

BONITA VISTA HIGH SCHOOL
INTERNATIONAL BACCALAUREATE
PROGRAMME



What is the IB Diploma Programme?

The IB Diploma Programme is a comprehensive and challenging pre-university course of study that demands the best from both motivated students and teachers. This sophisticated two-year curriculum covers a wide range of academic subjects and has stood the test of time for over half a million students in 119 countries since 1968. IB Diploma Programme graduates are sought after by the world's leading universities.

The Benefits of the IB Diploma Programme

Universities recognize the outstanding qualities of IB Diploma Programme students. Typically, diploma holders are ready to debate real-world issues from an international perspective and to provide leadership and support in the local and global community. They demonstrate a capacity for in-depth study while maintaining a broad perspective of the different subject areas. They are able to ask challenging questions but also know how to research a topic and express their opinions. They have a strong sense of their own culture and identity, as well as the ability to communicate in two or more languages with people who have a different perspective of the world.

IB Diploma Programme students will develop an understanding of the IB learner profile. The ten aspirational qualities of the learner profile inspire and motivate the work of teachers, students and the school, providing a statement of the aims and values of the IB and a definition of what we mean by "international mindedness." IB learners strive to be inquirers, thinkers, communicators, risk-takers, knowledgeable, principled, open-minded, caring, balanced and reflective.

Unique Learning Opportunities

The IB Diploma Programme is about more than the six subjects that students study. At its heart are three core requirements that are integral to the curriculum and make the IB Diploma Programme unique

- Theory of Knowledge (TOK) - An internally and externally assessed interdisciplinary component that explores the different concepts of knowledge found in the subject areas. Students can, for example, compare a historian's approach to problem solving with that of a scientist or an artist.

- Extended Essay (EE) – An externally assessed, independent research assignment of 4,000 words in one of many subject areas. This is one of the ways in which IB Diploma Programme students can specialize in a certain subject area and prepare for university studies.
- Creativity, Action, Service (CAS) – A requirement that students actively learn from the experience of doing real tasks beyond the classroom. Students can combine the three components or do activities related to each one of them separately.

Internationally Recognized Standards

The IB Diploma Programme is widely recognized for its high academic standards. Assessment is varied and takes place over two years, with final examinations in each subject. Student's work is assessed by an international board of examiners, who are themselves rigorously trained and monitored by the International Baccalaureate Organization (IBO).

Subjects are scored on a 1-7 scale with a further three points available for theory of knowledge and the extended essay. Students who display good levels of performance across all six subjects and achieve a minimum of 24 points (out of a possible 45) are awarded the diploma.



IB Diploma Nuts and Bolts

- Students must take six tests. Three of the tests must be taken at the higher level (HL) and the rest may be taken at the standard level (SL). The six tests are broken into each of the main curricular areas: English, math, social science, science, foreign language, and an elective. English is automatically set up as one of the HL tests. Students may take up to two of the six tests in their junior year. HL tests may only be taken in the senior year.
- Students must complete a course in the Theory of Knowledge. This course is taken in the second semester of junior year and first semester of senior year. The class only meets 2 days a week during 7th period.
- Students must complete a 4,000 word research essay. Known as the extended essay, the students work with an advisor over the course of several months to formulate a research question, do research, and draft the essay.
- Students must be engaged for 12-18 months in a variety of extracurricular activities. These activities must entail creativity, action, and service.
- All IB subjects are scored on a 1-7 scale. A 4 is considered passing. Therefore 24 points is needed to earn the diploma. They must score at least 12 points on their HL tests. However, they do **not** need to score a 4 on each test. They can get a 3 on an HL test and a 2 on an SL test, and still be awarded the diploma.

Example: English HL = 5	Math SL = 2
Economics HL = 3	Biology SL = 4
History HL = 4	Spanish SL = 6

Total number of points = 24 and the IB diploma is awarded.

- Students can also earn up to 3 bonus points from their extended essay and TOK essay.
- Students earning 30 or more points on their total diploma score are granted 30 quarter units by the UC system. HL tests also qualify for college credits for that particular course.
- The IB internal assessment represents a significant part of the overall IB subject score. In addition to the May exams, students submit work that was done in the classroom to be scored by IB. Unlike AP scores, IB scores are not based solely on the May tests.

BVH Sample Student

9

English 9 Accelerated
World Geography Accelerated
Integrated Math Course 1
Biology Accelerated
Italian 1/2
PE

10

English 10 Accelerate
AP World History
Integrated Math Course 2
Honors Chemistry
Italian 3/4
PE

11

IB English HL1
Integrated Math Course 3
AP US History
IB Chemistry
AP Art History
Italian 5/6

12

IB English HL2
IB Math SL
IB History
IB Italian
IB Economics

Sample Student's IB Tests

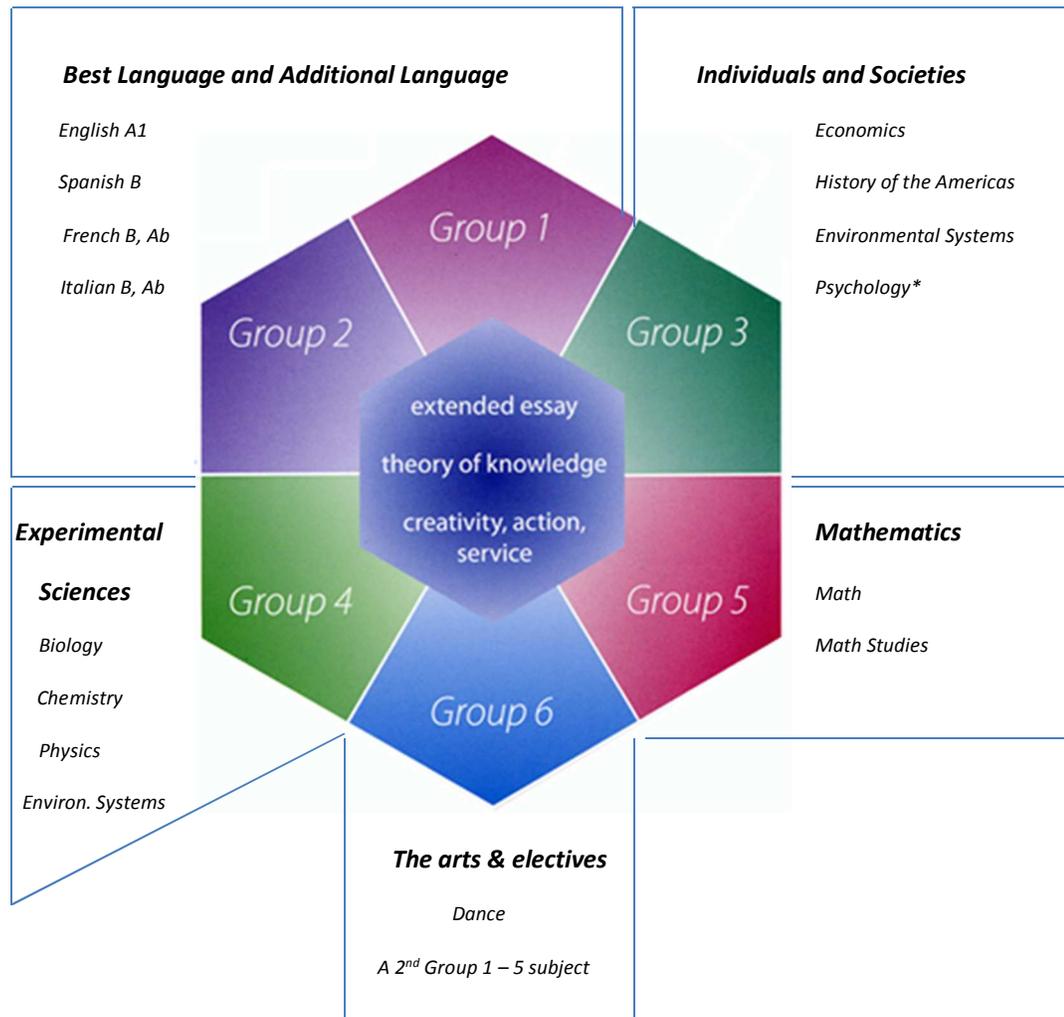
HL

English
Economics
History

SL

Chemistry (11)
Math
Italian

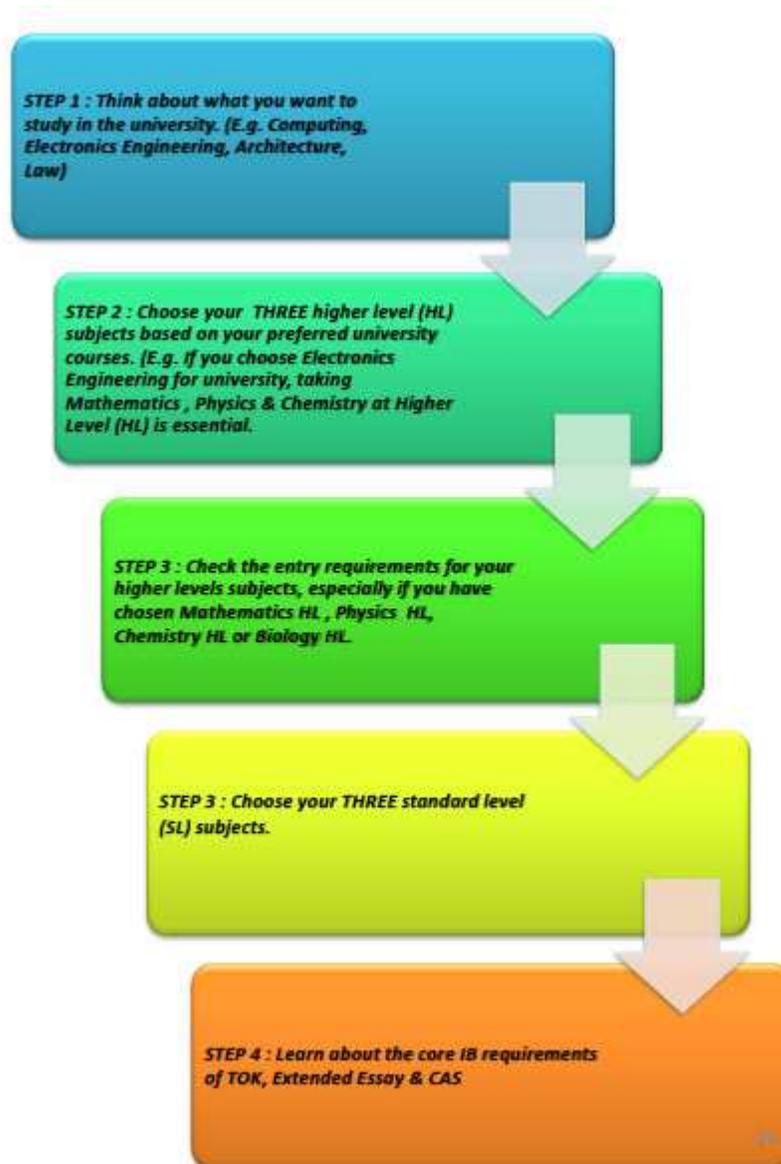
The Diploma Programme Curriculum at Bonita Vista High School



Students study six courses. These include two languages (groups 1 and 2), one course from individuals and societies (group 3), one experimental science (group 4), one mathematics course (group 5), and one course chosen from the arts (group 6) or another subject from groups 1 to 5. One transdisciplinary subject, environmental systems and societies, is also an option. This allows students to meet the requirements of two groups (3 and 4) by studying one subject. Students are then free to select another subject from any group to make up their total of six courses.

It is essential that a pre-university education provides students with the depth and discipline-specific knowledge and skills that they will need to follow their chosen university course and to use later in their professional lives. Specialization is encouraged in the Diploma Programme by expecting students to study three (with the possibility of studying four) subjects at a higher level (HL). Breadth of learning is encouraged with a requirement to study three more subjects

(two if four are studied at HL) at standard level (SL). HL courses are normally taught over 240 teaching hours, and require a greater depth of study across a broader range of content in the subject. SL courses are normally taught over 150 teaching hours. Most subjects are available at both SL and HL.



World Literature



Group 1: Language A1

IB students at Bonita Vista High School are **required** to study **English A: Literature** at the **higher level (HL)**. Students study 13 works from a representative selection of genres, periods and places. Students develop the ability to engage in close, detailed analysis of literary works, building understanding of the techniques involved in literary criticism. The study of literary works in context is emphasized, and through the study of literature in translation the student is challenged to reflect on the role of cultural assumptions in interpretation. Students are assessed through a combination of formal examinations, written coursework and oral commentaries. The formal examination comprises two essay papers, one requiring the analysis of a passage of unseen literary text, and the other a response to a question based on the works studied. The coursework for this subject is completed over a two year time frame. Students begin with IB English HL1 in the 11th grade and then complete the coursework in the 12th grade with IB English HL2.

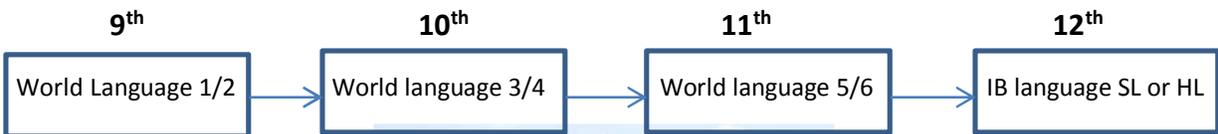


Students in English 10 Accelerated classes will be required to write a 2000 word research essay as preparation for the IB extended essay requirement. All IB diploma candidates at Bonita Vista High School complete their Group 1 requirement by testing in Language A1: Literature HL.

IB Spanish

Group 2: Second language

IB students at Bonita Vista High School have the option of taking Spanish, French or Italian as their second language. The SL and HL language options are intended for students who have had at least four years of experience learning the language. It is recommended that students be enrolled in a first year language course by the ninth grade in order to be adequately prepared for the SL and HL language courses. Students with less experience in second language development have the ability to take a beginning two-year *ab initio* course that is taken only at the standard level (SL). This option is only available to students who have had no previous experience of learning that language. The aims of all levels of second language acquisition are to encourage, through the study of texts and through social interaction, an awareness and appreciation of the different perspectives of people from other cultures.



Example course sequence for a bilingual student who is fluent in a second language:

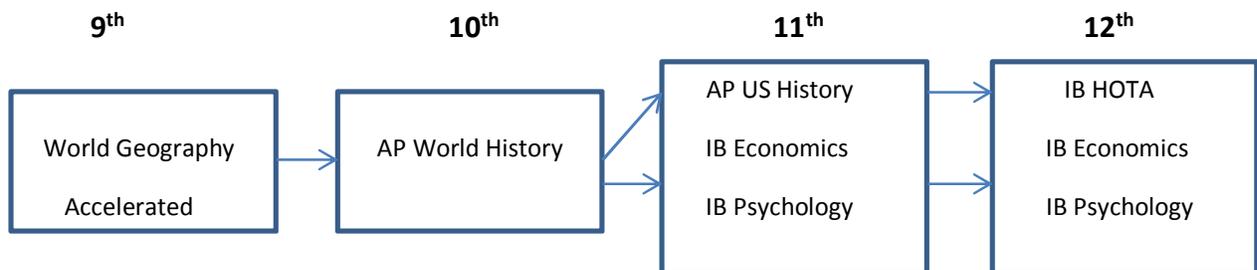


A student with less than four years of experience in a second language:



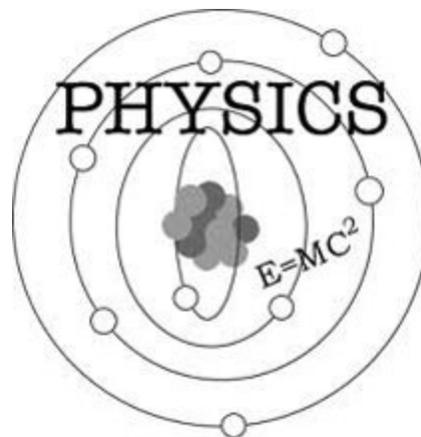
Group 3: Individuals and Societies

Bonita Vista High School offers four options in this group: Economics, History, Environmental Systems and Societies, and Psychology, which is being planned for the 2015-2016 school year. While each of these courses develops subject-specific skills and knowledge, they all encourage the systematic and critical study of human behavior within the context of the subject discipline. While improving factual knowledge is important, the emphasis is on developing the skills and strategies to effectively evaluate, synthesize and critically analyze theories, concepts and arguments relating to the nature and activities of individuals and societies. One aim of these subjects is to enable students to recognize that human attitudes and actions share common features as well as being diverse, and to understand that a study of society requires an appreciation of both these similarities and differences. When considering the options for group 3 courses, students need to consider the fact that Economics is a high school graduation requirement. Students can waive out of this requirement only if they complete AP US Government. Likewise, students can waive out of the US Government graduation requirement by completing IB Economics.

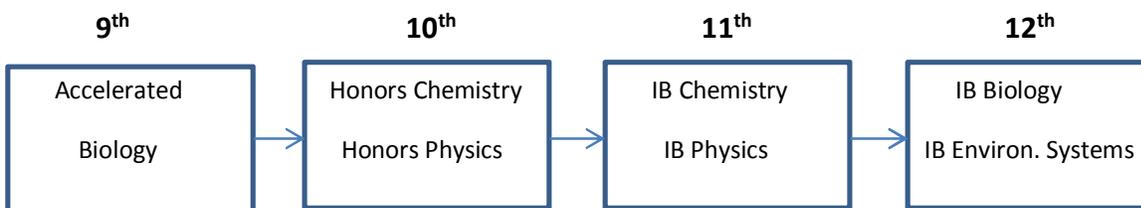


Group 4: Experimental Sciences

The experimental sciences offered at Bonita Vista High School are: Biology, Chemistry, Physics and Environmental Systems and Societies. Each subject contains a body of knowledge, methods and techniques that students are required to learn and apply. In their application of scientific method, students develop an ability to analyze, evaluate and synthesize scientific information. A compulsory group 4 project encourages students to appreciate the environmental, social and ethical implications of science. The exercise is a collaborative experience where the emphasis is on the processes involved in scientific investigation rather than the products of such investigation. Furthermore, the collaboration is interdisciplinary: students analyze a topic or problem that can be investigated in each of the science disciplines, and they practice their experimental and investigative skills. An understanding of the relationships between scientific disciplines and the overarching nature of the scientific method is encouraged, and an opportunity to explore scientific solutions to global questions is provided. At Bonita, the IB students make and test



biodiesel fuel for their group 4 project. Through this project, students develop an appreciation of the possibilities and limitations associated with science and scientists. Students are able to apply and use a body of knowledge including methods and techniques that characterize science and technology. Students are made aware of the need for, and the value of, effective collaboration and communication during scientific activities.



Group 5: Mathematics

Mathematics is a compulsory area of study for every Diploma Programme student. Because each student has different needs, interests and abilities, and will use mathematics to serve different purposes, a variety of math levels are offered. The mathematics subjects aim to enable students to develop mathematical knowledge, concepts and principles, to develop logical, critical and creative thinking, and to employ and refine their powers of abstraction and generalization. Students are encouraged to appreciate the international dimensions of mathematics and the multiplicity of its cultural and historical perspectives; they are also encouraged to engage in mathematical pursuits, and to develop an appreciation of the beauty, power and practicality of the discipline. At Bonita Vista, the IB math courses are designed to cater to a range of mathematical ability, and to provide the mathematical support for students' other subjects (such as economics and physics) as well as for their university and career aspirations.

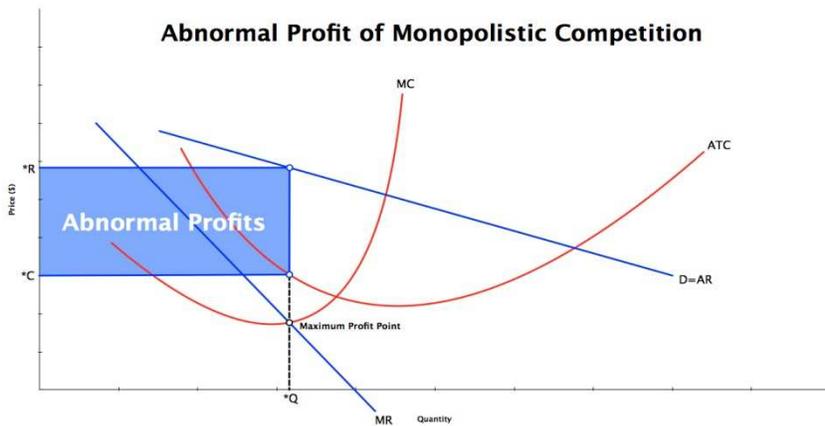
9 th	10 th	11 th	12 th
Integrated Math Course 2	Integrated Math Course 3	IB Math SL	AP Calculus
Integrated Math Course 1	Integrated Math Course 2	Integrated Math Course 3	IB Math SL
Integrated Math Course 3	Integrated Math Course 4	AP Calculus	IB Math HL

Group 6: The Arts & Electives

Currently, the only arts subject offered at Bonita Vista is IB Dance. Students may take this course or elect to take another course from groups 1-5.



Psychology





International
Baccalaureate®

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