do not just have an understanding of their subject areas, but, much more importantly, typically show levels of communication, thinking skills and all-around knowledge that equip them very well for tertiary education and beyond.”**

**Professor John A. Spinks**, senior advisor to the vice-chancellor,  
University of Hong Kong, Hong Kong

\*IB analysis of data obtained from the National Student Clearinghouse (NSC) for students taking examinations in May 2000 and May 2001 and Integrated Postsecondary Education Data System (IPEDS) of National Center for Education Statistics. Research reports available at [www.ibo.org/research/programmevalidation](http://www.ibo.org/research/programmevalidation).

**“The challenging nature of the IB diploma is good preparation for university. The self-discipline that you acquire from studying a breadth of subjects in such depth assists you in achieving the learning outcomes required by universities.”**

Natasha Reurts, 2006 IB graduate,  
University of Sydney, Australia

## **Find out how the IB Diploma Programme prepares outstanding students for your university.**

Contact the IB to learn more about the IB Diploma Programme and how you can develop a policy that will encourage more IB students to apply. The IB website, [www.ibo.org](http://www.ibo.org), is a central source for IB students seeking information on universities with IB policies around the world.

The IB also offers a password-protected website for university officials and admissions officers that includes the following:

- course syllabuses and assessment information
- recent examination papers
- markschemes
- student results (transcripts).

Contact the IB to learn more.

Email: [recognition@ibo.org](mailto:recognition@ibo.org)

University and college admissions resources  
[www.ibo.org/recognition](http://www.ibo.org/recognition)

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