

## What is IB?

International Baccalaureate (IB) is a program that balances the academic needs of our students while honoring their growth as individuals. It is this blending of skills, ideas, and connections with creativity, action, and service that develops students who are desired by colleges and the work force.

IB introduces our students to the global community while respecting our own traditions.

## IB Program Notes

The International Baccalaureate Diploma Program (IBDP) is a challenging two-year curriculum for juniors and seniors designed to promote mastery of multi-disciplinary content, critical thinking skills, international mindedness, and personal growth.

Students may also take individual IB courses for credit and earn IB certificates for their advanced study.

Students who successfully complete all the program requirements receive an IB Diploma, recognized as a standard of high achievement both nationally and internationally by colleges and universities.

Universities offer college credit for successful completion of IB higher (HL) courses in high school.

IB Diploma Candidates and Recipients assist students in the competitive college admissions process.

Many students successfully complete the IB Diploma Program and participate in sports and other extra-curricular activities.

## IB Learner Profile

Students who participate in the IB Program strive to become:

**Inquirers** – *They acquire the skills necessary to conduct constructive inquiry and research, and become active learners.*

**Knowledgeable** – *They acquire, and are able to make use of, a significant body of knowledge across a range of disciplines.*

**Critical Thinkers** – *They exercise initiative in applying critical and creative thinking skills to approach complex problems and make reasoned decisions.*

**Communication** – *They understand and express ideas and information confidently and creatively.*

**Risk-Takers** – *They approach unfamiliar situations with confidence and forethought, and have the independence of spirit to explore new roles, ideas and strategies.*

**Principled** – *They have a sound grasp of the principals of moral reasoning.*

**Caring** – *They show empathy, compassion and respect towards the needs and feelings of others.*

**Open-minded** – *Through an understanding of their own culture, they are open to perspectives, values and traditions of other individuals and cultures.*

**Well-balanced** – *They understand the importance of physical and mental balance and personal well-being for themselves and others.*

**Reflective** – *They give thoughtful consideration to their own learning and personal development.*

*Revised 1/20*

## THE INTERNATIONAL BACCALAUREATE PROGRAM

AT

## VALLEY REGIONAL HIGH SCHOOL



Valley Regional High School  
is an IB World School

*Authorized October 2018*



# International Baccalaureate

## Core Program

### Projected IB Courses at VRHS

IB Subject	Junior Year	Senior Year
Group 1: English	IB Literature (HL)	
Group 2: World Language	IB Spanish (SL) or IB French (SL)	
Group 3: Social Studies	IB History of the Americas (HL)	
Group 4: Science	IB Biology (SL) or IB Physics (SL)	
Group 5: Mathematics	IB Math Applications and Interpretation (Statistics) (SL) or IB Math Analysis and Approaches (Calculus) (SL)	
Group 6: Elective	IB Visual Arts (H) or IB Music (HL) or IB Business (HL) or IB Global Politics (HL) IB Chemistry (HL)	
Core IB Requirements	IB Core (EE, TOK, CAS)	S1: IB Core S2: Elective or Study Hall

Central to the philosophy of the IB program, IB Diploma candidate-students are required to take six subjects plus write a 4,000 word (about 8 pages) Extended Essay (EE), complete a course and presentation in Theory of Knowledge (TOK), and engage in a number of Creativity, Activity, and Service (CAS) projects.

**Extended Essay (EE):**

The extended essay provides students a college level experience as they investigate a topic of their choice. Although students work with a mentor, this out-of-classroom essay demands independent research and writing, which is expected in higher education.

**Theory of Knowledge (TOK):**

TOK is an interdisciplinary course designed to challenge a student’s sense of knowledge. TOK integrates the philosophical and theoretical framework of the IB DP. Students explore the “nature of knowing” to develop an appreciation and understanding of the cultural context of meaning.

**Creativity, Activity, Service (CAS):**

Participation in the school’s CAS program reinforces the IB philosophy that a student’s education, in and out of the classroom, is of equal importance. Students are encouraged to pursue academic, civic, and social interests to foster this relationship of service to others.

*Students must choose 3 courses to take at the higher level (HL) and 3 courses at the standard level (SL)  
 All IB courses in Groups 1-6 are weighted like AP courses with a 1.2 factor  
 All courses in Groups 1-6 are equal to 2 credits (1 junior year & 1 senior year)  
 IB Core is equal to 1.5 credits (1 junior year & 0.5 senior year)  
 Once courses begin they remain the same until the conclusion of the program*