



# IB Diploma

## Subject Selection Brochure



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# 10 Reasons



why the IB Diploma Programme (DP) is ideal preparation for university

1



## It increases academic opportunity

Research\* shows that DP graduates are much more likely to be enrolled at top higher education institutions than entrants holding other qualifications.

2



## IB students care about more than just results

Through creativity, action, service (CAS) you learn outside the classroom and develop emotionally and ethically as well as intellectually.

3



## It encourages you to become a confident and independent learner

For example, the extended essay requires independent research through an in-depth study.

6



## The IB encourages critical thinking

Learn how to analyse and evaluate issues, generate ideas and consider new perspectives.

5



## Graduates are globally minded

Language classes encourage an international mindset, key for increasingly globalized societies.

4



## It's an international qualification

The DP is recognized globally by universities and employers.

7



## DP students have proven time management skills

Take good study habits and strong time management to further education and the working world.

9



## Subjects are not taught in isolation

Theory of knowledge (TOK) classes encourage you to make connections between subjects.

10



## It encourages breadth and depth of learning

You are able to choose courses from six subject groups and study subjects at different levels.

8



## It assesses more than examination techniques

Learn to understand, not just memorize facts or topics and prepare for exams.



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\*Based on IB research - [www.ibo.org/research](http://www.ibo.org/research)

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# IB learner profile

The aim of all IB programmes is to develop internationally minded people who, recognizing their common humanity and shared guardianship of the planet, help to create a better and more peaceful world.

As IB learners we strive to be:

## INQUIRERS

We nurture our curiosity, developing skills for inquiry and research. We know how to learn independently and with others. We learn with enthusiasm and sustain our love of learning throughout life.

## KNOWLEDGEABLE

We develop and use conceptual understanding, exploring knowledge across a range of disciplines. We engage with issues and ideas that have local and global significance.

## THINKERS

We use critical and creative thinking skills to analyse and take responsible action on complex problems. We exercise initiative in making reasoned, ethical decisions.

## COMMUNICATORS

We express ourselves confidently and creatively in more than one language and in many ways. We collaborate effectively, listening carefully to the perspectives of other individuals and groups.

## PRINCIPLED

We act with integrity and honesty, with a strong sense of fairness and justice, and with respect for the dignity and rights of people everywhere. We take responsibility for our actions and their consequences.

## OPEN-MINDED

We critically appreciate our own cultures and personal histories, as well as the values and traditions of others. We seek and evaluate a range of points of view, and we are willing to grow from the experience.

## CARING

We show empathy, compassion and respect. We have a commitment to service, and we act to make a positive difference in the lives of others and in the world around us.

## RISK-TAKERS

We approach uncertainty with forethought and determination; we work independently and cooperatively to explore new ideas and innovative strategies. We are resourceful and resilient in the face of challenges and change.

## BALANCED

We understand the importance of balancing different aspects of our lives—intellectual, physical, and emotional—to achieve well-being for ourselves and others. We recognize our interdependence with other people and with the world in which we live.

## REFLECTIVE

We thoughtfully consider the world and our own ideas and experience. We work to understand our strengths and weaknesses in order to support our learning and personal development.

The IB learner profile represents 10 attributes valued by IB World Schools. We believe these attributes, and others like them, can help individuals and groups become responsible members of local, national and global communities.

## The IB Diploma Programme (IBDP) - Curriculum Model

The DP curriculum is made up of six subject groups. Students choose one subject from each group and, the DP core, comprising theory of knowledge (TOK), creativity, activity, service (CAS) and the extended essay (EE).

Through the DP core, students reflect on the nature of knowledge, complete independent research and undertake co-curricular projects that involve community service.



Group 1 - Studies in Language & Literature

Group 2 - Language Acquisition

Group 3 - Individuals & Societies

Group 4 - Sciences

Group 5 - Mathematics

Group 6 - The Arts & Electives

**IBO website, section on IB Diploma Program:** <http://www.ibo.org/programmes/diploma-programme/>

**IBO website, further detailed information and detailed subject briefs:** <http://www.ibo.org/university-admission/ib-recognition-resources-and-document-library/>

Bilingual students may wish to take two subjects in group 1 (Studies in Language and Literature), in which case they do not need to take another subject from group 2 (Language Acquisition) and, they would be immediately eligible for the Bilingual Diploma. For more information about the Bilingual Diploma see pp 5 & 7.

For additional requirements applicable to students wishing to apply to universities in Germany, see pp 5 & 7.

## Subject Selection – IB Diploma Programme (IBDP)

**Read these notes very carefully and, refer to the IBO weblinks pp 4 & 5 before making your subject selection.**

When making choices, you should consider:

- what you would like to study at university
- university prerequisites (see note below)
- your areas of interest and your academic strengths
- your teachers' and parents' advice.

For the IB Diploma, a student must choose six subjects, one each from Group 1 to 6. Three subjects must be chosen at Higher Level (HL) and three at Standard Level (SL). HL subjects must be timetabled to reach a minimum of 240 hours of instructional time while SL subjects must reach 150 hours over the 2-year programme.

Students who do not wish to take a subject from Group 6 (The Arts & Electives) can choose an additional subject from Group 1, 2, 3 or 4, as an 'elective' subject.

Students who are 'mother tongue fluent' in both English and German may choose to take both languages as "Language A" in group 1 – these subjects will then count for Groups 1 and 2. If they wish to take a 3<sup>rd</sup> language, this must be a Group 6 elective.

**A bilingual diploma will be awarded to a successful candidate who fulfils one or both of the following criteria:**

- completion of two languages selected from group 1 with the award of a grade 3 or higher in both (e.g., choose both German A and English A)
- completion of one of the subjects from group 3 or group 4 in a language that is not the same as the candidate's nominated group 1 language (e.g., If you do German A and complete a group 3 or group 4 subject in English, this qualifies, and if you study your group 3 or group 4 subject in German, and your group 1 subject is English or another Mother Tongue, you qualify).

All students must complete the DP Core of Theory of Knowledge (TOK) and an Extended Essay (EE), earning minimum grades of a D for both, as well as satisfactorily fulfilling the requirements of CAS (Creativity, Activity, Service), to be awarded the IB Diploma. The DP Core is offered in both English and German as the languages of instruction. Grades of Cs, Bs & As in the Core contribute towards up to 3 bonus points toward the maximum IB score of 45.

**Should you wish to study in Germany, there are 2 options for the recognition of the IB Diploma as a university access qualification:**

**A) Gemischtsprachiges IB (GIB) and,**

**B) IB with HZB (Hochschulzugangsberechtigung = university access qualification)**

For both options, you need to:

1. take German A at SL or HL or, German B at HL. Alternatively, you can choose two languages A at SL or HL, with one being German (this will cover all requirements for Groups 1 and 2).
2. choose History in German for the GIB in Group 3, or choose History, Economics, Psychology, Business Management or Digital Society (all taught in English) for the HZB. History is offered in both German & English (taught bilingually in the same class).
3. select a language, **or** mathematics, **or** a science subject at higher level (HL) – all 3 subjects can be at HL if you so choose, but the requirement is for *at least* one of them to be at HL.
4. achieve subject grades of at least a 4 in all 6 subjects. A maximum of one subject scoring a grade of 3 is acceptable if at least one other subject at the same level (SL or HL) scores a grade of 5.

**To be awarded the GIB, you must select both History taught in German, and Biology taught in German.**

In order to study a course taught in German or a bilingual German course at a German University you are required to prove you have a sufficient level of German language skills. Your German language proficiency can be proven with your IB subject selection, by choosing to study Biology and/or History in German or, German B at HL or German A at SL or HL. Therefore, we recommend that if you intend to study at a German university, it's best if you choose to take German A, and Biology and/or History and/or ToK in German, as part of your IB Diploma.

## **DSD1 & DSD2**

In July 2016, our school was the first school in Australia to offer the German Language Diploma 2 (DSD2). We highly recommend our students to take up the opportunity to sit the German Language Diploma 1 (DSD1) in Year 9 or 10 and German Language Diploma 2 (DSD 2) in Year 10 or 11, to obtain a worldwide recognised official German Language Diploma. You could even elect to do the DSD2 as a CAS project in Yr11. This globally recognised qualification recognises the student's German language proficiency, which will support them finding employment options either locally or abroad, and particularly in Germany. The DSD2 is the officially recognised German language proficiency certificate to qualify to study at German Universities, where the language of instruction is German.

### **Example subject selections to be eligible for the bilingual IB Diploma:**

DP Core (in German) + German A Literature HL + English B HL + History SL (in German) + Chemistry HL (in English) + Mathematics SL + French ab initio SL (also qualifies for the IB with HZB)

DP Core (in English) + English A Language & Literature SL + German B HL + Economics SL + Biology HL (in German) + Mathematics SL + Art HL (also qualifies for the IB with HZB)

DP Core (in English) + English A Language & Literature HL + Dutch A Literature SL (self-taught) + Economics SL + Chemistry HL + Mathematics SL + Physics SL + DSD2 (proof of German language skills, completed for CAS) (also qualifies for the IB with HZB)

DP Core (in German) + German A Literature HL + English B HL + History SL (in German) + Biology HL (in German) + Mathematics SL + French ab initio SL (also qualifies for the IB with HZB and the GIB)

Please note that while we will try to meet the interests of every student, we cannot always guarantee their place in a course. Subjects in **coloured text** are timetabled together in the same timetable space, which means you must choose *between* the subjects in the same colour. i.e., you cannot choose 2 subjects of the same colour, unless one of them is to be studied as an online Pamoja subject:

**English A & B / German A & B / History & Economics / Physics & Biology / Chemistry, Art, French, or Spanish**

### **Frequently asked questions:**

- 1. Do I need to study Biology and History classes are offered in both German and English, (both taught bilingually in the same class) to obtain the GIB (Gemischtsprachiges IB)?**  
Yes, you need to study both subjects taught in German.
- 2. Can I study Biology or History in English for the GIB?**  
No – the ZfA in Germany has instructed that you must take both these subjects in German for the GIB.
- 3. Are History and Biology also taught in English?** Yes, both are taught bilingually in the same class but to be eligible for the GIB, you must choose both these subjects in German.

4. **Which other subjects (other than Biology and History) are taught in German?** ToK and the EE are offered in both German and English – and all students are encouraged to study German A Literature, or German B Language Acquisition.
5. **How can the DSD2 help me?** It acts as 'additional proof' that your German language skills have been assessed to be at university level for university entrance in Germany.
6. **I have a DSD1 and chose German at B HL as my second language. On completion of my IB Diploma, does that qualify me to potentially study a German taught university course in Germany.** The DSD1 is not sufficient proof of language skills for studying a German taught course at a German University. However, the completion of German B HL provides sufficient language proof. If you additionally meet points 2 and 3 of the GIB requirements on page 5, you fully qualify.
7. **I would like to study Visual Art as well as two science subjects, is that possible?** No. Visual Arts would have to be chosen as a subject in group 6, your 'elective'. The very same group would have to be used for any second science subject or a third language. There are 6 subjects chosen in total (not including the mandatory core subjects of ToK, CAS and EE).

**IB Australasia, section on ATAR conversion:** <https://ibaustralasia.org/university-entrance>

## CONVERSION TABLE

ATAR	IB	ABITUR
99.95 - 99.85	45	1.0
99.75 - 99.50	44	1.0
99.35 - 98.90	43	1.0
98.75 - 98.20	42	1.0
98.00 - 97.30	41	1.2
97.05 - 96.30	40	1.3
96.00 - 95.25	39	1.5
95.00 - 94.25	38	1.7
93.95 - 93.00	37	1.8
92.65 - 91.45	36	2.0
91.05 - 89.75	35	2.2
89.30 - 88.15	34	2.3
87.80 - 86.20	33	2.5
85.55 - 84.00	32	2.7
83.55 - 82.00	31	2.8
81.45 - 79.90	30	3.0
79.35 - 77.65	29	3.2
77.05 - 75.20	28	3.3
74.55 - 72.65	27	3.5
72.00 - 69.75	26	3.7
68.90 - 66.90	25	3.8
66.30 - 64.25	24	4.0

NB: this conversion chart is subject to yearly fluctuations. Please click on the link above for the latest version, issued by ACTAC each year (Australasian Conference of Tertiary Admissions Centre).

**Subject Selection Form – IB Diploma**  
(submit this form by the end of Term 3, for timetabling needs)

FULL NAME (as in passport): \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

PERSONAL EMAIL: \_\_\_\_\_ MOBILE: \_\_\_\_\_ DoB: \_\_\_\_\_

NATIONALITY/S: \_\_\_\_\_ MOTHER TONGUE/S: \_\_\_\_\_

Please indicate whether you wish to attain a bilingual diploma and/or the IB with HZB or the GIB (for study in Germany):

Bilingual Diploma required:       YES       NO  
 IB with HZB required                       YES       NO  
 GIB required:                                       YES       NO

WHAT DO YOU WISH TO STUDY AT UNIVERSITY? (IF YOU DON'T KNOW, INDICATE FACULTY AREA, e.g., MATHS/SCIENCE, ARTS/HUMANITIES, BUSINESS/FINANCE)

WHERE DO YOU INTEND TO GO TO UNIVERSITY?    GERMANY    AUSTRALIA    OTHER \_\_\_\_\_

Group	Subjects Offered		Your Choice
<b>1</b> Studies in Language & Literature	English A: Language & Literature German A: Literature* Mother Tongue A: Literature (school supported self-taught)*	SL/HL SL/HL SL -	
<b>2</b> Language Acquisition	German B* German <i>ab initio</i> * English B* French B* French <i>ab initio</i> ** Spanish B* Spanish <i>ab initio</i> * Mandarin <i>ab initio</i> ** or another subject from group 1	SL/HL SL - - HL SL/HL SL - SL/HL SL - SL -	
<b>3</b> Individuals and Societies	History (German (composite class) and English) Economics (English) Business Management (English)** Psychology (English)** Digital Society (English)**	SL/HL SL/HL SL/HL SL/HL	
<b>4</b> Experimental Sciences	Biology (German (composite class) and English) Chemistry (English) Physics (English)	SL/HL SL/HL SL/HL	
<b>5</b> Mathematics	Maths Applications & Interpretations (HL) (English) Maths Analysis & Approaches (SL) (English)	- HL SL -	
<b>6</b> The Arts	Visual Arts (English) or another subject from groups 1 – 4	SL/HL	

\* This subject may be taught as a differentiated composite class, depending on student numbers.

\*\* This subject may be taught depending on student numbers.