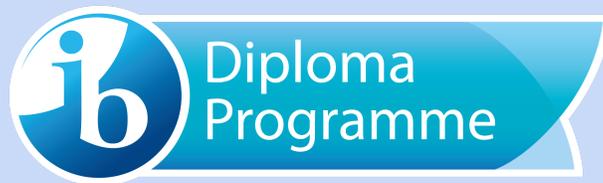


Sandy Creek High School



International Baccalaureate Diploma Program
Course Offerings &
Registration Process
2023-2024

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Introduction to the International Baccalaureate

The International Baccalaureate® Organization

The International Baccalaureate Organization (IBO), based in Switzerland, is a non-for-profit organization which provides challenging and enriching educational programs to children between 3 and 19. The IB has four programs: the Primary Years Program (PYP) for children 3-12, the Middle Years Program (MYP) for children (11-16), the Diploma Program (DP), and the Career Program (CP), both for children 16-19. More than 5,000 schools around the world now offer at least one of the IB programs, teaching over a million children, in 158 countries.

Sandy Creek High school offers the diploma program to any Fayette County school raising juniors.

The IB provides a high-standard, cross-cultural, multidisciplinary, and balanced curriculum, together with high-level assessments. It does not focus on the memorization of facts but instead teaches the child to think critically, ask and answer difficult questions and see perspectives through different, often opposing, lenses. It is a program that is recognized and prized by the most selective universities in the United States and around the world.

All of the IB teachers at SCHS have been through rigorous IB-certified training to learn the curriculum, assessments and exams their students will take in their subjects, as well as how to integrate the IB philosophy in their course.

The IB Diploma Program

The IB Diploma Program is a course of study and experiences that leads to a high school diploma that is recognized and respected in universities everywhere around the world. It is a two-year program that starts the junior year of high school. **This is therefore a two-year commitment.** You will earn a weighted credit for each year of each course.

The IB Diploma program is made up of three Core elements and six subject groups. The Core consists of three elements: Theory of Knowledge (course that explores the nature and acquisition of knowledge), Extended Essay (a 4000-word research paper) and Creativity, Activity, Service (project & service component).

The six subject groups are:

1. Studies in language and literature
2. Language acquisition
3. Individuals & Societies
4. Sciences
5. Mathematics
6. The arts/IB electives

These courses are provided at the Higher Level (HL) or at the Standard Level (SL). HL courses require a minimum of 240 of class time and SL courses, 150 hours. These courses can only be taken in 11 and 12 grades. The exams for IB students are in May of the senior year.

To earn the IB Diploma, a student must take all six IB courses, take the exams for each course and fulfill the requirements of the Core.

IB Certificate students are expected to finish the course for that year. In order to earn an IB Certificate, the student is required to take the IB exam at the end of the Year 2 of the course, except for Environmental Systems & Societies (ESS), which is a one-year course.

Why choose the IB?

The IB Diploma Program is a rigorous academic program built on the commitment, passion, and hard work of students and educators from high school and college. The college-level coursework can benefit students in a number of ways. IB coursework:

- Increases academic opportunity
- Teaches students to care about more than just academic results
- Encourages students to become confident and independent learners
- Encourages critical thinking
- Creates globally-minded graduates
- Leads to a second, internationally-recognized, high school diploma
- Establishes good time-management habits
- Encourages students to make connections between content areas
- Encourages depth and breadth of learning
- Assess more than examination techniques

Additionally, [research](#) shows that IB graduates acceptance rates in universities are higher than their non-IB counterparts.

What are student and family commitments?

International Baccalaureate courses are postsecondary-level classes that are provided at high school in the course of a regular school day. Many colleges and universities award either course credit or possibly exemption from certain required coursework. Each college or university has its own standards by which it weighs IB coursework taken in high school. Students are advised to check with the respective institution for details on its IB course and exam policies. [This page](#) on our website lists the most popular universities in the US and globally. IB examinations are conducted in May of each year, and students who take IB exams are responsible for paying IB examination fees unless the Georgia State legislature provides funding.

IB coursework is based on the international curriculum determined by the International Baccalaureate Organization. The time-frame of all IB courses at SCHS is of **two years**, with the exception of IB Environmental Systems and Societies which is taught over one year. This time commitment begins on the first day of school and lasts until exams in May.

All IB courses require student investment in advanced coursework. Some courses might recommend summer preparation such as reading or skill practice. Additionally, some courses require students to meet prerequisites including classes completed as well as a recommended minimum grade earned. Read about the prerequisites on the [SCHS Prerequisites for IB Courses](#) document.

Students who apply for the IB Diploma Program or individual IB courses must take the IB exam in May of the Senior year as it is one of the goals of an IB course. The IB exam fee is \$119 for individual exams and \$900 for the IB Diploma Program, payable over two years.

What should families discuss when considering the IB Diploma Program or individual IB courses?

- What are my plans after graduation? Am I college-bound?
- What am I most interested in studying while in high school?
- Do I want a second, internationally-recognized, high-school diploma?
- Am I self-disciplined and motivated?
- Do I have high personal standards and a strong work ethic?
- Am I persistent, resilient and organized?
- Am I willing to commit two years to one course?

IB Course Offerings

<p>Group 1: English (HL)</p>	<p>Group 4:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> · Biology (HL) · Environmental Systems & Societies (SL) (one year)
<p>Group 2 (choose one):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> · French SL · Spanish SL 	<p>Group 5 (choose one):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> · Applications & Interpretations (SL) · Analysis & Approaches (HL or SL)
<p>Group 3: History of the Americas (HL)</p>	<p>Group 6 (choose one):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> · Art (HL or SL) · Environmental Systems & Societies (SL) (one year)

Research the IB Diploma Program & Review IB Policies at SCHS

You are interested in being an IB Diploma Student or in taking (an) individual IB course/s. What should you do next?

1. Visit the [Sandy Creek High School IB page](#) and learn more about the program and its expectations.
2. Participate in the AP/IB Night on February 3rd, 2022 to learn about the course offerings and the requirements.
3. Talk to your parents about the requirements, challenges and benefits that come with being an IB student.
4. Talk to Ms. Grewe or your counselor about the program and its courses. Be honest with yourself about the time and energy that you are willing to put into an IB course; this will help you decide whether the program or its courses are a good fit for you or not.
5. Make sure that you have the prerequisites and that you meet the requirements for taking the AP course. Read about the prerequisites on the [SCHS Prerequisites for IB Courses](#) document.

IB Potential

Students have been qualified for IB courses based on the prerequisites outlined for the program. Follow the instructions in the [Portal: Next Yr Qualifications for IB courses](#) document to see your "Next Yr Qualifications" information in the Infinite Campus student portal. Use this information to guide your IB decision-making process.

Read through this course catalog for information to:

- ✓ review course offerings and determine which courses you would like to request,
- ✓ determine if you meet the prerequisites for the course, and
- ✓ review and agree to the IB Policies and Agreement.

IB Policies and Agreements:

International Baccalaureate courses offer college-level coursework in the high school setting, affording students the opportunity to receive college and high school credit simultaneously. If accepted into the IB Diploma Program or in an individual IB course, both students and parents understand and agree to the following:

- ✓ I will complete all summer reading and assignments (if applicable).
- ✓ I will complete level 2 of the World Language of my choice through Georgia Virtual Academy at no cost during the summer between 10th and 11th grades (if applicable).
- ✓ I will complete high-school Physical Science or Physics through Georgia Virtual Academy at no cost during the summer between 10th and 11th grades (if applicable).
- ✓ I will be enrolled in the two-year course/s (except for IB Environmental Systems & Societies); class changes will NOT be permitted.
- ✓ If I apply for IB Music, I will attend 0-period and have my regular music class during the school day. I understand that I will need my own means of transportation.
- ✓ I may not transfer from an IB class to a regular education class.
- ✓ I will take all semester exams.
- ✓ I am required to take the IB exam for each IB course in which I am enrolled and I assume all responsibility for payment for all IB exams (currently \$119 per exam or \$900 for the Diploma Program - 6 subjects + the Core).
- ✓ I understand that the grade I earn in an IB class will be averaged into my cumulative GPA and that a separate GPA will be calculated with an IB quality point added.
- ✓ I understand that once I accept to be part of the IB program at SCHS, I have signed a binding commitment.
- ✓ My acceptance into the IB program is based on successful completion of prerequisite courses. If I fail a prerequisite course in the second semester, my IB acceptance will be revoked.
- ✓ I understand that if I do not live within the SCHS zoning area, I will have to apply for a 'Student Voluntary Transfer' with the FCBOE in order to attend SCHS. I understand that this will require me to provide my own transportation. This form is available with Ms. Grewe or your counselor.

If you have met the prerequisites and you have done your research on the IB Diploma Program or Individual IB courses, it is time to apply to register. When you meet with your counselor, be sure to register for the AP course that interests you and helps you achieve your academic goals.

Steps to Registration

- 1. Orientation/Academic Advisement:** Discuss registration information during an IB Consultation with Ms. Grewe. A letter of qualification will be provided. Students should use this information to make their selections based on academic performance, prerequisite courses, future goals, and graduation requirements. Students can also email Ms. Grewe (grewe.karina@fcboe.org) for additional information or if they need any clarification about what courses to choose.
- 2. Application:** Students can complete this [Application Form](#) or register with Ms. Grewe during advisement or register in Infinite Campus.
- 3. Schedule Changes:** Student-initiated schedule changes are not possible after the schedule has been created. Students are not able to change electives or International Baccalaureate course selections once they start. The only schedule changes that are allowed are based on the following criteria:
 - A student has an empty period in his/her schedule.
 - A student has already received credit for a course listed in his/her schedule.
 - A student has not met the prerequisites for a course in his/her schedule.
 - The registrar must adjust class sizes.

**STUDENTS WILL NOT BE ABLE TO DROP
AN IB COURSE FROM THEIR SCHEDULES
AFTER JUNE 1.**

Course Catalog

Click on the **white triangle** for a video from a teacher who teaches this course.

Language A: English

English Language and Literature (HL):

Please see [this subject brief](#) from the IBO for all the information about this course.

Prerequisites: 10th Grade Lit/Comp or Gifted 10th Grade Lit/Comp. *Must have passed the course the first time.*

Contact: Brandon Reynolds - reynolds.brandon@fcboe.org

The Arts

Visual Arts (HL or SL):

Please see [this subject brief](#) from the IBO for all the information about Visual Arts HL and [this one](#) for Visual Arts SL.

Prerequisites: Visual Arts HL:

Drawing & Painting (9th grade) Sculpture, painting and drawing (10th grade)

Prerequisites: Visual Arts SL:

One year of Art

Contact: Stephanie Stein - stein.stephanie@fcboe.org

Mathematics

Applications & Interpretations (SL):

Please see [this subject brief](#) from the IBO for all the information about this course.

Prerequisites: Algebra 1 (9th grade) and Geometry (10th grade)

Students who have Algebra 2 may also take this course

Contact: Milena Taylor - taylor.milena@fcboe.org

Analysis & Approaches (HL or SL):

Please see [this subject brief](#) from the IBO for all the information about these courses.

Prerequisites: Algebra 2 (10th grade)

(If you are leaving the accelerated pathway or plan to take Precalculus in 11th grade, student should take this in order to take the AP Calculus AB (SL) or BC (HL) exam in 12th grade)

Contact: Trina Respress - respress.trina@fcboe.org

Sciences

Biology (HL):

Please see [this subject brief](#) from the IBO for all the information about this course.

Prerequisites: Biology (9th grade - gifted preferred) and Chemistry (10th grade - gifted preferred)

Contact: Bethany Lambert - lambert.bethany@fcboe.org

Environmental Systems & Societies (SL):

Please see [this subject brief](#) from the IBO for all the information about this course.

Prerequisites: Biology (9th grade) and Physical Science or Chemistry (10th grade)

Contact: Jill Lloyd - lloyd.jill@fcboe.org

Social Studies

History of the Americas (HL):

Please see [this subject brief](#) from the IBO for all the information about this course.

Contact: Patience Douglas - douglas.patience@fcboe.org

World Languages

LANGUAGE B

French (SL) Spanish (SL)

Please see [this subject brief](#) from the IBO for all the information about these courses. The same curriculum and assessment requirements are valid for each course.

Note that as of next year, all upper-level World Language courses will be IB courses unless you started Level 1 in 8th grade. In that case, you will be in Level 3.

Prerequisites: Level 2 of the language.

Contact:

French - Karina Grewe grewe.karina@fcboe.org

Spanish - Silvia Riet riet.silvia@fcboe.org

IB Core Class (open to all 11th and 12th graders)

Theory of Knowledge:

Please see [this subject brief](#) from the IBO for all the information about this course.

Prerequisites: None.

Contact: Leah Cleary - cleary.leah@fcboe.org

IB Core Components

(these are not courses but are requirements for the IB Diploma)

Extended Essay

Please see [this subject brief](#) from the IBO for all the information about the mechanics and requirements of the extended essay.

Prerequisite: Be a candidate for the full diploma.

Contact - Karina Grewe - grewe.karina@fcboe.org

Creativity, Activity, Service (CAS)

Please see [this subject brief](#) from the IBO for all the information about the purpose and requirements of CAS.

Prerequisite: Be a candidate for the full diploma.

Contact - Jill Lloyd - lloyd.jill@fcboe.org