



# THE IB PROGRAMME AT GARIBALDI SECONDARY SCHOOL

The International Baccalaureate (IB) Programme is a district program based at Garibaldi. Its purpose is to ensure that students in School District #42 have equal access to the opportunities provided through this international renowned program. This is a district-wide program that offers a coordinated curriculum from Grade 8 through Grade 12 for talented and highly motivated students. IB includes challenging academic experiences in an environment of positive stimulation that comes from working within class groupings of similarly motivated students.

The IB Programme is offered as an integral part of the broad educational program at Garibaldi Secondary. A high degree of flexibility is built into the program to ensure that students have the opportunity to make choices and selections that provide maximum personal benefits.

**IB is recognized throughout North America as equivalent to first year university courses. Students who achieve well in IB subjects will generally receive university credit for their efforts.**

**IB for Grades 11 and 12:** Each IB course will encompass all requirements of the Ministry course. The enriched learning environment will provide the opportunity for much more in-depth study with a continued emphasis on higher level skills.

**IB Diploma or IB Course:** Students ideally will choose to complete the full IB Diploma. This requires six IB subjects, including: two languages (English & French - or another second language can be arranged in special cases), one social science (History, Philosophy or Economics), one science (Biology, Chemistry or Computer Science), Mathematics and one other subject (Art, Music or another social science or science). The IB Diploma also requires the Theory of Knowledge course and the completion of an independent 4000 word research essay as well as a commitment to at least 200 hours of creative, active and service endeavors (CAS) to be completed during Grades 11 and 12.

Alternately, students may choose individual IB courses, in order to meet their personal learning needs. They must then complete regular BC Graduation requirements. Individual IB Course students will be permitted where space is available.

# IB at Garibaldi Secondary School

## 1. Courses we offer:

- Group 1: English A: Literature HL
- Group 2: French B SL, French Ab Initio SL (beginners), Language A Literature: School-Supported Self-Taught SL (any language)
- Group 3: History HL, Economics HL/SL, Philosophy HL
- Group 4: Biology HL/SL, Chemistry SL, Computer Science HL/SL
- Group 5: Mathematics: Analysis and Approaches SL
- Group 6: Visual Art HL/SL, Music HL/SL

HL = Higher Level      SL = Standard Level

## 2. How to gain admittance to IB:

- We recommend that a student transfers to Garibaldi in Grade 8 or 9, as this will give the student access to our IB Middle Years Program (MYP) and our IB preparation program, which consists of MYP Guided Inquiry 9 and MYP Enrichment 10 options. This prepares them well for the beginning of IB in Grade 11.
- To begin the Diploma Programme in Grade 11, a student should have at least a B average, but just as important is a work ethic and organizational skills.
- If a student transfers to GSS in Grade 11 specifically for the IB Programme, we will have an application package available, and will need to see a copy of his/her most recent report card.

## 3. Planning and arranging a full Diploma:

- As the previous pages state, a Diploma student must have a minimum of 3 HL courses (and no more than 4 HL courses) and 3 SL courses.
- One course from each of Groups 1-5 must be chosen by the Diploma student.
- The sixth subject is then chosen from Group 6, or from Group 3 or 4
- Thus, a student interested in the Sciences would choose their sixth subject from Group 4.

- A student interested in the Humanities would most often choose their sixth subject from Group 3 or, if artistically-talented and inclined, from Group 6 (Visual Art).
- In Grade 11, the student's seventh subject will be TOK (Theory of Knowledge), which is part of the three elements that make up the core of an IB education (CAS and the Extended Essay being the other two).
- In Grade 12, students will use their former TOK block to either attend classes in Biology HL, or as a study block.
- **NOTE FOR SCIENCE STUDENTS:** Physics 11 is needed for admission to most Science faculties, so we recommend that the students take Physics 11 in Grade 10. If this is not workable, due to timetabling, we recommend that they take it at Summer School or online.

#### **4. Extended Essay (EE) and Creativity, Action, Service (CAS)**

##### **Extended Essay:**

- In their TOK class, students will be introduced and guided through the Extended Essay, which is an original research paper on a topic chosen by the student.
- Extended Essays can be written on any subject the IB offers, even if GSS does not offer the course. Ms. Gibeault is our EE Coordinator, and she has all the resources needed for students on the library website.
- We have arranged with Simon Fraser University for our IB students to receive full-access library cards, with borrowing privileges, to aid them in their research.

##### **Creativity, Action, Service:**

- CAS is an individually-planned, service-oriented program that each Diploma student must undertake, beginning in their Grade 11 year.
- For CAS, students choose challenging and interesting creative pursuits, physical activities, and volunteer service.
- Students plan to engage in a balanced CAS program, consisting of several unique activities, and they provide evidence of their CAS commitment by keeping a journal on our ManageBac app.
- Self-growth is what CAS is all about, so journaling in some form is the best way to reflect on one's CAS activities. By the end of June of their senior year, students must present at least 20 pages of reflection on individual activities, with at least ONE activity that lasts for 16-18 months, and combines at least TWO of the three areas (Creativity, Action, Service).

## 5. Assessment in IB

- All courses in IB have exams that are marked externally, and are written in May of the students' senior year.
- Each course also has an internally-assessed component, which is graded by the teacher, and sent to IB to be moderated, thus ensuring consistency and fairness to all students.
- The combined marks on the internal assessments (IA's) and the External Assessments (EA's) result in a mark of 1-7 for each IB course.
- 24 points in total is the threshold for receiving the Diploma, but students should be aware that a total mark of 28 or more is what most universities require for admission.
- The Extended Essay and the TOK Essay and Presentation can earn the student up to 3 extra points.

## 6. The "Course Option"

- Although it is recommended that students take the full Diploma, it is possible to take individual IB courses.
- Students interested in this option should note that most universities and colleges grant first-year credit only for HL (Higher Level) courses.
- Space in IB courses is allotted first to full Diploma students, as they have committed to the Diploma, and require all six of their chosen courses, but in our experience, there is almost always room for a student to take the course if they are not full Diploma students.

## 7. Further Information and Questions

- The cost for the full Diploma is \$500 per year (\$1,000 total). This money goes directly to payment for the IB exams.
- We have tried to lay out as simply as possible all that one needs to know about IB at Garibaldi; however, we understand that IB is new to many people, and that it can be confusing at first.
- If you have any questions regarding the IB Programme, please email one of our IB Coordinators - Ms. Gibeault at [irene\\_gibeault@sd42.ca](mailto:irene_gibeault@sd42.ca) or Kyle Ludeman at [kyle\\_ludeman@sd42.ca](mailto:kyle_ludeman@sd42.ca) . Our IB Counselor is Ms. Lemieux, and she can be reached at [pauline\\_lemieux@sd42.ca](mailto:pauline_lemieux@sd42.ca) .

- If you want general information about the benefits of the IB experience and how valuable it is to students, the IB's website has many resources for you to peruse ([ibo.org](http://ibo.org)).