



# SOUTH HILLS HIGH SCHOOL & THE INTERNATIONAL BACCALAUREATE (IB) PROGRAM



- 1 What is an International Baccalaureate (IB) education?**
- IB focuses on each student as a whole person
  - The aim is to develop inquiring, knowledgeable and caring young people with adaptable skills to tackle society's complex challenges and who will help to make it a better, more peaceful world
  - Strive to be inquirers, knowledgeable, thinkers, communicators, principled, open-minded, caring, risk-takers, balanced & reflective (see attached Learner Profile)
  - Emphasis on international mindedness: attitude of openness to, and curiosity about, the world and different cultures
  - IB is for students willing to challenge themselves and prepare for college-level work

*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.

- 2 What options can I choose from at SHHS (offered during junior and senior year)?**

1

### **FULL IB DIPLOMA**

Six subjects must be studied (3 higher level HL & 3 standard level SL\*) plus the "core" which is made up of theory of knowledge (TOK), the extended essay (EE), and creativity, activity, service (CAS)

-students may select the option to study 4HL & 2SL courses

2

### **ASSOCIATE IB DIPLOMA**

Four subjects must be studied (2 HL & 2 SL\*) plus theory of knowledge (TOK) and the creativity, activity, service (CAS) portfolio. Although the associate diploma is not recognized by IB, it demonstrates to universities and colleges a student's commitment to academic rigor.

3

### **COURSES**

Course selections [taking courses a la carte like students do with AP]. It is recommended that students take higher level (HL) classes for greater assurance of college credit.

\*SL and HL?

IB offers a variety of Standard Level (SL) and Higher Level (HL) courses. HL courses typically require more depth and are more widely recognized for college credit among universities.

# 3

## Which courses can I choose from?

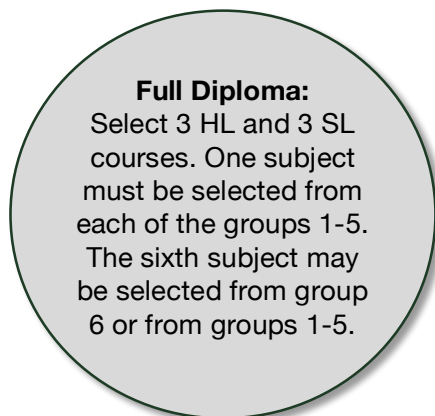
### 1. The Core

- Theory of Knowledge (TOK)- students reflect on the nature of knowledge and on how we know what we claim to know (Full Diploma & Associate)
- The Extended Essay (EE)- an independent, self-directed piece of research, finishing with a 4,000-word paper (Full Diploma)
- Creativity, Activity, Service (CAS)- experiential learning where students complete a wide variety of extracurricular, community service and athletic options (Full Diploma & Associate)

### 2. Subjects

The 6 subject groups are:

- Group 1: Studies in language and literature (English HL)
- Group 2: Language acquisition (Spanish SL/HL & Chinese SL)
- Group 3: Individuals and societies (Business Management SL & History HL)
- Group 4: Sciences (Biology SL/HL, Chemistry SL & Sports, Exercise & Health SL)
- Group 5: Mathematics (Math SL)
- Group 6: The arts (Visual Arts HL)



# 4

## What's the difference between IB and AP?

IB	AP
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Comprehensive program of study with unifying core</li> <li>• 1-year and 2-year courses</li> <li>• Quality of curriculum               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>-student-centered &amp; inquiry-based</li> <li>-breadth &amp; depth of knowledge</li> <li>-critical thinking <i>essential</i></li> </ul> </li> <li>• A 'photo album': Multiple assessments: external, internal, essays, orals, projects, labs, etc.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Individual coursework, no unifying core</li> <li>• 1-year courses</li> <li>• Quality of curriculum               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>-content-centered</li> <li>-breadth of knowledge</li> <li>-critical thinking important</li> </ul> </li> <li>• A 'snapshot': One exam</li> </ul>

# 5

## Are you ready for this challenge?

- For more information visit the South Hills High website or [www.ibo.org](http://www.ibo.org)
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