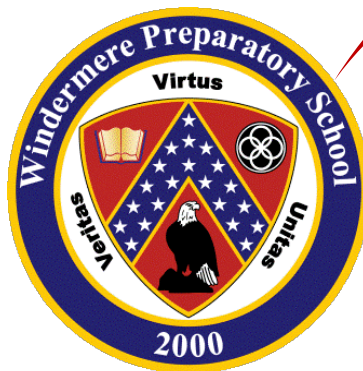


WHAT IS IB *AND* WHY IS IT SO IMPORTANT?

Windermere Preparatory School's Approach to College Preparation



WHAT IS THE IB DIPLOMA PROGRAM?

The International Baccalaureate Diploma Program is a challenging two-year program of international education. The IB DP is a comprehensive and challenging pre-university course of study, leading to examinations, that demands the best from motivated students and teachers. It is widely recognized for its high academic standards.

- The two-year curriculum is rigorous and intellectually coherent, encouraging critical thinking through the study of a wide range of subjects in the traditional academic disciplines while encouraging an international perspective.
- Beyond completing college-level courses and examinations, Diploma Program students are also required to engage in community service, individual research, and an inquiry into the nature of knowledge.
- The two-year course of study leads to final examinations in six subject areas and a qualification widely recognized by the world's leading colleges and universities.
- Since 1968, more than half a million students in 136 countries have participated in the Diploma Program.

WHY IS IB SO IMPORTANT?

According to Robyn Tellefsen in the web article "What Is an IB Diploma?" for collegebound.net, "If you want to get into a top college, you'll need to prove your academic prowess in high school. Want to make sure you really shine - and get a stellar education in the process? Participate in the coveted International Baccalaureate (IB) Diploma Program."

Put simply, Windermere Preparatory School is a College Preparatory school, and in our determination, the best way to prepare our students for college, with the highest placement and maximum credit, is through the IB Diploma Program.

WHAT ARE THE REQUIREMENTS FOR THE IB DIPLOMA AND CERTIFICATE?

The Diploma Program is a two-year, full-time program. Students must choose one subject from each of Languages A and B, Social Sciences, Experimental Sciences, and Mathematics, thus ensuring breadth of experience. The sixth subject may be an Arts subject, or the student may choose another from the original choices. At least three and not more than four are taken at higher level (HL), the others at standard level (SL).

In each examination, the student is graded on a scale of 1 (minimum) to 7 (maximum). The award of the diploma requires students to meet defined standards and conditions. These include a minimum total of 24 points and the satisfactory completion of three compulsory core components: 1) theory of knowledge (TOK); 2) extended essay; and 3) creativity, action, service (CAS).

A student who does not satisfy the requirements of the full Diploma Program, or who has elected to take fewer than six subjects, is awarded a certificate for any examinations completed.

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

University of Florida

Students who have participated in the IB program in high school may receive as many as 10 hours of credit for each standard or higher level exam taken.

(December 2009, <http://www.registrar.ufl.edu/catalog/policies/advisingcreditib.html>)

University of Oxford

The University has seen a significant increase in applications from International Baccalaureate candidates. All degree schemes have now established an offer of between 38 and 40 points. This offer is applied consistently within the subject and includes any points awarded for the extended essay, the Creativity, Action, Service element, and the Theory of Knowledge.

(Nov 2009, <http://www.ox.ac.uk/>)

IB ADVANTAGES

- Challenging and exciting classes focusing on writing, thinking, and communicating
- Rigorous and comprehensive education based on global perspectives
- Preparedness for college studies
- Recognition and development of the potential of each student
- High standard of teaching required by the International Baccalaureate Organization
- Advance course placement at colleges and universities around the world

“Like the much larger and better-known Advanced Placement program, the International Baccalaureate program offers high school students college-level courses through which they can earn college credits. But it also offers a special diploma recognizing a more rigorous course of study.”

(New York Times Article: *EDUCATION; More Training Is Seen as Key To Improving Math Levels*, DIANA JEAN SCHEMO, February 2, 2006)

HOW THE IB DIPLOMA IS RECOGNIZED

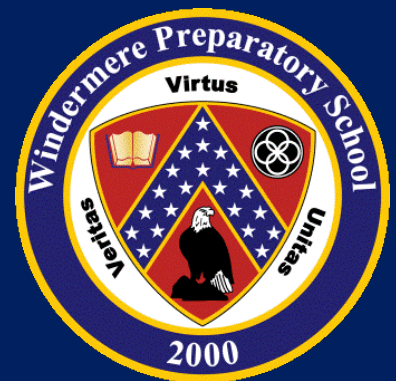
University recognition is a primary concern for Diploma Program students. The discipline and work ethic necessary to complete the Diploma Program require considerable commitment from students. Diploma Program students who have performed well in examinations and have earned the IB diploma expect colleges and universities to properly recognize this achievement.

Many colleges and universities have developed their own recognition policies. The individual policies vary greatly, but they all have one thing in common. Through their policies, these institutions make it apparent that they understand and appreciate the Diploma Program student and the rigor of the Diploma Program itself.

For a current list of Universities that recognize the IB Diploma, please visit <http://www.ibo.org/country/US/index.cfm>

WHY PURSUE THE IB DIPLOMA AT WPS?

- WPS is the only private school in central Florida with an IB Diploma Program
- WPS offers all IB courses as 2-year courses to maximize learning time, maintain a manageable pace and minimize needless stress
- 100% of the WPS faculty teaching IB Courses are IB trained
- Many of our IB high school faculty have international IB teaching experience and are certified IB examiners.



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