



***Yonkers Middle High School  
International Baccalaureate  
Diploma Program***

**Information Session for freshmen,  
sophomores and their families  
Wednesday, December 14, 2016**

# What is the International Baccalaureate Diploma Programme?



# What will I Be?

The aim of all IB programs is to develop internationally minded people who, recognizing their common humanity and shared guardianship of the planet, help to create a better world.

IB learners strive to be:

- Inquirers
- communicators
- thinkers
- risk-takers
- knowledgeable
- principled
- open-minded
- caring
- balanced
- reflective

# What is an IB Diploma Candidate?

Creating a better world...



# What are the benefits of IB?

## Why IB? Ten Reasons

1. It offers academic breadth and depth
2. Colleges value students with meaningful experiences beyond the classroom. (CAS)
3. It's a qualification recognized by universities around the world
4. It creates independent learners & strong writers
5. It cultivates an international mindset
6. It assesses more than one examination technique
7. IB students have proven time management skills
8. The IB encourages critical thinking
9. Subjects aren't taught in isolation
10. The IB learner profile

# What are the benefits of IB?

International Baccalaureate Diploma Candidate

Prepared  
for college

Able  
to argue  
reasonably

Astute  
problem  
solver

Confident  
innovator

# What are the benefits of IB?

**“Creating a better world...together”**

**Through participation in the IB Diploma program, students, teachers, parents and administrators learn to become:**

**Inquirers, communicators, thinkers and risk-takers who are knowledgeable, principled, open-minded, caring, balanced and reflective.**

# What are the benefits of IB?



*American Educator* devotes this special section to the importance of a common, coherent curriculum, the cascading benefits it can provide, and catalyzing action on its behalf.

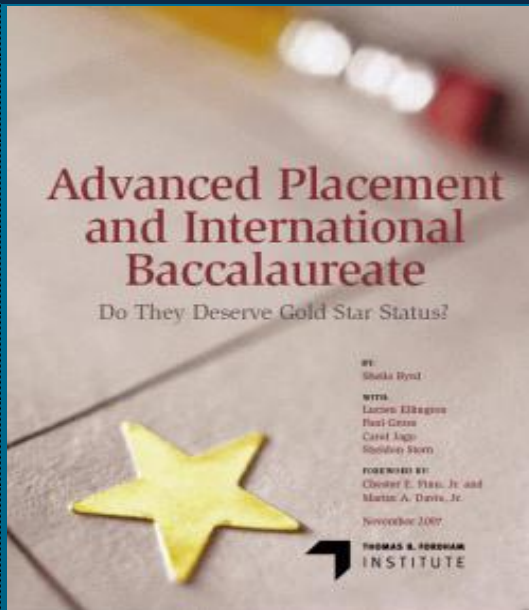
**A Test Worth Teaching To:  
The IB's Course Guides and  
Exams Make a Good Marriage  
By Robert Rothman**

**“At a time when teachers in America are concerned that an excessive focus on tests threatens to drive out effective teaching and learning, the International Baccalaureate offers a counterweight: a program where examinations encourage high levels of instruction and achievement.”**

<http://www.aft.org/newspubs/periodicals/ae/summer2002/rothman.cfm>



# What are the benefits of IB?



The IB program and assessments are “rigorous, fair and intellectually richer than almost any state standard and exam we’ve seen.”

<http://www.fordhaminstitute.org/doc/APIB.pdf>

“No Contest: Up close, typical state Biology standards don’t have the content or coherence of the International Baccalaureate.”



<http://www.aft.org/pdfs/americaneducator/spring2008/gross.pdf>

# What are the benefits of IB?

*Summary Brief: International Baccalaureate  
Standards*

*Development and Alignment Project.*

**Educational Policy Improvement Center (EPIC)  
2009**

**David Conley (author of College Knowledge)  
and Terri Ward**

**“The results of this study clearly confirm the  
strong relationship between the IB Diploma  
Program and standards for college readiness  
and success.”**

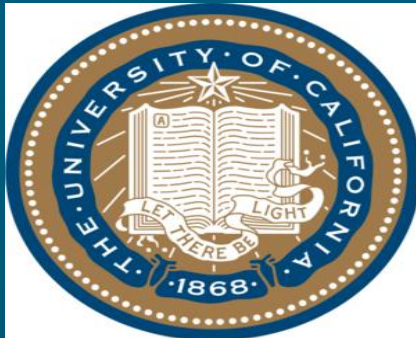
# What are the benefits of IB?



- Students who participated in an IB program are more likely to graduate with a bachelor's degree from a 4-year university than students who did not participate in an IB program.
- Students who received the IB diploma have the highest rates of bachelor's degree attainment.

# What are the benefits of IB?

- IB students have higher GPAs overall than non-IB students.
- IB students have consistently higher graduation rates than non-IB students.
- Performance on the IB Diploma is the strongest predictor of performance at college.
- IB Diploma recipients have the highest 4-year graduation rates.



# What are the benefits of IB?



Time Magazine

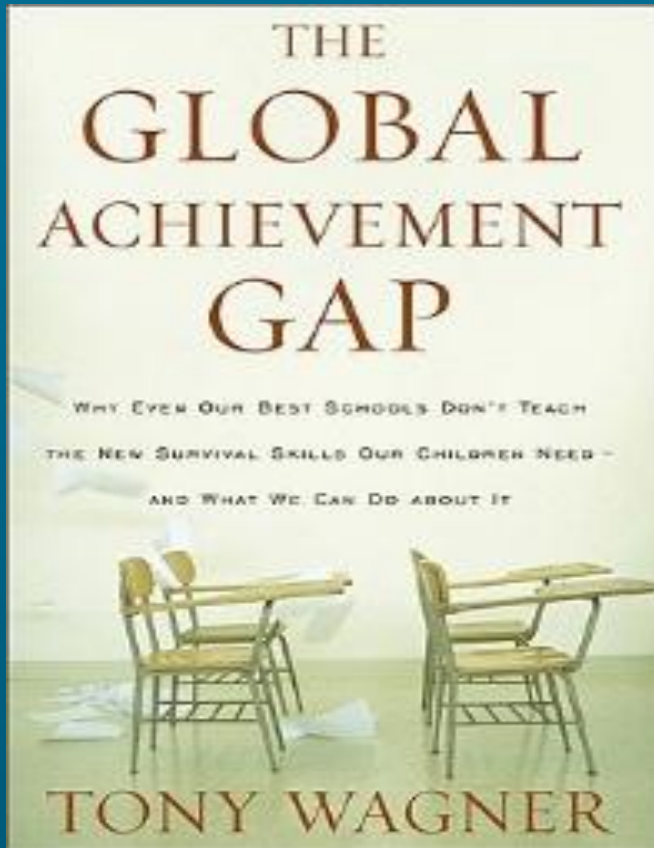
Sunday, Dec. 10, 2006

How to Bring Our Schools Out of the 20th Century

By Claudia Wallis and Sonja Steptoe

“... the International Baccalaureate Organization’s goal—“to prepare students to assume a meaningful role in today’s global society”—meshes well with Americans’ heightened awareness that they must compete for jobs with people on other continents, and that they need a world-class education to succeed.”

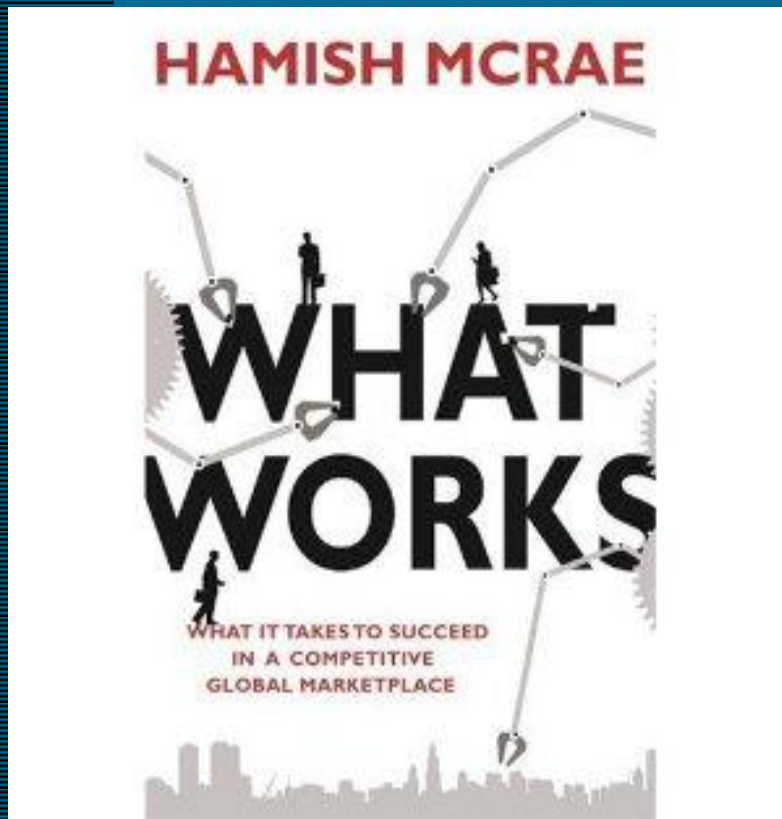
# What are the benefits of IB?



“Because of these additional requirements [CAS, EE & TOK] I consider the IB program to be a far better standard of rigor than Advanced Placement courses...AP courses teach you *what* to think. IB teaches you *how* to think.”

The Global Achievement Gap  
Tony Wagner

# What are the benefits of IB?



“If, in this ever more global world, the most important form of capital is human capital, the IB is the most important common force shaping the ideas of the next generation of people who will help run the world.”

**What Works: Success in Stressful Times-The Secrets of the World's Best Organizations and Communities**

Hamish McRae

# Acceptance Rates for the 20 Most Popular Institutions Among Survey Respondents\*

University or College	IB Candidate Acceptance Rate	Total Population Acceptance Rate	IB Candidates vs Total Population (percentage points)
Yale University	71%	57.97%	13%
Cornell University	18%	9.34%	9%
Columbia University	13%	9.54%	3%
Pennell University	32%	18.36%	14%
Harvard University	28%	16.48%	12%
Florida State University	92%	59.52%	32%
Harvard University	9%	7.23%	2%
New York University	58%	38.10%	20%
Princeton University	17%	8.80%	8%
Dartmouth University	15%	7.31%	8%
University of California-Berkeley	58%	21.52%	36%
University of California-Los Angeles	48%	22.69%	25%
University of Florida	82%	43.22%	39%
University of Maryland-College Park	88%	44.10%	44%
University of Miami	72%	39.22%	32%
University of Michigan-Ann Arbor	71%	50.63%	20%
University of North Carolina-Chapel Hill	64%	32.47%	31%
University of Pennsylvania	24%	14.26%	10%
University of Virginia	64%	32.60%	31%
Georgetown University	19%	7.88%	11%

\*IB Candidate Acceptance Rate Self Reported



# What are the requirements for an IB Diploma?

- At least 3 Higher Level (HL) and 3 Standard Level (SL) courses for a total of 6 courses completed during the last two years of secondary studies.
- Successful completion of the Theory of Knowledge course and assessments.
- Successful completion of the Extended Essay.
- Successful completion of Creativity, Action and Service.
- 24 points on the Diploma- an average of 4 out of 7 on each of the six exams.

# What are the requirements?

## Essential Elements

Theory of Knowledge

Creativity, Action and Service

Extended Essay

## Six Courses

### Group 1

Literature

### Group 2

Language acquisition

### Group 3

Individuals & Societies

### Group 4

Sciences

### Group 5

Mathematics

### Group 6

the Arts and Electives

## Assessments

### Internal Assessments

Oral presentations  
Lab practicals  
Math projects and portfolios  
Observations

### External Assessments

Written exams given in May  
Multiple Choice  
Short Answer  
Extended Response  
Essays

# What is Theory of Knowledge?

- TOK-it's not just a course-it's a way of life!
- Meets every other day for one period Junior and Senior year.
- “The glue that holds the program together”
- A place to ponder, discuss, write about and maybe even solve the world's problems.
- Students become better speakers and better writers when challenged to present their point of view, justify it, evaluate it and then do the same for other points of view.

# What is Creativity, Action, Service?

- Any of the athletic, artistic and service activities that normally make up a student's extra-curricular schedule will count towards the CAS requirement.
- These activities can include sports, clubs, honor societies, Student Council and volunteer activities completed either through YMHS or through an outside organization.

# What is the Extended Essay?

The Extended Essay is an individual research paper written by the students starting in Junior year and finishing in Senior year under the supervision of a faculty mentor, the EE Coordinator and the IB Coordinator. Extended Essay Subjects include History, English, Business & Management, any of the Experimental Sciences, Math, any Language B, Human Rights, World Religions, Philosophy, Psychology and Visual Arts.

# What are my choices for the six subjects (groups)?

- **Group 1:** English
- **Group 2:** Italian or Spanish
- **Group 3:** History of the Americas, Business and Management, Philosophy, Psychology, Social & Cultural Anthropology, World Religions
- **Group 4:** Biology, Physics, Sports Exercise & Health
- **Group 5:** Mathematical Studies
- **Group 6:** Visual Arts, Theatre

# What is the difference between SL and HL?


- **Standard Level (SL)** means the course work is completed within 150 teaching hours. Some SL courses are taken over two years, others are one-year courses.
- **Higher Level (HL)** means 240 hours of course work over a two-year period of time.
- **Only Seniors can sit for HL exams.**

# What are my choices for language?

- All Language courses are two-year courses.
- Italian and Spanish are all offered at either Standard Level and Higher Level.
- Italian is also offered at the *ab initio* standard level. Students who take language *ab initio* are language lovers who are looking to take a second world language or have had limited exposure to a second language and require a language for the IB Diploma.



# What are my choices for Social Studies?

- **History of the Americas HL**
  - **Business and Management SL**
  - **Philosophy SL**
  - **Psychology SL**
  - **Social & Cultural Anthropology SL**
  - **World Religions SL**
- 

# What are my choices for Science?

- **Biology HL**
  - **Sports, Exercise and Health SL**
  - **Physics SL**
- 

# What are my choices for Math?

- **Math Studies SL**
  - **AP Calculus (upon completion of Math Studies)**
  - **AP Statistics (upon completion of Math Studies)**
- 

# What are my art and elective choices?

- Visual Arts SL or HL
- Theatre SL or HL
- Italian *ab initio* SL
- Philosophy SL
- Psychology SL
- Social & Cultural Anthropology SL
- Business & Management SL
- World Religions SL
- Physics SL
- Sports, Health & Exercise SL

# How do I choose which HL courses to take?

- IB Diploma candidates at Yonkers High School must take English HL and History of the Americas HL. Most will take Biology HL as their third HL course.
- Those who do not choose Biology HL may choose:
  - Spanish A: Literature HL or
  - Visual Arts HL

# What are the possible course combinations?

## Sample Schedule 1

English HL	Italian B SL
History HL	Math Studies SL
Visual Arts HL	Sports, Exercise & Health SL

## Sample Schedule 2

English HL	Spanish B SL
History HL	Math Studies SL
Biology HL	Philosophy SL

## Sample Schedule 3

English HL	Italian Ab SL
History HL	Math Studies SL
Biology HL	Physics SL

## Sample Schedule 4

English HL	Theatre SL
History HL	Psychology SL
Span A HL	Math Studies SL

# When are the IB and AP exams?

- The IB exams start on April 28, 2017 and will end on May 19, 2017.
- The 2017 IB/ AP exam schedule will be posted on our website: [yonkerspublicschools.org/ymhs](http://yonkerspublicschools.org/ymhs) and in teacher's classrooms.

# What advice do IB grads give us?





# What are colleges saying about IB?

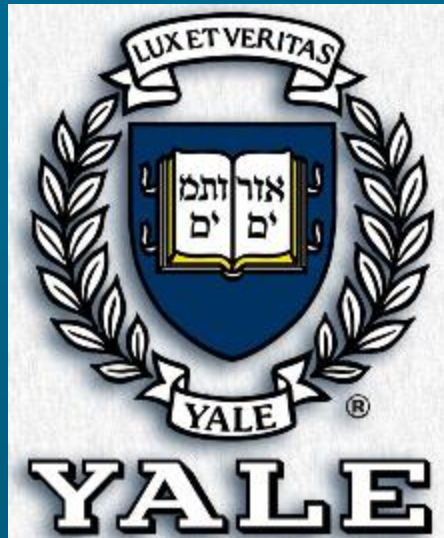


**Is there an advantage to taking honors, advanced, Advanced Placement or International Baccalaureate courses — even if it might be tougher to earn high grades?**

Yes. We consider it a promising sign when students challenge themselves with advanced courses in high school. We understand that not all secondary schools offer the same range of advanced courses, but our strongest candidates have taken full advantage of the academic opportunities available to them in their high schools.

[http://www.princeton.edu/admission/applyingforadmission/faq/secondary\\_school\\_credenti\\_1/#comp000046cc511c000000ea518e5](http://www.princeton.edu/admission/applyingforadmission/faq/secondary_school_credenti_1/#comp000046cc511c000000ea518e5)

# What are colleges saying about IB?



**“Does your school offer AP courses? An International Baccalaureate program? Both? Neither? We know you did not design your school’s curriculum, and we only expect you to take advantage of such courses if your high school provides them. Different schools have different requirements that may restrict what courses you can take. Again, we only expect that you will excel in the opportunities to which you have access.”**

<http://admissions.yale.edu/advice-selecting-high-school-courses>

# What are colleges saying about IB?

BARNARD

**“Students who have received an International Baccalaureate diploma may receive credit for the number of points indicated on the diploma, up to a maximum of 30 points.”**

<http://barnard.columbia.edu/registrar/external-credit/ib>

# What are colleges saying about IB?



**“Binghamton University recognizes schools offering the International Baccalaureate program. The International Baccalaureate curriculum is the most challenging and comprehensive curriculum available and IB participation is recommended, taken into account and considered during the application process.”**

**“Students in the International Baccalaureate Diploma Program may receive up to 32 credits. ...**

<http://www2.binghamton.edu/harpur/advising/transfer/ib-credits.html>

# What are colleges saying about IB?



The University at Albany will award 30 credits to students completing the requirements for the *IB Diploma* with a cumulative score of at least 30 (including both Standard Level and Higher Level exams) and no score lower than a 4 (satisfactory).

[http://www.albany.edu/undergraduate\\_bulletin/admissions.html](http://www.albany.edu/undergraduate_bulletin/admissions.html)

# What are colleges saying about IB?

## SUNY GENESEO

Admission decisions are based primarily on your high school academic record and the results of college entrance examinations.

Strong academic programs (especially those that include honors-level courses and AP or IB courses) are preferred.



Geneseo awards up to 30 credit hours for examinations such as Advanced Placement and International Baccalaureate.

<http://admissions.geneseo.edu/?p=freshmencriteria>  
[http://www.geneseo.edu/dean\\_office/transfer\\_pre\\_college](http://www.geneseo.edu/dean_office/transfer_pre_college)

# What are colleges saying about IB?



## SACRED HEART UNIVERSITY

**“Sacred Heart University considers the International Baccalaureate diploma outstanding for its integrated curriculum and rigor.”**

**“Students awarded the IB Diploma will be granted the option of Sophomore standing and will have their individual diploma examinations recorded as transfer credit.”**

...

[http://www.sacredheart.edu/pages/2771\\_international\\_baccalaureate\\_program.cfm?searchterm=International\\_Baccalaureate](http://www.sacredheart.edu/pages/2771_international_baccalaureate_program.cfm?searchterm=International_Baccalaureate)

# Is it worth it?

“When asked whether IB was worth it, I can always answer with certainty, yes! IB not only contributed to my gaining acceptance to a high ranking university like Boston University but it also enabled me to enter college on a level equal to that of my new peers. The bond that I developed with my classmates in the IB program made my high school experience a much more memorable one and the motivation we instilled in one another led us to succeed. The IB program prepared me to keep up with the fast pace of the work in my college classes and made me a more critical thinker. IB is worth it, not only for all that I learned, but for the relationships and support system that was built with my fellow classmates and those wonderful teachers who inspired us.”

Jessica Dennison, Class of 2005  
Boston University



# Is it worth it?

**“Going through the IB program in YHS was the biggest challenge of my life. At first, I thought it was a waste of my time. However, when I attended Sarah Lawrence College, I received 20 college credits due to the IB Diploma I earned. Not only did IB help me financially by getting college credits, IB prepared me for college; I became more organized and managed my time properly.”**

**Ashin Koshy, Class of 2009  
Sarah Lawrence College**

# Is it worth it?

**“It gave me the work ethic and the motivation to make college a cakewalk. I felt so confident and able to maintain my workload.”**

**James Macdonald , Class of 2012  
Stony Brook University**



“Take a look at IB if you want to be a critical thinker, if you care about the *how* and *why*; if you want to challenge the ‘facts’ of history; if you want to give voice to the disenfranchised; if you want the world to open up through a foreign language, if you want to be connected to a global community of students... if you want to go to college and be able to say, “I know how to write a meaningful paper”...let your amazing teachers guide you; expect them to challenge you; expect it to be hard; expect it to be rewarding-both now and in college, then take IB.”

Deanna Cachoian-Shanz

YHS Class of 2005

Sarah Lawrence Class of 2009

# Is it worth it?

- “IB made me work, and it made me work hard. College has been tough too, but thanks to IB I know exactly how to study, take good notes, and buckle down when the time comes. I’m in three bands, I have a job in research lab, and I’m the Dean’s list. I never could have managed all of that without being forced to learn how to manage my time from IB.
  - Sam Ellman, Class 2014
  - Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute
-

# Questions?

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# Thank you!

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