

International Baccalaureate Diploma Program Requirements

IB Diploma Program Core Requirements:

Extended Essay – up to 4000 word college level inquiry research paper. It is worked on from May of junior year and submitted in February of senior year. Students choose a subject and topic they are interested in researching.

CAS – students are required to engage in CAS regularly (an hour or two a week) from September of junior year until approximately spring break of senior year. There must be an effort to distribute the hours equally among the three strands (this equals to about 50 hours in each of Creativity, Activity, and Service). CAS activities cannot be repetitive, they must be challenging, and students must reflect before, during, and after their CAS activities in order for them to count.

ToK (Theory of Knowledge) – course offered every other day over the two years of the program (usually opposite physical education).

Additional Requirements:

1. Each Diploma Candidate must take one course from Groups 1-5 and a sixth course from either Group 6 or an elective from Groups 2-4.

IB Subject Area Groupings

Group 1: Studies in Language and Literature

Group 2: Language Acquisition

Group 3: Individuals and Societies

Group 4: Sciences

Group 5: Mathematics

Group 6: The Arts

IB Course Offerings at City Honors School

- English A: Literature HL
- French B SL; Spanish B SL; Mandarin B SL
- History of the Americas HL; Economics SL; Business Management SL
- Biology HL/SL; Physics HL/SL
- Mathematics A&A SL; Mathematics A&I SL
- Film SL/HL; Visual Arts SL/HL

The sixth “elective” course choice means a student can choose from one of our two Group 6 courses or choose to take two Group 2 courses, or two Group 3 courses, or two Group 4 courses, or a combination thereof (see below).

2. Each Diploma Candidate must also take three Standard Level (SL) courses and three Higher Level (HL) courses over the two years of the program. HL courses are always two-year courses. SL courses can be one or two year courses.

HL Courses: two of the three HL courses have been chosen for candidates (due to NYS Regents requirements). Those courses are IB English A: Literature HL and IB History of the Americas HL (Year One of IB History is AP American History & Government).

The third HL course choice is made from the following courses: Physics HL; Biology HL; Film HL; Visual Arts HL.

SL Courses: the IB Subject Groups for two of the three SL courses are also chosen for candidates. All candidates must take a Group 2: Language Acquisition course in French, Mandarin, or Spanish and a Group 5: Mathematics course in either Mathematics Analysis & Approaches SL or Mathematics Applications & Interpretation SL.

The third SL course choice is made from the following courses: Economics SL, Business Management SL, Visual Arts SL, or taking a second SL course in Group 2: Language Acquisition or Group 4: Sciences. Candidates are prohibited from taking an SL and HL course in the same subject (ex: cannot take Biology as an SL and an HL course) or taking two Group 5: Mathematics courses and having one count as their IB elective.

Additional information about the IB Diploma Program can be found on the City Honors website (www.cityhonors.org) or Mrs. Banas’ teacher page (<http://www.buffaloschools.org/webpages/ebanas>)

***Please note for IB Diploma Candidates ONLY, IB History satisfies the 12th grade NYS Regents requirements for Participation in Government AND Economics. Candidates must continue as IB Diploma Candidates for both years of the program in order to satisfy the economics requirement. Students who choose to transition out of the program after the first year, without taking IB Economics, must take our 20 week Economics course their senior year in order to graduate.*