

International Baccalaureate Diploma Program (IB)

Overview

The International Baccalaureate (IB) Diploma Program is a rigorous pre-university course of studies, leading to examinations that meet the needs of highly motivated secondary school students. There are 1,600+ approved schools in 125 countries. There are more than 676 IB programs in North America. The International Baccalaureate Organization (IBO) is based in Geneva Switzerland and governs and continuously monitors the academic content of IB Programs.

The International Baccalaureate Diploma Program (IB) is currently offered at more than 100 schools in California. California Department of Education (CDE) has provided incentive funding for professional development grants since 1998. Public high schools with an authorized IB Diploma Program are eligible for additional funding.

The IB program is gaining recognition in California because it emphasizes critical thinking, global awareness, community service, and an integrated approach across curricular areas. As a result, several school districts are implementing the Primary Year Program (grades kindergarten through five), the Middle Years Program (grades six through ten), and the Diploma Program (grades eleven through twelve) as a means to raise student academic achievement. The number of students taking advanced college placement exams has increased 150% in the last ten years (College Board).

What is IB?

The International Baccalaureate (IB) Diploma Programme is a challenging two-year curriculum for juniors and seniors that provides an integrated and proven approach to college preparation.

The goal of IB is for students to learn more than a collection of facts. The Diploma Programme prepares students for coursework at the college level and encourages them to:

- * ask challenging questions,
- * learn how to learn,
- * develop a strong sense of their own identity and culture, and
- * develop the ability to communicate with and understand people from other countries and cultures.

High school freshman and sophomores take prerequisites and world language courses in preparation for IB coursework that lead to the IB diploma.

Program Mission

The mission of the International Baccalaureate is to promote international understanding and responsible world citizenship through high academic standards and the development of lifelong learners who think critically. Students learn how to compare and contrast information, draw connections between knowledge from a variety of fields, and broaden their understanding of themselves and the world as they prepare themselves for higher learning opportunities.

There are six core curriculum areas including:

- * English
- * History
- * Science
- * Math
- * World Languages
- * Arts

IB students also take a unique course called Theory of Knowledge, which helps them integrate and apply what they learn in the core subjects. To earn an IB Diploma, students are required to complete a minimum of 150 hours of participation in extracurricular activities and community services and write a 4,000 word original essay as well as meeting additional Creative/Action/Service requirements.

Who does the IB Program Serve?

The IB Diploma program is available to high school juniors and seniors who wish to challenge themselves with a world-recognized curriculum. The program is designed to serve all interested students,

including students identified as academically gifted/highly gifted through school district testing systems, students nominated by their teachers as potentially benefiting from program participation, and students who self-nominate. There are no testing-in requirements.

Links to Program Sites and IB Resources

IB Organization Web Site

<http://www.ibo.org/diploma/index.cfm>

College Credit Eligibility

Depending on the institution, college credit is available for the successful completion of individual IB exams as well as for the IB Diploma. Students can take exams in multiple disciplines including world language, math, science, art and English. To check out the college credit transfer policy at other colleges, check out: <http://www.ibo.org/country/US/index.cfm>

How Does the IB Diploma Program Differ from Advanced Placement?

The IB Diploma Program emphasizes critical thinking and an integrated approach to learning along with an international perspective. Students are evaluated in a variety of ways in addition to course work, portfolios and exams. Exam sessions are longer for IB than AP, which is beneficial for students who need more time to formulate and communicate their thoughts and to demonstrate their subject mastery.

http://apcentral.collegeboard.com/repository/ibcomparbro_20740.pdf

The IB and College Credit

The International Baccalaureate Organization (IBO) awards either a diploma or a certificate for individual IB exams. Students completing the International Baccalaureate diploma with a score of 30 or above will receive 30 quarter (20 semester) units toward their UC degree. The University also grants 8 quarter (5.3 semester) units for students who receive IB certificates with scores of 5, 6 or 7 on Higher Level exams.

Designated examinations may be considered equivalent to freshman-level courses in the subject and may be used to satisfy general education or breadth requirements. Contact an individual campus for more information on how subject credit may be granted. The units granted for IB exams are not counted toward the maximum number of credits required for formal declaration of a major or the maximum number of units a student may accumulate prior to graduation from the University. Students who enter the University with IB credit do not have to declare a major earlier than other students, nor are they required to graduate earlier.

Transfer GE Applications: IGETC

According to the new IGETC Policy (2008):

7.2 International Baccalaureate (IB)

At present, International Baccalaureate exams cannot be used on IGETC, except to clear the Language Other Than English. IB is currently under review by both the UC and CSU systems for applicability to IGETC. In the interim, the UC will allow the use of IB credit on IGETC if the following guidelines are observed: Course credit earned on the basis of a score of 5, 6, or 7 on higher-level (*HL*) IB exams which community college faculty recognize as equivalent to an approved IGETC course can be applied toward the IGETC. If a community college, for example, awards a student credit for a chemistry course on the basis of an IB exam, the community college can apply that course to the IGETC if the chemistry course is on the college's approved IGETC list. **Note:** This work can be applied toward completion of the IGETC, but applicability of such coursework toward major or degree requirements rests with each CSU and UC campus. Students transferring to a CSU campus may not use IB on IGETC.

The following documents demonstrate IB policies at two CA universities:

**Advanced Placement (AP) / International Baccalaureate Higher Level (IBH) Exams
University of California, Santa Cruz (2005-2006)**

AP credit earned with a score of 3, 4, or 5 is applicable toward the total credits required for graduation and the UCSC campuswide general education (GE) requirements as indicated below. Please note restrictions. IBH credit requires a score of 5, 6, or 7. A score of 30 or higher on the International Baccalaureate Diploma will receive a total of 30 quarter credits. If AP and IBH exams are taken in the same subject area, credit is limited to only one exam.

SUBJECT EXAM	QTR UNITS	GENERAL EDUCATION
AP ART HISTORY:	8	Satisfies one "IH" and "A"
IBH VISUAL ARTS:	8	Satisfies "A"
AP STUDIO ART: Drawing	8	Any one AP exam satisfies "A". Maximum of 8 credits granted for all AP Studio Art exams.
2-D Design	8	
3-D Design	8	
	8	
IBH BIOLOGY:	8	Satisfies one "IN"
AP BIOLOGY:	8	Satisfies one "IN"
IBH CHEMISTRY:	8	Satisfies one "IN"
AP CHEMISTRY:	8	Satisfies one "IN"
IBH CLASSICAL LANGUAGES: Latin	8	Either IBH exam satisfies one "IH"
Greek	8	
AP LATIN: Vergil	4	
Literature	4	
IBH COMPUTER SCIENCE:	8	Satisfies one "IN"
AP COMPUTER SCIENCE: A	2	AB exam satisfies one "IN". Maximum of 4 credits granted for both AP exams.
AB	4	
IBH ECONOMICS:	8	Satisfies one "IS"
AP ECONOMICS: Macroeconomics	4	Either AP exam satisfies one "IS". Both AP exams may be taken for credit.
Microeconomics	4	
IBH ENGLISH LANGUAGE A1:	8	Satisfies one "IH", Entry Level Writing Requirement and "C-1"
AP ENGLISH: Language & Composition	8	Satisfies one "IH" and Entry Level Writing Requirement. AP score of 4 or 5 satisfies "C-1".
Literature & Composition	8	
		Maximum of 8 credits granted.
AP ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCE:	4	Does not satisfy any GE
IBH GEOGRAPHY:	8	Does not satisfy any GE
AP HUMAN GEOGRAPHY:	4	Does not satisfy any GE
AP GOVERNMENT & POLITICS: United States	4	Either AP exam satisfies one "IS". Both exams may be taken for credit.
Comparative	4	
IBH HISTORY (Africa, Americas, East/S.E. Asia/Oceania, South Asia/Middle East, Europe, or Islamic World):	8	Satisfies one "IH"
AP HISTORY: European	8	Any one exam satisfies one "IH". All AP exams may be taken for credit.
United States	8	
World	8	
AP INTERNATIONAL ENGLISH LANGUAGE	0	
IBH Language A1, A2, B: Second Language	8	Does not satisfy any GE. Each language may be taken for credit.
AP FRENCH, AP GERMAN, AP SPANISH: Language	8	Does not satisfy any GE. Each language may be taken for credit.
AP FRENCH, AP SPANISH: Literature	8	Literature satisfies one "IH". Both AP exams may be taken for credit.
IBH MATHEMATICS:	8	Satisfies one "IN" and "Q"
AP MATHEMATICS: Calculus AB	4	Either AP exam satisfies one "IN" and "Q". Maximum of 8 credits granted for both AP exams.
Calculus BC	8	
IBH MUSIC:	8	Satisfies "A"
AP MUSIC THEORY:	8	Satisfies "A"
IBH PHILOSOPHY:	8	Satisfies one "IH"
IBH PHYSICS:	8	Satisfies one "IN"
AP PHYSICS: B	8	Any one exam satisfies one "IN". Maximum of 8 credits granted for all AP exams.
C Mechanics	4	
C Electricity and Magnetism	4	
IBH PSYCHOLOGY:	8	Satisfies one "IS"
AP PSYCHOLOGY:	4	Satisfies one "IS"
IBH SOCIAL/CULTURAL ANTHROPOLOGY:	8	Satisfies one "IS"
AP STATISTICS:	4	Satisfies one "IN" and "Q"
IBH THEATRE ARTS	8	Satisfies one "IH" and "A"

NOTES:

A maximum of one "IH" will be granted from the arts (art history and theatre arts).

A maximum of one "IH" will be granted from literature (classics, English and literature).

**UNIVERSITY OF SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA
INTERNATIONAL BACCALAUREATE POLICIES AND INFORMATION
Effective July 2008**

Background: The International Baccalaureate (IB) program was established to serve the needs of secondary students who move between the educational systems of different countries. The program provides an internationally recognized school-leaving certificate that is not tied to any one country's educational system. Currently, 2,322 schools in 128 countries offer the IB curriculum; 617 of these are in the United States and 73 are in California.

Content and Grading: The very rigorous IB liberal arts and sciences curriculum is divided into "Higher Level" and "Standard Level" subjects. An IB Diploma candidate must take three subjects at each level. A Higher Level syllabus involves two years of secondary school preparation of approximately five class hours a week; a Standard Level syllabus requires about half this preparation time. Each IB test is given a numeric score of 1 (lowest) to 7 (highest).

USC Policy: USC believes that students who earn the IB diploma are well prepared for university studies. The especially rigorous nature of the IB program is factored in the evaluation for admission, in much the same way that AP courses are treated.

USC grants either (1) 20 units of credit to students who earn the International Baccalaureate Diploma with a score of 30 or higher or (2) 6 semester units of credit for each score of 5, 6 or 7 on the IB Higher Level exams, up to a maximum of four exams, whichever is higher. No credit is earned for the Standard Level exams. Advanced Placement (AP) credit can be earned in addition to IB credit for a maximum of 32 units. However, credit cannot be earned for AP and IB exams on the same topic.

Transfer credit: Elective credit is awarded by the Articulation Office upon receipt of official IB scores. In addition, the following IB exams fulfill USC subject requirements:

History: Europe	GE Category I (Western Cultures and Traditions)
Islamic History History: East and South East Asia and Oceania History: Africa History: South Asia, the Middle East and North Africa	GE Category II (Global Cultures and Traditions) <i>if taken Spring 2008 or later</i>
Biology, Chemistry, or Physics	GE Category III (Scientific Inquiry)
Economics	Equivalence to USC's ECON 203 and 205 (Microeconomics and Macroeconomics)

Some departments may use IB scores for placement purposes, such as waiving a course prerequisite. Also, the student's major department may use IB scores to waive certain degree requirements. Contact your academic adviser for assistance.

Students should ask the IB organization to send their scores directly to:

Edwenna Werner, Articulation Officer
University of Southern California
601 Exposition Blvd., REG 208
Los Angeles, CA 90089-0912

Please follow the instructions at <http://www.ibo.org/ibna/graduates>