



TARSUS AMERICAN COLLEGE

2022 - 2023

IB STUDENT HANDBOOK-

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IB Mission Statement

The International Baccalaureate aims to develop inquiring, knowledgeable and caring young people who help to create a better and more peaceful world through intercultural understanding and respect.

To this end the organization works with schools, governments and international organizations to develop challenging programmes of international education and rigorous assessment.

These programmes encourage students across the world to become active, compassionate and lifelong learners who understand that other people, with their differences, can also be right.

The IB Learner Profile

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

IB learners strive to be:

Inquirers

They develop their natural curiosity. They acquire the skills necessary to conduct inquiry and research and show independence in learning. They actively enjoy learning and this love of learning will be sustained throughout their lives.

Knowledgeable

They explore concepts, ideas and issues that have local and global significance. In so doing, they acquire in-depth knowledge and develop understanding across a broad and balanced range of disciplines.

Thinkers

They exercise initiative in applying thinking skills critically and creatively to recognize and approach complex problems, and make reasoned, ethical decisions.

Communicators

They understand and express ideas and information confidently and creatively in more than one language and in a variety of modes of communication. They work effectively and willingly in collaboration with others.

Principled

They act with integrity and honesty, with a strong sense of fairness, justice and respect for the dignity of the individual, groups and communities. They take responsibility for their own actions and the consequences that accompany them.

Open-minded

They understand and appreciate their own cultures and personal histories, and are open to the perspectives, values and traditions of other individuals and communities. They are accustomed to seeking and evaluating a range of points of view, and are willing to grow from the experience.

Caring

They show empathy, compassion and respect towards the needs and feelings of others. They have a personal commitment to service, and act to make a positive difference to the lives of others and to the environment.

Risk-takers

They approach unfamiliar situations and uncertainty with courage and forethought, and have the independence of spirit to explore new roles, ideas and strategies. They are brave and articulate in defending their beliefs.

Balanced

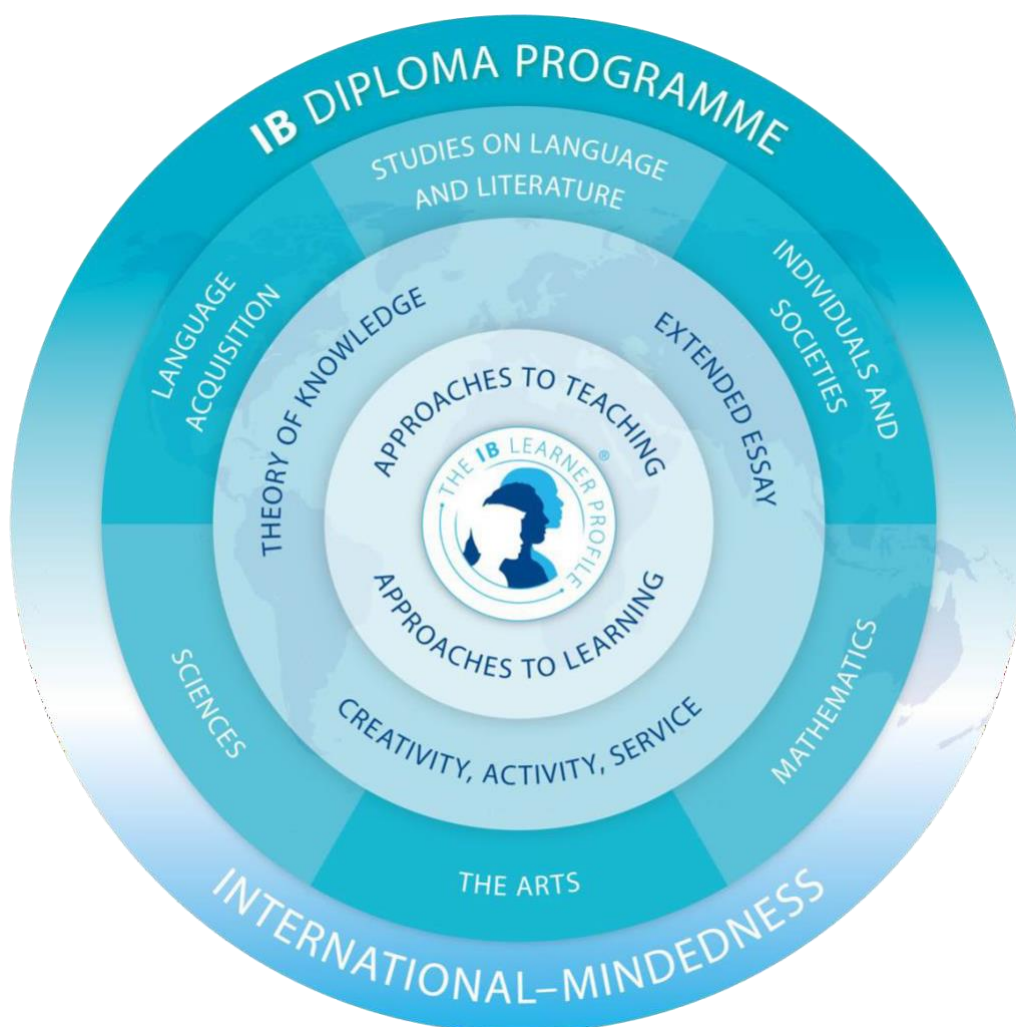
They understand the importance of intellectual, physical and emotional balance to achieve personal well-being for themselves and others.

Reflective

They give thoughtful consideration to their own learning and experience. They are able to assess and understand their strengths and limitations in order to support their learning and personal development.

The Diploma Programme

The curriculum contains six subject groups together with a core made up of three separate parts. This is illustrated by a “a model composed of concentric circles with the IB Learner Profile at the center” with the three parts of the core at its centre.



Candidates for the diploma study six subjects selected from the subject groups. Normally three subjects are studied at higher level (courses representing 240 teaching hours), and the remaining three subjects are studied at standard level (courses representing 150 teaching hours). All three parts of the core—extended essay, theory of knowledge and creativity, activity, service—are compulsory and are central to the philosophy of the Diploma Programme.

- The extended essay has a prescribed limit of 4,000 words. It offers the opportunity to investigate a topic of individual interest, and acquaints students with the independent research and writing skills expected at university.
- The interdisciplinary theory of knowledge (TOK) course is designed to provide coherence by exploring the nature of knowledge across disciplines, encouraging an appreciation of other

cultural perspectives.

- Participation in the school's creativity, activity, service (CAS) programme encourages candidates to be involved in artistic pursuits, sports, and community service work. The programme fosters students' awareness and appreciation of life outside the academic arena.

All higher level subjects, the core and at least one standard level subject must be taught over the two years of the programme. Up to two standard level subjects may be taught, should circumstances require, during the first year and assessed at the end of that first year as anticipated subjects. It is also permissible, should circumstances require, to teach one standard level subject during the first year and one standard level during the second year with assessment requirements met at the end of each corresponding year. It should be noted that this exception is designed to offer flexibility to schools where a genuine need for this arrangement exists due to unavoidable scheduling constraints. This is not intended to be a routine aspect of Diploma Programme design; all courses are designed as two year learning experiences. Languages ab initio and pilot subjects must be taught over the two years of the programme.

At the end of the two-year programme, candidates are assessed both internally and externally in ways that measure individual performance against stated objectives for each subject.

In nearly all subjects at least some of the assessment is carried out internally by teachers, who mark individual pieces of work produced as part of a course of study. Examples include oral exercises in language subjects, projects, student portfolios, class presentations, practical laboratory work, mathematical investigations and artistic performances.

Some assessment tasks are conducted and overseen by teachers without the restrictions of examination conditions, but are then marked externally by examiners. Examples include variety of assessments.

Because of the greater degree of objectivity and reliability provided by the standard examination environment, externally marked examinations form the larger share of the assessment for most subjects.

The grading system is criterion-related (results are determined by performance against set standards, and not in relation to the performance of other students); validity, reliability and fairness are the watchwords of the Diploma Programme's assessment strategy.

In addition to completing the assessment requirements of six subjects, in order to be eligible for the award of the diploma a candidate must also meet the requirements of theory of knowledge, the extended essay and creativity, activity, service (CAS).

GROUP 1

Language A Literature SL-HL

The Diploma Programme (DP) is a rigorous pre-university course of study designed for students in the 16 to 19 age range. It is a broad-based two-year course that aims to encourage students to be knowledgeable and inquiring, but also caring and compassionate. There is a strong emphasis on encouraging students to develop intercultural understanding, open-mindedness, and the attitudes necessary for them to respect and evaluate a range of points of view.

The course is presented as six academic areas enclosing a central core. Students study two modern languages (or a modern language and a classical language), a humanities or social science subject, an experimental science, mathematics and one of the creative arts. Instead of an arts subject, students can choose two subjects from another area. It is this comprehensive range of subjects that makes the Diploma Programme a demanding course of study designed to prepare students effectively for university entrance. In each of the academic areas students have flexibility in making their choices, which means they can choose subjects that particularly interest them and that they may wish to study further at university.

Normally, three subjects (and not more than four) are taken at higher level (HL), and the others are taken at standard level (SL). The IB recommends 240 teaching hours for HL subjects and 150 hours for SL. Subjects at HL are studied in greater depth and breadth than at SL.

In addition, three core elements—the extended essay, theory of knowledge and creativity, activity, service—are compulsory and central to the philosophy of the programme.

This IB DP subject brief has three key components:

- I. Course description and aims
- II. Curriculum model overview
- III. Assessment model

I. Course description and aims

The language A: literature aims at exploring the various manifestations of literature as a particularly powerful mode of writing across cultures and throughout history. The course aims at developing an

understanding of factors that contribute to the production and reception of literature—the creativity of writers and readers, the nature of their interaction with their respective contexts and with literary tradition, the ways in which language can give rise to meaning and/or effect, and the performative and transformative potential of literary creation and response. Through close analysis of a range of literary texts in a number of literary forms and from different times and places, students will consider their own interpretations as well as the critical perspectives of others, to explore how such positions are shaped by cultural belief systems and to negotiate meanings for texts.

The aims of studies in language and literature courses are to enable students to:

- engage with a range of texts, in a variety of media and forms, from different periods, styles and cultures
- develop skills in listening, speaking, reading, writing, viewing, presenting and performing
- develop skills in interpretation, analysis and evaluation
- develop sensitivity to the formal and aesthetic qualities of texts and an appreciation of how they contribute to diverse responses and open up multiple meanings
- develop an understanding of relationships between texts and a variety of perspectives, cultural contexts, and local and global issues, and an appreciation of how they contribute to diverse responses and open up multiple meanings
- develop an understanding of the relationships between studies in language and literature and other disciplines
- communicate and collaborate in a confident and creative way
- foster a lifelong interest in and enjoyment of language and literature.

II. Curriculum model overview

Syllabus component	Recommended teaching hours	
	SL	HL
Readers, writers and texts	50	80
Time and space	50	80
Intertextuality: connecting texts	50	80
Total teaching hours	150	240

III. Assessment model

It is the intention of this course that students are able to fulfill the following assessment objectives:

1. Know, understand and interpret:

- a range of texts, works and/or performances, and their meanings and implications
- contexts in which texts are written and/or received
- elements of literary, stylistic, rhetorical, visual and/or performance craft

- features of particular text types and literary forms.
2. Analyse and evaluate:
- ways in which the use of language creates meaning
 - uses and effects of literary, stylistic, rhetorical, visual or theatrical techniques
 - relationships among different texts
 - ways in which texts may offer perspectives on human concerns.
3. Communicate:
- ideas in clear, logical and persuasive ways
 - in a range of styles, registers and for a variety of purposes and situations
 - (for literature and performance only) ideas, emotion, character and atmosphere through performance.

Assessment at a glance

Type of assessment	Format of assessment	Time (hours)		Weighting of final grade (%)	
		SL	HL	SL	HL
External					
Paper 1: Guided literary analysis	Guided analysis of unseen literary passage/ passages from different text types.	1.25	2.25	35	35
Paper 2: Comparative essay	Comparative essay based on two literary works written in response to a choice of one out of four questions.	1.75	1.75	35	25
HL essay	Written coursework component: 1,200–1,500 word essay on one work studied.				20
Internal					
Individual oral	Prepared oral response on the way that one work originally written in the language studied and one work studied in translation have approached a common global issue.			30	20

GROUP 2

Language B HL

This IB DP subject brief has four key components:

- I. Course description and aims
- II. Curriculum model overview
- III. Assessment model
- IV. Content outline

I. Course description and aims

Language acquisition consists of two modern language courses— language ab initio and language B— designed to provide students with the necessary skills and intercultural understanding to enable them to communicate successfully in an environment where the language studied is spoken.

Language B is a language acquisition course designed for students with some previous experience of the target language. Students further develop their ability to communicate through the study of language, themes and texts. There are five prescribed themes: identities, experiences, human ingenuity, social organization and sharing the planet.

Both language B SL and HL students learn to communicate in the target language in familiar and unfamiliar contexts. The distinction between language B SL and HL can be seen in the level of competency the student is expected to develop in receptive, productive and interactive skills.

At HL the study of two literary works originally written in the target language is required and students are expected to extend the range and complexity of the language they use and understand in order to communicate. Students continue to develop their knowledge of vocabulary and grammar, as well as their conceptual understanding of how language works, in order to construct, analyse and evaluate arguments on a variety of topics relating to course content and the target language culture(s).

The following language acquisition aims are common to both language ab initio and language B.

- Develop international-mindedness through the study of languages, cultures, and ideas and issues of global significance.
- Enable students to communicate in the language they have studied in a range of contexts and for a variety of purposes.
- Encourage, through the study of texts and through social interaction, an awareness and appreciation of a variety of perspectives of people from diverse cultures.
- Develop students' understanding of the relationship between the languages and cultures with which they are familiar.

- Develop students' awareness of the importance of language in relation to other areas of knowledge.
- Provide students, through language learning and the process of inquiry, with opportunities for intellectual engagement and the development of critical- and creative-thinking skills.
- Provide students with a basis for further study, work and leisure through the use of an additional language.
- Foster curiosity, creativity and a lifelong enjoyment of language learning.

II. Curriculum model overview

The curriculum is organized around five prescribed themes with which the students engage through written, audio, visual and audio-visual texts.

Students develop into successful, effective communicators by considering the conceptual understandings of context, audience, purpose, meaning and variation.

Communication is evidenced through receptive, productive and interactive skills.

III. Assessment model

The language acquisition assessment objectives are common to both language ab initio and language B.

- Communicate clearly and effectively in a range of contexts and for a variety of purposes.
- Understand and use language appropriate to a range of interpersonal and/or intercultural contexts and audiences.
- Understand and use language to express and respond to a range of ideas with fluency and accuracy.
- Identify, organize and present ideas on a range of topics.
- Understand, analyse and reflect upon a range of written, audio, visual and audio-visual texts.

IV. Content outline

Theme	Guiding principle	Optional recommended topics		Possible questions
Identities	Explore the nature of the self and what it is to be human.	Lifestyles Health and well-being Beliefs and values	Subcultures Language and identity	What constitutes an identity? How do language and culture contribute to form our identity?
Experiences	Explore and tell the stories of the events, experiences and journeys that shape our lives.	Leisure activities Holidays and travel Life stories	Rites of passage Customs and traditions Migration	How does our past shape our present and our future? How and why do different cultures mark important moments in life?
Human ingenuity	Explore the ways in which human creativity and innovation affect our world.	Entertainment Artistic expressions Communication and media	Technology Scientific innovation	What can we learn about a culture through its artistic expression? How do the media change the way we relate to each other?
Social organization	Explore the ways in which groups of people organize themselves, or are organized, through common systems or interests.	Social relationships Community Social engagement	Education The working world Law and order	What is the individual's role in the community? What role do rules and regulations play in the formation of a society?
Sharing the planet	Explore the challenges and opportunities faced by individuals and communities in the modern world.	The environment Human rights Peace and conflict Equality	Globalization Ethics Urban and rural environment	What environmental and social issues present challenges to the world, and how can these challenges be overcome? What challenges and benefits does globalization bring?

Assessment at a glance

Language B HL assessment outline		Weighting
External 75%	Paper 1 (productive skills) One writing task from a choice of three Writing—30 marks	25%
	Paper 2 (receptive skills) Separate sections for listening and reading Listening—25 marks Reading—40 marks	25% 25%
Internal 25%	Individual oral assessment 30 marks	25%

The assessment outlines for language B SL and HL are identical; it is the nature of the assessment that differs and this is what distinguishes SL assessments from those of HL.

For language B HL paper 1, the tasks set will require more complex language and structures and demand higher-order thinking skills. Additionally for HL, a higher word range has been provided in order to accommodate the more complex responses required.

For the individual oral internal assessment, the stimulus at language B SL is a visual image that is clearly relevant to one (or more) of the themes of the course. The stimulus at language B HL is an excerpt from one of the two literary works studied.

GROUP 3

Business Management HL

The IB Diploma Programme (DP) is a rigorous, academically challenging and balanced programme of education designed to prepare students aged 16 to 19 for success at university and life beyond. The DP aims to encourage students to be knowledgeable, inquiring, caring and compassionate, and to develop intercultural understanding, open-mindedness and the attitudes necessary to respect and evaluate a range of viewpoints. Approaches to teaching and learning (ATL) within the DP are deliberate strategies, skills and attitudes that permeate the teaching and learning environment. In the DP students develop skills from five ATL categories: thinking, research, social, self-management and communication.

To ensure both breadth and depth of knowledge and understanding, students must choose at least one subject from five groups:

1. their best language,
2. additional language(s),
3. social sciences,
4. experimental sciences,
5. mathematics.

Students may choose either an arts subject from group 6, or a second subject from groups 1 to 5. At least three and not more than four subjects are taken at higher level (240 recommended teaching hours), while the remaining are taken at standard level (150 recommended teaching hours). In addition, three core elements—the extended essay, theory of knowledge and creativity, action, service—are compulsory and central to the philosophy of the programme.

These IB DP subject briefs illustrate four key course components.

- I. Course description and aims
- II. Curriculum model overview
- III. Assessment model
- IV. Sample questions

I. Course description and aims

The business management course is designed to develop students' knowledge and understanding of business management theories, as well as their ability to apply a range of tools and techniques. Students learn to analyse, discuss and evaluate business activities at local, national and international levels. The course covers a range of organizations from all sectors, as well as the sociocultural and economic contexts in which those organizations operate.

The course covers the key characteristics of business organization and environment, and the business functions of human resource management, finance and accounts, marketing and operations management. Through the exploration of six underpinning concepts (change, culture, ethics, globalization, innovation and strategy), the course allows students to develop a holistic understanding of today’s complex and dynamic business environment. The conceptual learning is firmly anchored in business management theories, tools and techniques and placed in the context of real world examples and case studies.

The course encourages the appreciation of ethical concerns, at both a local and global level. It aims to develop relevant and transferable skills, including the ability to: think critically; make ethically sound and well-informed decisions; appreciate the pace, nature and significance of change; think strategically; and undertake long term planning, analysis and evaluation. The course also develops subject-specific skills, such as financial analysis.

The aims of the business management course at HL and SL are to:

1. encourage a holistic view of the world of business
2. empower students to think critically and strategically about individual and organizational behaviour
3. promote the importance of exploring business issues from different cultural perspectives
4. enable the student to appreciate the nature and significance of change in a local, regional and global context
5. promote awareness of the importance of environmental, social and ethical factors in the actions of individuals and organizations
6. develop an understanding of the importance of innovation in a business environment.

II. Curriculum model overview

Component	Recommended teaching hours
Unit 1: Business organization and environment 1.1 Introduction to business management 1.2 Types of organizations 1.3 Organizational objectives 1.4 Stakeholders 1.5 External environment 1.6 Growth and evolution	40
Unit 2: Human resource management 2.1 Functions and evolution of human resource management 2.2 Organizational structure 2.3 Leadership and management	15

2.4 Motivation	
Unit 3: Finance and accounts	35
3.1 Sources of finance	
3.2 Costs and revenues	
3.3 Break-even analysis	
3.4 Final accounts (some HL only)	
3.5 Profitability and liquidity ratio analysis	
3.6 Cash flow	
3.7 Investment appraisal (some HL only)	
Unit 4: Marketing	35
4.1 The role of marketing	
4.2 Marketing planning (including introduction to the four Ps)	
4.3 Market research	
4.4 The four Ps (product, price, promotion, place)	
4.5 E-commerce	
Unit 5: Operations management	10
5.1 The role of operations management	
5.2 Production methods	
5.3 Location	
Internal assessment	15

III. Assessment model

By the end of the business management SL course, students are expected to reach the following assessment objectives.

1. Demonstrate knowledge and understanding of:
 - the business management tools, techniques and theories specified in the syllabus content
 - the six concepts that underpin the subject
 - real-world business problems, issues and decisions
2. Demonstrate application and analysis of:
 - knowledge and skills to a variety of real-world and fictional business situations
 - business decisions by explaining the issue(s) at stake, selecting and interpreting data, and applying appropriate tools, techniques, theories and concepts
3. Demonstrate synthesis and evaluation of:
 - business strategies and practices, showing evidence of critical thinking
 - business decisions, formulating recommendations
4. Demonstrate a variety of appropriate skills to:
 - produce well-structured written material using business terminology
 - select and use quantitative and qualitative business tools, techniques and methods
 - select and use business material, from a range of primary and secondary sources.

IV. Sample questions

- Apply the Boston Consulting Group (BCG) matrix to B-Pharma’s product portfolio.
- Examine possible strategies for Dan Electro to prevent cash flow difficulties.
- With reference to one organization that you have studied, examine what changes globalization brings about in the management of human resources

Assessment at glance

Type of assessment	Format of assessment	Time (hours)	Weighting of final grade (%)
External		3	75
Paper 1	Structured questions	1.25	35
Paper 2	Structured and extended response questions	1.75	40
Internal		15	25
Written commentary	Students produce a written commentary based on three to five supporting documents about a real issue or problem facing a particular organization. Maximum 1,500 words.	15	25

Turkey in the 20th century SL

Nature of the Subject

Turkey in the 20th Century, formerly known as Turkish Social Studies, is a school-based syllabus that was initially developed in 2000 by a team of teachers from various schools, as a multidisciplinary offering based on the requirements of the Turkish national curriculum for history, geography and sociology, and incorporating an international perspective. The purpose was to offer a means of including a nationally mandated requirement within the IB Diploma Programme for Turkish schools.

Turkey is located geographically at the junction of two continents, and culturally at the confluence of at least two great civilisations. This has influenced its history and culture as much as it has enabled it to influence her neighbours. The purpose of the subject is to explore this interchange of influences, using concepts and analytical frameworks from each of the separate disciplines required in the Turkish national curriculum. An international perspective is included to make students aware of the role that Turkey might play in the region, as well as of the perceptions of other societies about this country.

Group 3 aims

The aims of all subjects in group 3, Individuals and Societies are to:

1. encourage the systematic and critical study of: human experience and behaviour; physical, economic and social environments; the history and development of social and cultural institutions
2. develop in the student the capacity to identify, to analyse critically and to evaluate theories, concepts and arguments about the nature and activities of the individual and society
3. enable the student to collect, describe and analyse data used in studies of society, to test hypotheses and interpret complex data and source material
4. promote the appreciation of the way in which learning is relevant to both the culture in which the student lives, and the culture of other societies
5. develop an awareness in the student that human attitudes and opinions are widely diverse and that a study of society requires an appreciation of such diversity
6. enable the student to recognize that the content and methodologies of the subjects in group 3 are contestable and that their study requires the toleration of uncertainty.

Turkey in the 20th Century aims

The aims of **Turkey in the 20th Century** are to:

1. Develop skills and knowledge that respond to the developing needs of the 21st century.
2. Provide a basic knowledge of the disciplines of history, geography and sociology in order to understand the political, social and cultural structure of Turkey in the 20th century.
3. Recognize the political, economic and cultural impact of developments that occurred in Europe and the rest of the world on the history, geography and sociology of Turkey in the 20th century.
4. Develop an appreciation of historical, geographical and sociological inquiry from various perspectives.
5. Develop a deeper appreciation and sensitivity towards Turkish national culture and history through an understanding and respect for different cultures in Europe and the world.

Objectives

By the end of the course, the student should be able to:

1. Demonstrate a sound knowledge of the historical, sociological and geographical developments that have occurred in Turkey since the nineteenth century.
2. Demonstrate an understanding of the international political, social and cultural influences on Turkey since the nineteenth century and the role of Turkey in world affairs in the twentieth century.
3. Critically appraise sources of information and evidence from a range of different disciplinary perspectives.
4. Employ concepts, terms and techniques, and use language appropriate to social enquiry, to analyse and evaluate social processes and historical events and trends.

5. Present clear, relevant and well-substantiated arguments about, and interpretations of, Turkish society, culture and politics.

Syllabus outline There

are six topics

Topic 1: at the beginning of the 20th Century
Topic 2: The foundations of the Turkish Republic 1923-1945
Topic 3: The global changes between the world wars and their effects on Turkey 1918-1939
Topic 4: Turkey under pressure during World War II Topic 1: Turkey
Topic 5: Reconstruction, democracy and developments in the region 1945-1985
Topic 6: The effects of globalization and the dialogue with Europe 1985-2000

Total teaching hours: 150

Component	Weighting
External (2 hrs 30 mins) Exam 1 (1 hour) Four structured questions based on a topic in the syllabus (except unit 6). Topics change by year (24 points)	75% 30%
Exam 2 (1 hour 30 minutes) Essay type questions based on five topics in the syllabus. Candidates respond to two questions. (30 points)	45%
Internal This component is assessed internally by the teacher and is moderated externally by the IB at the end of the course. Research Project (25 points)	25%

Internal Assessment Details

Research Project

Duration: 20 hrs

Weight: 25%

Word limit: Maximum

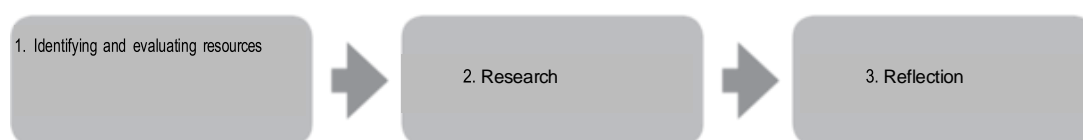
2.200 Perfect grade: 25

Assessment objectives: AO1, AO2, AO3, AO4

Students complete a research project in which they research a topic related to Turkey in the 20th Century. The subject can be expanded beyond the content and context in the curriculum and can cover countries other than Turkey which are taught in the course.

This component is evaluated internally by the teacher using the assessment criteria in this guide and moderated externally at the end of the course. Assessment objectives 1-4 apply to the research project. The research project consists of three sections:

Figure 3 Research Project



Students can choose an independent topic for their research project and are encouraged to use their own initiative. Students should choose their topic with the guidance and approval of their teachers. Teachers should approve the topic and the research question before starting. It is extremely important that there are sufficient resources to support the research and that the research can be assessed by internal evaluation criteria. Teachers should also ensure that students are aware of relevant ethical considerations when conducting research, such as sensitivity or respecting confidentiality.

This research project is an opportunity for students to demonstrate how they apply their skills and knowledge to their chosen topic. Here the emphasis should be on a specific inquiry which enables the student to develop and apply the skills learned in the lesson by selecting and analyzing a range of source materials and considering different perspectives. The activity requires students to seek, select, evaluate and use evidence to arrive at a conclusion that is consistent with the evidence and arguments presented.

GROUP 4

Physics HL

I. Course description and aims

Physics is the most fundamental of the experimental sciences, as it seeks to explain the universe itself, from the very smallest particles to the vast distances between galaxies. Despite the exciting and extraordinary development of ideas throughout the history of physics, observations remain essential to the very core of the subject. Models are developed to try to understand observations, and these themselves can become theories that attempt to explain the observations.

Besides helping us better understand the natural world, physics gives us the ability to alter our environments. This raises the issue of the impact of physics on society, the moral and ethical dilemmas, and the social, economic and environmental implications of the work of physicists.

By studying physics students should become aware of how scientists work and communicate with each other. While the scientific method may take on a wide variety of forms, it is the emphasis on a practical approach through experimental work that characterizes the subject. Teachers provide students with opportunities to develop manipulative skills, design investigations, collect data, analyse results and evaluate and communicate their findings.

Through the overarching theme of the nature of science, the aims of the DP physics course are to enable students to:

1. appreciate scientific study and creativity within a global context through stimulating and challenging opportunities
2. acquire a body of knowledge, methods and techniques that characterize science and technology
3. apply and use a body of knowledge, methods and techniques that characterize science and technology
4. develop an ability to analyse, evaluate and synthesize scientific information
5. develop a critical awareness of the need for, and the value of, effective collaboration and communication during scientific activities
6. develop experimental and investigative scientific skills including the use of current technologies
7. develop and apply 21st century communication skills in the study of science
8. become critically aware, as global citizens, of the ethical implications of using science and technology
9. develop an appreciation of the possibilities and limitations of science and technology
10. develop an understanding of the relationships between scientific disciplines and their influence on other areas of knowledge.

II. Curriculum model overview

Component	Physics HL
	Recommended teaching hours
Core	95
1. Measurements and uncertainties	5
2. Mechanics	22
3. Thermal physics	11
4. Waves	15
5. Electricity and magnetism	15
6. Circular motion and gravitation	5
7. Atomic, nuclear and particle physics	14
8. Energy production	8
Additional higher level	60
9. Wave phenomena	17
10. Fields	11
11. Electromagnetic induction	16
12. Quantum and nuclear physics	16
Option (Choice of one out of four)	25
A. Relativity	25
B. Engineering physics	25
C. Imaging	25
D. Astrophysics	25
Practical scheme of work	60
Prescribed and other practical activities	40
Individual investigation (internally assessed)	10
Group 4 project	10

The group 4 project

The group 4 project is a collaborative activity where students from different group 4 subjects, within or between schools, work together. It allows for concepts and perceptions from across disciplines to be shared while appreciating the environmental, social and ethical implications of science and technology. It can be practically or theoretically based and aims to develop an understanding of the relationships between scientific disciplines and their influence on other areas of knowledge. The emphasis is on interdisciplinary cooperation and the scientific processes.

III. Assessment model

It is the intention of this course that students are able to fulfill the following assessment objectives:

1. Demonstrate knowledge and understanding of:
 - i. facts, concepts, and terminology
 - ii. methodologies and techniques
 - iii. communicating scientific information.

2. Apply:
 - i. facts, concepts, and terminology
 - ii. methodologies and techniques
 - iii. methods of communicating scientific information.
3. Formulate, analyse and evaluate:
 - i. hypotheses, research questions and predictions
 - ii. methodologies and techniques
 - iii. primary and secondary data
 - iv. scientific explanations.
4. Demonstrate the appropriate research, experimental, and personal skills necessary to carry out insightful and ethical investigations.

Assessment at a glance

Type of assessment	Physics HL		
	Format of assessment	Time (hours)	Weighting of final grade (%)
External		4.5	80
Paper 1	40 multiple-choice questions	1	20
Paper 2	Short answer and extended response questions (Core and AHL)	2.25	36
Paper 3	Data- and practical-based questions plus, short answer and extended response questions on the option	1.25	24
Internal		10	20
Individual investigation	Investigation and write-up of 6 to 12 pages	10	20

Chemistry SL

I. Course description and aims

Chemistry is an experimental science that combines academic study with the acquisition of practical and investigational skills. Chemical principles underpin both the physical environment in which we live and all biological systems. Chemistry is often a prerequisite for many other courses in higher education, such as medicine, biological science and environmental science.

Both theory and practical work should be undertaken by all students as they complement one another naturally, both in school and in the wider scientific community. The DP chemistry course allows students to develop a wide range of practical skills and to increase facility in the use of mathematics. It also allows students to develop interpersonal and information technology skills, which are essential to life in the 21st century.

By studying chemistry students should become aware of how scientists work and communicate with each other. While the scientific method may take on a wide variety of forms, it is the emphasis on a practical approach through experimental work that characterizes the subject.

Teachers provide students with opportunities to develop manipulative skills, design investigations, collect data, analyse results and evaluate and communicate their findings.

Through the overarching theme of the nature of science, the aims of the DP chemistry course are to enable students to:

1. appreciate scientific study and creativity within a global context through stimulating and challenging opportunities
2. acquire a body of knowledge, methods and techniques that characterize science and technology
3. apply and use a body of knowledge, methods and techniques that characterize science and technology
4. develop an ability to analyse, evaluate and synthesize scientific information
5. develop a critical awareness of the need for, and the value of, effective collaboration and communication during scientific activities
6. develop experimental and investigative scientific skills including the use of current technologies
7. develop and apply 21st century communication skills in the study of science
8. become critically aware, as global citizens, of the ethical implications of using science and technology
9. develop an appreciation of the possibilities and limitations of science and technology
10. develop an understanding of the relationships between scientific disciplines and their influence on other areas of knowledge.

II. Curriculum model overview

	Chemistry SL
Component	Recommended teaching hours
Core	95
1. Stoichiometric relationships	13.5
2. Atomic structure	6
3. Periodicity	6
4. Chemical bonding and structure	13.5
5. Energetics/thermochemistry	9
6. Chemical kinetics	7
7. Equilibrium	4.5
8. Acids and bases	6.5
9. Redox processes	8
10. Organic chemistry	11
11. Measurement and data processing	10
Option (Choice of one out of four)	15
A. Materials	15
B. Biochemistry	15
C. Energy	15
D. Medicinal chemistry	15
Practical scheme of work	40
Prescribed and other practical activities	20
Individual investigation (internally assessed)	10
Group 4 project	10

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The group 4 project

The group 4 project is a collaborative activity where students from different group 4 subjects, within or between schools, work together. It allows for concepts and perceptions from across disciplines to be shared while appreciating the environmental, social and ethical implications of science and technology. It can be practically or theoretically based and aims to develop an understanding of the relationships between scientific disciplines and their influence on other areas of knowledge. The emphasis is on interdisciplinary cooperation and the scientific processes.

III. Assessment model

Studying this course, students should be able to fulfill the following assessment objectives:

- Demonstrate knowledge and understanding of:
 - facts, concepts, and terminology
 - methodologies and techniques

- communicating scientific information.
2. Apply:
 - facts, concepts, and terminology
 - methodologies and techniques
 - methods of communicating scientific information.
 3. Formulate, analyse and evaluate:
 - hypotheses, research questions and predictions
 - methodologies and techniques
 - primary and secondary data
 - scientific explanations.
 4. Demonstrate the appropriate research, experimental, and personal skills necessary to carry out insightful and ethical investigations.

Assessment at a glance

Type of assessment	Format of assessment	Chemistry SL	
		Time (hours)	Weighting of final grade (%)
External		3	80
Paper 1	30 multiple-choice questions	0.75	20
Paper 2	Short answer and extended response questions (Core)	1.25	40
Paper 3	Data- and practical-based questions plus, short answer and extended response questions on the option	1	20
Internal		10	20
Individual investigation	Investigation and write-up of 6 to 12 pages	10	20

Biology HL

I. Course description and aims

Biology is the study of life. The vast diversity of species makes biology both an endless source of fascination and a considerable challenge. Biologists attempt to understand the living world at all levels from the micro to the macro using many different approaches and techniques. Biology is still a young science and great progress is expected in the 21st century. This progress is important at a time of growing pressure on the human population and the environment.

By studying biology in the DP students should become aware of how scientists work and communicate with each other. While the scientific method may take on a wide variety of forms, it is the emphasis on a practical approach through experimental work that characterizes the sciences. Teachers provide students with opportunities to design investigations, collect data, develop manipulative skills, analyse results, collaborate with peers and evaluate and communicate their findings.

Through the overarching theme of the nature of science, the aims of the DP biology course are to enable students to:

1. appreciate scientific study and creativity within a global context through stimulating and challenging opportunities
2. acquire a body of knowledge, methods and techniques that characterize science and technology
3. apply and use a body of knowledge, methods and techniques that characterize science and technology
4. develop an ability to analyse, evaluate and synthesize scientific information
5. develop a critical awareness of the need for, and the value of, effective collaboration and communication during scientific activities
6. develop experimental and investigative scientific skills including the use of current technologies
7. develop and apply 21st century communication skills in the study of science
8. become critically aware, as global citizens, of the ethical implications of using science and technology
9. develop an appreciation of the possibilities and limitations of science and technology
10. develop an understanding of the relationships between scientific disciplines and their influence on other areas of knowledge.

II. Curriculum model overview

Component	Biology HL
	Recommended teaching hours
Core	95
1. Cell biology	15
2. Molecular biology	21
3. Genetics	15
4. Ecology	12
5. Evolution and biodiversity	12
6. Human physiology	20
Additional higher level	60
7. Nucleic acids	9
8. Metabolism, cell respiration and photosynthesis	14
9. Plant biology	13
10. Genetics and evolution	8
11. Animal physiology	16
Option (Choice of one out of four)	25
A. Neurobiology and behaviour	25
B. Biotechnology and bioinformatics	25
C. Ecology and conservation	25
D. Human physiology	25
Practical scheme of work	60
Prescribed and other practical activities	40
Individual investigation	10
Group 4 project	10

The group 4 project

The group 4 project is a collaborative activity where students from different group 4 subjects, within or between schools, work together. It allows for concepts and perceptions from across disciplines to be shared while appreciating the environmental, social and ethical implications of science and technology. It can be practically or theoretically based and aims to develop an understanding of the relationships between scientific disciplines and their influence on other areas. The emphasis is on interdisciplinary cooperation and the scientific processes.

III. Assessment model

It is the intention of this course that students are able to fulfill the following assessment objectives:

1. Demonstrate knowledge and understanding of:

- facts, concepts, and terminology
- methodologies and techniques
- communicating scientific information.

2. Apply:

- facts, concepts, and terminology
- methodologies and techniques
- methods of communicating scientific information.

3. Formulate, analyse and evaluate:

- hypotheses, research questions and predictions
- methodologies and techniques
- primary and secondary data
- scientific explanations.

4. Demonstrate the appropriate research, experimental, and personal skills necessary to carry out insightful and ethical investigations.

Assessment at a glance

Type of assessment	B ology HL		
	Format of assessment	Time (hours)	Weighting of final grade (%)
External		4.5	80
Paper 1	40 multiple-choice questions (Core and AHL)	1	20
Paper 2	Data-based, short answer and extended response questions	2.25	36
Paper 3	Data-based, short answer and extended response questions	1.25	24
Internal		10	20
Individual investigation	Investigation and write-up of 6 to 12 pages	10	20

Environmental System and Societies–SL

I.Course description and aims:

Environmental systems and societies (ESS) is an interdisciplinary course offered only at standard level (SL). This course can fulfill either the individuals and societies or the sciences requirement. Alternatively, this course enables students to satisfy the requirements of both subjects groups simultaneously while studying one course. ESS is firmly grounded in both a scientific exploration of

environmental systems in their structure and function, and in the exploration of cultural, economic, ethical, political and social interactions of societies with the environment. As a result of studying this course, students will become equipped with the ability to recognize and evaluate the impact of our complex system of societies on the natural world. The interdisciplinary nature of the DP course requires a broad skill set from students, including the ability to perform research and investigations, participation in philosophical discussion and problem-solving. The course requires a systems approach to environmental understanding and promotes holistic thinking about environmental issues. Teachers explicitly teach thinking and research skills such as comprehension, text analysis, knowledge transfer and use of primary sources. They encourage students to develop solutions at the personal, community and global levels.

The aims of the DP **environmental systems and societies** course are to enable students to:

- acquire the knowledge and understandings of environmental systems and issues at a variety of scales
- apply the knowledge, methodologies and skills to analyse environmental systems and issues at a variety of scales
- appreciate the dynamic interconnectedness between environmental systems and societies
- value the combination of personal, local and global perspectives in making informed decisions and taking responsible actions on environmental issues
- be critically aware that resources are finite, that these could be inequitably distributed and exploited, and that management of these inequities is the key to sustainability
- develop awareness of the diversity of environmental value systems
- develop critical awareness that environmental problems are caused and solved by decisions made by individuals and societies that are based on different areas of knowledge
- engage with the controversies that surround a variety of environmental issues
- create innovative solutions to environmental issues by engaging actively in local and global contexts.

II. Curriculum model overview

Component	Recommended teaching hours
Core content	120
1. Foundations of environmental systems and societies	16
2. Ecosystems and ecology	25
3. Biodiversity and conservation	13
4. Water and aquatic food production systems and societies	15
5. Soil systems and terrestrial food production systems and societies	12
6. Atmospheric systems and societies	10
7. Climate change and energy production	13
8. Human systems and resource use	16
Practical scheme of work	30
Practical activities	20
Individual investigation	10

The group 4 project

ESS students have the option to participate in the group 4 project. For those who participate, 10 hours of practical activities will be replaced with 10 hours of work on the group 4 project.

The group 4 project is a collaborative activity where students from different group 4 subjects, within or between schools, work together. It allows for concepts and perceptions from across disciplines to be shared while appreciating the environmental, social and ethical implications of science and technology. It can be practically or theoretically based and aims to develop an understanding of the relationships between scientific disciplines and their influence on other areas of knowledge. The emphasis is on interdisciplinary cooperation and the scientific processes.

III. Assessment model

There are four assessment objectives for the DP environmental systems and societies course. Having followed the course at SL, students will be expected to do the following.

Assessment objective 1

Demonstrate knowledge and understanding of relevant:

- facts and concepts
- methodologies and techniques
- values and attitudes.

Assessment objective 2

Apply this knowledge and understanding in the analysis of:

- explanations, concepts and theories
- data and models
- case studies in unfamiliar contexts
- arguments and value systems.

Assessment objective 3

Evaluate, justify and synthesize, as appropriate:

- explanations, theories and models
- arguments and proposed solutions
- methods of fieldwork and investigation
- cultural viewpoints and value systems.

Assessment objective 4

Engage with investigations of environmental and societal issues at the local and global level through:

- evaluating the political, economic and social contexts of issues
- selecting and applying the appropriate research and practical skills necessary to carry out investigations
- suggesting collaborative and innovative solutions that demonstrate awareness and respect for the cultural differences and value systems of others.

Assessment at a glance

Type of assessment	Format of assessment	Time (hours)	Weighting of final grade (%)
External		3	75
Paper 1	Case study	1	25
Paper 2	Short answers and structured essays	2	50
Internal			
Individual investigation	Written report of a research question designed and implemented by the student.	10	25

GROUP 5 – Math Analysis and Approaches SL-HL

I. Course description and aims

Individual students have different needs, aspirations, interests and abilities. For this reason there are two different DP subjects in mathematics, Mathematics: analysis and approaches and Mathematics: applications and interpretation. Each course is designed to meet the needs of a particular group of students. Both courses are offered at SL and HL.

The IB DP Mathematics: analysis and approaches course recognizes the need for analytical expertise in a world where innovation is increasingly dependent on a deep understanding of mathematics. The focus is on developing important mathematical concepts in a comprehensible, coherent and rigorous way, achieved by a carefully balanced approach. Students are encouraged to apply their mathematical knowledge to solve abstract problems as well as those set in a variety of meaningful contexts. Mathematics: analysis and approaches has a strong emphasis on the ability to construct, communicate and justify correct mathematical arguments. Students should expect to develop insight into mathematical form and structure, and should be intellectually equipped to appreciate the links between concepts in different topic areas. Students are also encouraged to develop the skills needed to continue their mathematical growth in other learning environments. The internally assessed exploration allows students to develop independence in mathematical learning. Throughout the course students are encouraged to take a considered approach to various mathematical activities and to explore different mathematical ideas.

The aims of all DP mathematics courses are to enable students to:

- develop a curiosity and enjoyment of mathematics, and appreciate its elegance and power
- develop an understanding of the concepts, principles, and nature of mathematics
- communicate mathematics clearly, concisely, and confidently in a variety of contexts
- develop logical and creative thinking, and patience and persistence in problem solving to instil confidence in using mathematics
- employ and refine their powers of abstraction and generalization
- take action to apply and transfer skills to alternative situations, to other areas of knowledge and to future developments in their local and global communities
- appreciate how developments in technology and mathematics influence each other
- appreciate the moral, social, and ethical questions arising from the work of mathematicians and the applications of mathematics
- appreciate the universality of mathematics and its multicultural, international and historical perspectives
- appreciate the contribution of mathematics to other disciplines, and as a particular “area of

knowledge” in the TOK course

- develop the ability to reflect critically upon their own work and the work of others
- independently and collaboratively extend their understanding of mathematics.

II. Curriculum model overview

Mathematics: analysis and approaches and Mathematics: applications and interpretation share 60 hours of common SL content.

Syllabus component	Recommended teaching hours	
	SL	HL
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Number and algebra • Functions • Geometry and trigonometry • Statistics and probability • Calculus 	19 21 25 27 28	39 32 51 33 55
Development of investigational, problem-solving and modelling skills and the exploration of an area of mathematics	30	30
Total teaching hours	150	240

III. Assessment model

Problem-solving is central to learning mathematics and involves the acquisition of mathematical skills and concepts in a wide range of situations, including non-routine, open-ended and real-world problems.

The assessment objectives are common to Mathematics: analysis and approaches and to Mathematics: applications and interpretation.

- **Knowledge and understanding:** Recall, select and use their knowledge of mathematical facts, concepts and techniques in a variety of familiar and unfamiliar contexts.
- **Problem solving:** Recall, select and use their knowledge of mathematical skills, results and models in both abstract and real-world contexts to solve problems.
- **Communication and interpretation:** Transform common realistic contexts into mathematics; comment on the context; sketch or draw mathematical diagrams, graphs or constructions both on paper and using technology; record methods, solutions and conclusions using standardized notation; use appropriate notation and terminology.
- **Technology:** Use technology accurately, appropriately and efficiently both to explore new ideas and to solve problems.
- **Reasoning:** Construct mathematical arguments through use of precise statements, logical deduction and inference and by the manipulation of mathematical expressions.
- **Inquiry approaches:** Investigate unfamiliar situations, both abstract and from the real world,

involving organizing and analyzing information, making conjectures, drawing conclusions, and testing their validity.

The exploration is an integral part of the course and its assessment, and is compulsory for both SL and HL students. It enables students to demonstrate the application of their skills and knowledge, and to pursue their personal interests, without the time limitations and other constraints that are associated with written examinations.

Assessment at a glance

Type of assessment	Format of assessment	Time (hours)		Weighting of final grade (%)	
		SL	HL	SL	HL
External					
Paper 1	No technology allowed. Section A: compulsory short-response questions based on the syllabus. Section B: compulsory extended-response questions based on the syllabus.	1.5	2	40	30
Paper 2	Technology allowed. Section A: compulsory short-response questions based on the syllabus. Section B: compulsory extended-response questions based on the syllabus.	1.5	2	40	30
Paper 3	Technology allowed. Two compulsory extended-response problem-solving questions.		1		20
Internal					
Exploration		15	15	20	20

GROUP 6 – Film

I. Course description and aims:

The DP film course aims to develop students as proficient interpreters and makers of film texts. Through the study and analysis of film texts, and practical exercises in film production, students develop critical abilities and appreciation of artistic, cultural, historical and global perspectives in film. They examine concepts, theories, practices and ideas from multiple perspectives, challenging their own views to understand and value those of others. Students are challenged to acquire and develop critical thinking, reflective analysis and the imaginative synthesis through practical engagement in the art, craft and study of film.

Students experiment with film and multimedia technology, acquiring the skills and creative competencies required to successfully communicate through the language of the medium. They develop an artistic voice and learn how to express personal perspectives through film. The course emphasizes the importance of working collaboratively, international and intercultural dynamics, and an appreciation of the development of film across time and culture.

The film syllabus allows for greater breadth and depth in teaching and learning at HL through an additional assessment task, requiring HL students to reflect on the core syllabus areas to formulate their own intentions for a completed film. They work collaboratively as a core production team in order to effectively communicate on screen.

The aims of the Film course are to enable students to:

- explore the various contexts of film and make links to, and between, films, filmmakers and filmmaking techniques (inquiry)
- acquire and apply skills as discerning interpreters of film and as creators of film, working both individually and collaboratively (action)
- develop evaluative and critical perspectives on their own film work and the work of others (reflection).

II. Curriculum model overview

Syllabus component	Teaching hours	
	SL	HL
Reading film Examine film as an art form, studying a broad range of film texts from a variety of cultural contexts and analysing how film elements combine to create meaning.	45	45
Contextualizing film Explore the evolution of film across time and culture. Examine various areas of film focus in order to recognize the similarities and differences that exist between films from contrasting cultural contexts .	45	45
Exploring film production roles Explore various film production roles through engagement with all phases of the filmmaking process. Acquire, develop and apply skills through filmmaking exercises, experiments and completed films.	60	60
HL only: Collaboratively producing film Focus on the collaborative aspects of filmmaking and experience working in core production teams to fulfill shared artistic intentions. Work in chosen film production roles and contribute to all phases of the filmmaking process to collaboratively create original completed films.		90
Total teaching hours	150	240

III. Assessment model

It is expected that by the end of the film course, students at HL will be able to demonstrate the following.

- Knowledge and understanding of specified contexts and processes
 - Identify the film elements associated with conveying meaning in a variety of film texts.
 - Formulate personal intentions for work, which arise from both research and artistic endeavour.
 - Identify informative moments and examples from their own filmmaking work to support analysis.
 - Present ideas, discoveries and learning that arise from both research and practical engagement with films, filmmakers and techniques.

2. Application and analysis of knowledge and understanding

- Analyse film from various cultural contexts and explain links between areas of film focus and film elements employed by filmmakers.
- Demonstrate knowledge and understanding of films, filmmakers and their various cultural contexts in order to influence, inform and impact the creation of film work.
- Explore and experiment with a variety of film-production roles in order to understand the associated skills, techniques and processes employed by filmmakers.

3. Synthesis and evaluation

- Critically interpret various sources of information in order to support analysis.
- Compare and contrast filmmakers, their films and their various cultural contexts in order to further the understanding of particular areas of film focus.
- Evaluate films created by themselves and others and articulate an informed personal response using appropriate cinematic language and vocabulary.
- Reflect on the process of collaboration and on the successes and challenges encountered as a member of a core production team.

4. Select, use and apply a variety of appropriate skills and techniques

- Make appropriate choices in the selection of words, images, sounds and techniques when assembling their own work for presentation.
- Experiment in a variety of film-production roles in order to produce film work that conveys meaning on screen.
- Collaborate effectively with others in the creation of film work.

Assessment at a glance

Type of assessment	Format of assessment	Weighting of final grade (%)	
		SL	HL
External		60	40
Textual analysis	Textual analysis (max 1,750 words) of a prescribed film text based on a chosen extract (max 5 mins), and list of sources.	30	20
Comparative study	Recorded multimedia comparative study (max 10 mins), and list of sources.	30	20
Internal		40	60
Film portfolio	Portfolio pages (max 9 pages: 3 pages per production role) and list of sources. A film reel (max 9 mins: 3 mins per production role, including 1 completed film).	40	25
Collaborative film project (HL only)	Completed film (max 7 mins). Project report (max 2,000 words) and list of sources.		35

CORE:

TOK

The Diploma Programme (DP) is a rigorous pre-university course of study designed for students in the 16 to 19 age range. It is a broad-based two-year course that aims to encourage students to be knowledgeable and inquiring, but also caring and compassionate. There is a strong emphasis on encouraging students to develop intercultural understanding, open-mindedness, and the attitudes necessary for them to respect and evaluate a range of points of view.

The course is presented as six academic areas enclosing a central core. Students study two modern languages (or a modern language and a classical language), a humanities or social science subject, an experimental science, mathematics and one of the creative arts. Instead of an arts subject, students can choose two subjects from another area. It is this comprehensive range of subjects that makes the Diploma Programme a demanding course of study designed to prepare students effectively for university entrance. In each of the academic areas students have flexibility in making their choices, which means they can choose subjects that particularly interest them and that they may wish to study further at university.

Normally, three subjects (and not more than four) are taken at higher level (HL), and the others are taken at standard level (SL). The IB recommends 240 teaching hours for HL subjects and 150 hours for SL. Subjects at HL are studied in greater depth and breadth than at SL. In addition, three core elements—the extended essay, theory of knowledge and creativity, activity, service—are compulsory and central to the philosophy of the programme.

I. Course description and aims

The theory of knowledge (TOK) course plays a special role in the DP by providing an opportunity for students to reflect on the nature, scope and limitations of knowledge and the process of knowing. In this way, the main focus of TOK is not on students acquiring new knowledge but on helping students to reflect on, and put into perspective, what they already know. TOK underpins and helps to unite the subjects that students encounter in the rest of their DP studies. It engages students in explicit reflection on how knowledge is arrived at in different disciplines and areas of knowledge, on what these areas have in common and the differences between them.

The aims of the TOK course are:

- to encourage students to reflect on the central question, “How do we know that?”, and to recognize the value of asking that question
- to expose students to ambiguity, uncertainty and questions with multiple plausible answers
- to equip students to effectively navigate and make sense of the world, and help prepare them to encounter novel and complex situations

- to encourage students to be more aware of their own perspectives and to reflect critically on their own beliefs and assumptions
- to engage students with multiple perspectives, foster open-mindedness and develop intercultural understanding
- to encourage students to make connections between academic disciplines by exploring underlying concepts and by identifying similarities and differences in the methods of inquiry used in different areas of knowledge
- to prompt students to consider the importance of values, responsibilities and ethical concerns relating to the production, acquisition, application and communication of knowledge.

II. Curriculum model overview

Course elements	Minimum teaching hours
<p>Core theme: Knowledge and the knower</p> <p>This theme provides an opportunity for students to reflect on themselves as knowers and thinkers, and on the different communities of knowers to which we belong.</p>	32
<p>Optional themes</p> <p>Students are required to study two optional themes from the following five options.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Knowledge and technology • Knowledge and language • Knowledge and politics • Knowledge and religion • Knowledge and indigenous societies 	
<p>Areas of knowledge</p> <p>Students are required to study the following five areas of knowledge.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • History • The human sciences • The natural sciences • The arts • Mathematics 	50

III. Assessment model

Students are required to complete two assessment tasks for TOK.

- Theory of knowledge exhibition
- Theory of knowledge essay on a prescribed title

Assessment objectives

Having completed the TOK course, students should be able to:

- demonstrate TOK thinking through the critical examination of knowledge questions

- identify and explore links between knowledge questions and the world around us
- identify and explore links between knowledge questions and areas of knowledge
- develop relevant, clear and coherent arguments
- use examples and evidence effectively to support a discussion
- demonstrate awareness and evaluation of different points of view
- consider the implications of arguments and conclusions

Assessment details

Type of assessment	Format of assessment	Hours	Weighting
External	Theory of knowledge essay	10	2/3 or 67%
Students are required to write an essay in response to one of the six prescribed titles that are issued by the IB for each examination session. As an external assessment component, it is marked by IB examiners.			
Internal	Theory of knowledge exhibition	8	1/3 or 33%
Students are required to create an exhibition of three objects with accompanying commentaries that explores how TOK manifests in the world around us. This component is internally assessed by the teacher and externally moderated by the IB at the end of the course.			

IV. Sample questions

Specimen essay titles

- How important are the opinions of experts in the search for knowledge? Answer with reference to the arts and one other area of knowledge.
- Is the division of the natural sciences and mathematics into separate areas of knowledge artificial?
- When historians and natural scientists say that they have explained something, are they using the word “explain” in the same way?
- Are there fewer ethical constraints on the pursuit of knowledge in the arts than in the human sciences?
- How do our expectations impact our interpretations? Discuss with reference to history and one other area of knowledge.
- To what extent do you agree with the claim that “knowledge is of no value unless you put it into practice” (Anton Chekhov)? Answer with reference to two areas of knowledge.

Sample exhibition prompts

- What counts as knowledge?
- On what grounds might we doubt a claim?
- Are some types of knowledge less open to interpretation than others?

- Is bias inevitable in the production of knowledge?
- Should some knowledge not be sought on ethical grounds?
- What role do experts play in influencing our consumption or acquisition of knowledge?
- How can we distinguish between knowledge, belief and opinion?

Extended Essay

A diploma candidate must complete and submit an extended essay, which is a substantial piece of independent research of up to 4,000 words. Work on the extended essay is expected to occupy approximately 40 hours. The work for an extended essay must be done under the direct supervision of an appropriate teacher at the IB World School that is registering the candidate for the examination session.

Nature of the extended essay

The extended essay is an in-depth study of a focused topic chosen from the list of approved Diploma Programme subjects—normally one of the student’s six chosen subjects for the IB diploma. It is intended to promote high-level research and writing skills, intellectual discovery and creativity. It provides students with an opportunity to engage in personal research in a topic of their own choice, under the guidance of a supervisor (a teacher in the school). This leads to a major piece of formally presented, structured writing, in which ideas and findings are communicated in a reasoned and coherent manner, appropriate to the subject chosen. It is recommended that completion of the written essay is followed by a short, concluding interview, or viva voce, with the supervisor.

The extended essay is assessed against common criteria, interpreted in ways appropriate to each subject.

The extended essay is:

- compulsory for all Diploma Programme students
- externally assessed and, in combination with the grade for theory of knowledge, contributes up to three points to the total score for the IB diploma
- a piece of independent research/investigation on a topic chosen by the student in cooperation with a supervisor in the school
- chosen from the list of approved Diploma Programme subjects, published in the *Handbook of procedures for the Diploma Programme*
- presented as a formal piece of scholarship containing no more than 4,000 words
- the result of approximately 40 hours of work by the student
- concluded with a short interview, or viva voce, with the supervising teacher (recommended).

In the Diploma Programme, the extended essay is the prime example of a piece of work where the student has the opportunity to show knowledge, understanding and enthusiasm about a topic of his or her choice. In those countries where it is the norm for interviews to be required prior to acceptance for employment or for a place at university, the extended essay has often proved to be a valuable stimulus for discussion.

Assessment objectives

In working on the extended essay, students are expected to:

1. plan and pursue a research project with intellectual initiative and insight
2. formulate a precise research question
3. gather and interpret material from sources appropriate to the research question
4. structure a reasoned argument in response to the research question on the basis of the material gathered
5. present their extended essay in a format appropriate to the subject, acknowledging sources in one of the established academic ways
6. use the terminology and language appropriate to the subject with skill and understanding
7. apply analytical and evaluative skills appropriate to the subject, with an understanding of the implications and the context of their research.

Note: “material” has different meanings in different subjects. It may be data or information; it may be arguments or evidence.

CAS (Creativity, Activity, Service)

A diploma candidate must engage in a programme of extra-curricular activities known as creativity, activity, service. Schools entering candidates for the diploma undertake to ensure that three to four hours each week are available to all candidates for CAS activities. A minimum of 150 hours during the two years of the Diploma Programme is required.

The nature of creativity, activity, service

*...if you believe in something, you must not just think
or talk or write, but must act.*

Peterson (2003)

Creativity, activity, service (CAS) is at the heart of the Diploma Programme. It is one of the three essential elements in every student’s Diploma Programme experience. It involves students in a range of activities alongside their academic studies throughout the Diploma Programme. The three strands of CAS, which are often interwoven with particular activities, are characterized as follows.

Creativity: Exploring and extending ideas leading to an original or interpretive product or performance.

Activity: physical exertion contributing to a healthy lifestyle.

Service: collaborative and reciprocal engagement with the community in response to an authentic need.

CAS enables students to enhance their personal and interpersonal development. A meaningful CAS programme is a journey of discovery of self and others. For many, CAS is profound and life - changing. Each individual student has a different starting point and different needs and goals. A CAS programme is, therefore, individualized according to student interests, skills, values and background.

Successful completion of CAS is a requirement for the award of the IB Diploma. While not formally assessed, students reflect on their CAS experiences and provide evidence in their CAS portfolios of achieving the seven learning outcomes

The CAS programme aims to develop students who:

- enjoy and find significance in a range of CAS experiences
- purposefully reflect upon their experiences
- identify goals, develop strategies and determine further actions for personal growth
- explore new possibilities, embrace new challenges and adapt to new roles
- actively participate in planned, sustained, and collaborative CAS projects
- understand they are members of local and global communities with responsibilities towards each other and the environment.

CAS Experience

A CAS experience is a specific event in which the student engages with one or more of the three CAS strands

Figure 1 - CAS experiences

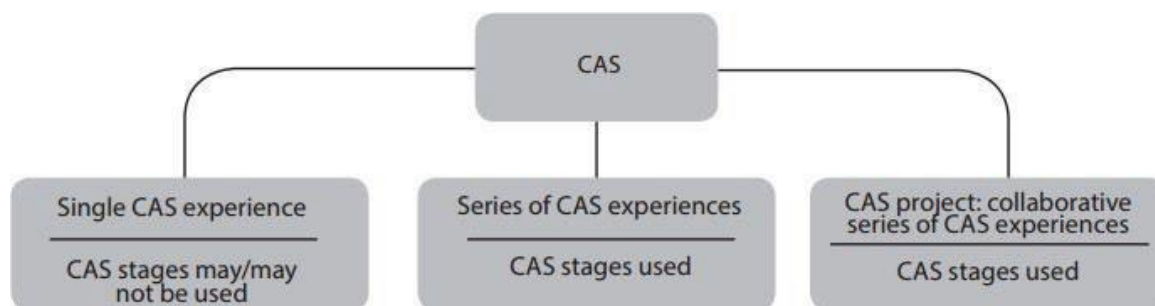


Typically, a student’s CAS programme combines planned/unplanned singular and ongoing experiences. All are valuable and may lead to personal development. However, a meaningful CAS programme must be more than unplanned/singular experiences. A series of planned CAS experiences are recommended for a more engaging CAS programme. CAS experiences may incorporate one or more of the CAS strands.

For example:

- Going for a mountain hike could be a singular experience within the “Activity” strand.
- A student plans a number of visits to a nursing home resulting in a series of CAS experiences within the “Service” strand.
- A group of students plan and stage a basketball tournament for the local community, resulting in a series of CAS experiences involving the strands of “Activity” and “Service”.

Figure 2 - CAS experiences and stages



Learning outcomes

LO 1	Identify own strengths and develop areas for growth
Descriptor	Students are able to see themselves as individuals with various abilities and skills, of which some are more developed than others.
LO 2	Demonstrate that challenges have been undertaken, developing new skills in the process
Descriptor	A new challenge may be an unfamiliar experience or an extension of an existing one. The newly acquired or developed skills may be shown through experiences that the student has not previously undertaken or through increased expertise in an established area.
LO 3	Demonstrate how to initiate and plan a CAS experience
Descriptor	Students can articulate the stages from conceiving an idea to executing a plan for a CAS experience or series of CAS experiences. This may be accomplished in collaboration with other participants. Students may show their knowledge and awareness by building on a previous experience, or by launching a new idea or process.
LO 4	Show commitment to and perseverance in CAS experiences
Descriptor	Students demonstrate regular involvement and active engagement in CAS.

LO 5	Demonstrate the skills and recognize the benefits of working collaboratively
Descriptor	Students are able to identify, demonstrate and critically discuss the benefits and challenges of collaboration gained through CAS experiences.
LO 6	Demonstrate engagement with issues of global significance
Descriptor	Students are able to identify and demonstrate their understanding of global issues, make responsible decisions, and take appropriate action in response to the issue either locally, nationally or internationally.
LO 7	Recognize and consider the ethics of choices and actions
Descriptor	Students show awareness of the consequences of choices and actions in planning and carrying out CAS experiences.

Responsibilities of the student

Key to a student's CAS programme is personal engagement, choice and enjoyment of CAS experiences. Throughout the Diploma Programme students undertake a variety of CAS experiences, ideally on a weekly basis, for a minimum of 18 months. They must also undertake at least one CAS project with a minimum duration of one month. Students reflect on CAS experiences at significant moments throughout CAS and maintain a CAS portfolio. Using evidence from their CAS portfolio, students will demonstrate achievement of the seven CAS learning outcomes to the CAS coordinator's satisfaction.

CAS students are expected to:

- approach CAS with a proactive attitude
- develop a clear understanding of CAS expectations and the purpose of CAS
- explore personal values, attitudes and attributes with reference to the IB learner profile and the

IB mission statement

- determine personal goals
- discuss plans for CAS experiences with the CAS coordinator and/or CAS adviser
- understand and apply the CAS stages where appropriate
- take part in a variety of experiences, some of which are self-initiated, and at least one CAS project
- become more aware of personal interests, skills and talents and observe how these evolve throughout the CAS programme
- maintain a CAS portfolio and keep records of CAS experiences including evidence of achievement of the seven CAS learning outcomes
- understand the reflection process and identify suitable opportunities to reflect on CAS experiences
- demonstrate accomplishments within their CAS programme
- communicate with the CAS coordinator/adviser and/or CAS supervisor in formal and informal

meetings

- ensure a suitable balance between creativity, activity and service in their CAS programme
- behave appropriately and ethically in their choices and behaviours.

Reflection:

Being reflective is one attribute of the IB learner profile: “We thoughtfully consider the world and our own ideas and experience. We work to understand our strengths and weaknesses in order to support our learning and personal development.” Reflection is central to building a deep and rich experience in CAS. Developing a culture of reflection helps students recognize and understand how to be reflective as well as deciding the best methods and appropriate timing. Student learning is enhanced by reflection on choices and actions. This enables students to grow in their ability to explore skills, strengths, limitations and areas for further development. Through reflection students examine ideas and consider how they might use prior learning in new contexts.

Reflection leads to improved problem-solving, higher cognitive processes and greater depth of understanding in addition to exploring how CAS experiences may influence future possibilities. The thinking skills category of the approaches to learning in the Diploma Programme highlights the need to explicitly teach students to reflect in different situations. For reflection in CAS to be meaningful, schools must plan how to engage students in reflection as a learned process. The development of reflective skills is best when explicitly taught across the curriculum, leading students to reflect independently as a valued process.

The overarching intention of reflection in CAS includes the opportunity for students to:

- deepen learning • consider relevance of experience
- explore personal and group values • recognize the application of knowledge, skills, and attributes
- identify strengths and areas for development
- gain a greater understanding of self and others
- place experience in a larger context
- generate relevant ideas and questions
- consider improvements in individual and collective choices and actions
- transfer prior learning to new situations
- generate and receive constructive feedback
- develop the ongoing habit of thoughtful, reflective practice

Forms of reflection

During CAS, the form of reflection must take into account student choice. When overly prescribed, students may perceive the act of reflection as a requirement to fulfill another’s expectations. Students

may then aim to complete “a reflection” quickly since the value is unrealized. By contrast, the student who understands the purpose and process of reflection would choose the appropriate moment, select the method and decide on the amount of time needed. With this greater sense of autonomy and responsibility, the student may be encouraged to be more honest, forthcoming and expressive, and develop insights including those related to the learning outcomes. The ultimate intention is for students to be independently reflective. Reflection can appear in countless forms. CAS students should be able to identify forms of expression that have personal meaning and best enable them to explore their experiences.

For example:

- A student might take photographs while hiking and use these to reflect in writing.
- Two students could compose a song describing how they helped children.
- A student might dramatize a poem to capture a feeling of creative endeavour.
- A student could produce a short video summarizing a CAS experience.
- A group of students create a poster highlighting aspects of a shared experience.

By encouraging students to choose forms of reflection that are personal and enjoyable, reflection becomes a means for self-discovery. Students make connections, develop awareness of choices and consequences, and acquire sensitivity to the experiences of self and others. Student reflection may be expressed through a paragraph, a dialogue, a poem, a comic strip, a dramatic performance, a letter, a photograph, a dance, or other forms of expression. Students find greater value and purpose when they apply their own interests, skills and talents when reflecting. They discover that reflection can be internal and private or external and shared. It is possible students may wish to keep private certain reflections. As such, it is recommended that students decide which reflections will be placed in their CAS portfolio. Students should include reflections in their CAS portfolio that give evidence to achieving each of the seven CAS learning outcomes.

Understanding reflection

One way to explain reflection is to clarify what reflection is and what it is not. A helpful way to initiate discussion of the reflective process is for students to collaborate with their peers and draw up their own comparison table. This chart shows examples of what students may list and discuss.

Reflection is:	Reflection is not:
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • honest • personal • done in many different ways • sometimes difficult • sometimes easy • sometimes creative • building self-awareness • necessary for learning • what I did, combined with how I felt • surprising • helpful for planning • done alone or with others • about thoughts, feelings, and ideas • adding perspective. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • forced • right or wrong • good or bad • marked or graded • difficult • copying what someone else said • predictable • to be judged by others • only a summary of what happened • done to please someone else • a waste of time • only written • only discussion • only led by teachers.

CAS Portfolio:

All CAS students are expected to maintain and complete a CAS portfolio as evidence of their engagement with CAS and achievement of the seven CAS learning outcomes. The CAS portfolio can also reveal how students have developed the attributes of the IB learner profile. The CAS portfolio is used by students to plan their CAS programme, reflect on their CAS experiences and gather evidence of involvement in CAS; it is not formally assessed. The CAS coordinator/adviser must ensure the students keep their CAS portfolio up-to-date and relevant as it is a summation of their CAS programme. It could also be a valuable addition to a student’s resume for a prospective employer or educational institution. During the three scheduled CAS interviews the CAS portfolio is discussed and appropriate encouragement and advice is given. Notes and recommendations from these consultations should be briefly documented and included in the student’s CAS portfolio. If any concerns arise, especially on whether a student will successfully complete CAS, these should be noted in the CAS portfolio and appropriate action taken at the earliest opportunity. The CAS coordinator/adviser checks the CAS portfolio regularly. The CAS portfolio is used to showcase the student’s CAS programme and should be a source of pride for the student. To highlight its significance, students could have the choice of how the CAS portfolio is assembled what they include and how it is shared. Individual student learning styles will dictate the type of portfolio that they use: digital, online, diary, journal, scrapbook or a blended approach. Students are encouraged to explore the different options available to them. While the IB does not require any particular format for the CAS portfolio, a three-part portfolio may appeal to students and CAS coordinators and could include the following sections: “Profile”, “Experiences”, and “Evidence”. Each section would be intended to assist students to better understand their engagement with CAS, reflect on their experiences, and provide evidence of their experiences.

Iborganization. “Course Selection Guidance.” International Baccalaureate®, <https://www.ibo.org/university-admission/support-students-transition-to-higher-education/course-selection-guidance/>.

VIOLATIONS OF ACADEMIC HONESTY (In Written Assignments, Exams, Projects, Experiments and Reports, Schoolwork)

- 1. Plagiarism:** This is generally defined as the representation, intentional or unintentional, of the ideas or work of another person as the candidate's own. It may be further categorised as follows:
- a. **Intentional plagiarism:** copying someone else's work, buying or borrowing papers, cutting and pasting blocks of text from electronic sources without documenting, media "borrowing" without documentation, publishing without permissions of creators, and failure of the student to use his/her own "voice"
 - b. **Unintentional plagiarism:** careless paraphrasing, poor documentation, quoting excessively.
- 2. Cheating:** Any attempt or action towards secretly using unauthorized resources for answering questions during the exam constitutes cheating.
3. Presenting or submitting the complete or a part of the same work, assignment or project completed previously or for another purpose in different courses without citing the source
 4. Providing a bibliography of sources which do not exist, or developing a fictitious set of data.
 5. Doing academic work on behalf of another student, and getting someone else to do their work.
 6. Action which seeks to gain an unfair advantage (obtaining a doctor's note although the student is not really ill, providing a false excuse in order to receive an extension or a make-up assignment, etc.)
 7. Issuing and using falsified documentation (reference letter, health report, qualification/points, transcript of records).
 8. Disrupting the work environment for another person.
 9. Disrupting, damaging or destroying someone else's work.
 11. Using online resources and social network tools inappropriately,
 12. Helping another person to commit any of the acts explained above, or planning such acts
 13. Not disclosing the identity of the person committing these acts
- * Any other behavior that gains an unfair advantage for a student or that affects the results of another student (for example, taking unauthorized material into an examination room, misconduct during an examination) and the rules to be followed during an exam are included in the **TAC Exam Regulations**.

Academic Committee

The main purpose of this committee is to promote academic honesty and ethical behavior in the school by using a constructive, positive and solution-oriented approach.

- The committee is made up of the school principal, a guidance counselor, a student representative, an assistant principal, an IT staff member and three subject teachers.
- The committee organizes trainings about academic honesty at the beginning of the year, and ensures student participation. These trainings are planned during the previous year.
- At the end of the training, the students are presented with certificates, as well as an Ethical Behavior Contract to sign.
- Newly enrolled students are their parents sign the Academic Honesty Contract.

Tools Used in the School

- **Turnitin online** system is used in the school to help prevent cases of academic dishonesty/plagiarism. Certain assignments and projects are assigned via Turnitin to promote a more conscientious use of resources by students. <http://turnitin.com.tr>
 - During the Turnitin check, assignments are compared with other assignments in the database, on the Internet, and other resources. All submitted assignments then become part of the "turnitin" database.
 - Students and parents agree that all submitted assignments will be added to the "turnitin" database in order to prevent plagiarism.
 - Our students are required to use their school addresses when signing up on the turnitin system.
- The school uses **NoodleTools** as a reference for correct citation of resources. Using this tool, students are able to develop bibliographies for their work in MLA, APA format in a fast and user-friendly manner. <http://www.noodletools.com>
- The citation format in use at Tarsus American College is MLA. For more information about this citation format: <http://owl.english.purdue.edu>.

RESPONSIBILITIES

Responsibilities of a Tarsus American College Student

- Internalize and implement the principles outlined in the AHP.
- Keep up-to-date with the school calendar and important dates, such as term project process and submission dates.
- In cases of a suspected violation of the AHP, be responsible for proving that all components of the work are genuine and represent their best effort
- Carefully implement correct referencing and citation methods
- Support the academic honesty process by maintaining an ethical approach.

Rights of a Tarsus American College Student

- To understand clear expectations through the "Academic Honesty Policy of Tarsus American College" and see examples of genuine work.

- To receive information about this policy at every grade level at the beginning of each academic year. At the start of the IB programme, to be subject to a detailed academic honesty training by the IB Coordinator and librarian.
- To be given a warning and subsequent guidance about a potential breach of the rules (citation, expression, etc.) by the subject teacher.
- To see the evidence of any alleged misconduct.
- To be informed by the subject teacher how the misconduct will be investigated and of the potential outcome of any such investigation. (For students in the IB programme, this process is followed up by advisors).
- To be provided with the “acceptable use of citation methods”.
- To be provided with training about the acceptable use of citation methods and the acceptable use of resources by the school librarian in the Prep year. Students in other grade levels are supported about accessing information and use of resources during the year.

Responsibilities of a Tarsus American College Teacher

- To make sure that the level of the work assigned is appropriate for the student and supports their academic development.
- To review the “Procedure for Written Exams” document to students before the exam and go over each item (Please see Appendix 11).
- Course teachers are the best people to know the authenticity of student work, therefore to judge whether the work submitted for assessment is the student’s genuine work.
- The teacher will not assess the student’s work if there is suspected plagiarism; the student then will be advised to revise or redo the assignment.
- To refer the student to the Academic Committee if they decide there is plagiarism.

Responsibilities of the School Librarian

- The school librarian is always ready to provide support and help in the correct form of research and the correct use of citation. (The school has subscriptions to databases that would provide rich resources for research.)
- To stress with the students that they should always act in honesty and integrity and to cite the ideas and work of others.

Responsibilities of a Tarsus American College Parent

- To support the principles of academic honesty according to the school's AHP.
- When assessing student's success, to take the efforts and development of the student during the learning process as a measure rather than the expectation of high grades
- To provide the necessary ethical environment for the student to complete the academic tasks they are assigned, never attempting to do the task on behalf of the student.
- To provide necessary warnings when witnessing any act of cheating by their student or others
- To be open to cooperation as a parent and encourages the institution and development of academic honesty.

CONSEQUENCES

- A student who violates the Academic Honesty rules and submits the work for assessment (project, homework assignment, term paper, etc.) receives the grade "0" for that work.
- A student who violates the AHP is referred to the Academic, along with relevant evidence and documentation, is reported to the appropriate Grade Level Dean, who in turn informs the Academic Committee. The student may be asked to redo the work, or referred to the Honors Committee or Discipline Committee.
- The official measures to be taken about the referral are at the discretion of the school administration.

ACADEMIC HONESTY FOR IB STUDENTS

The procedures described in detail above apply to IBDP students as well, however, these students are also subject to the IB Academic Honesty Procedures for their academic work.



TARSUS AMERICAN COLLEGE ACADEMIC HONESTY CONTRACT 2022-2023

Academic plagiarism (plagiarism) can be defined as using another person's ideas, words, images or data without proper citation of the source. Academic plagiarism, a violation of academic integrity, is tantamount to stealing and is never allowed.

Behaviors that will be considered academic plagiarism can be summarized as follows:

- Using statements, quotes or ideas which do not belong to the individual without reference or citation,
- Paraphrasing statements, quotes or ideas that do not belong to the individual, without reference or citation,
- Using a work or part of a work prepared for another course,
- Using all/part of an essay or a paper obtained from an institution as if it were one's own work, even when they are paid for.
- Submitting another person's work as one's own, even with permission from the original author to use it.

Teachers must rely on the integrity and authenticity of student work to maintain a successful learning environment. The plagiarism is reflected on the character, so unintentional plagiarism should be avoided at all times. It should also be remembered that academic plagiarism does not only apply to written works, but also to computer data, research, video programs, and audiovisual arts.

If you are unsure whether citing a source is necessary, you should consult with your teacher. The consequences for explicit plagiarism include losing all credit for the work as well as losing the chance to resubmit the work, which significantly reduces the grade point average for the course. In addition, academic plagiarism, which is considered a form of cheating, may result in disciplinary action according to TAC School Policy. Ways to avoid academic plagiarism are taught during Library Skills and Writing classes. This training also includes appropriate citation methods, the use of quotes, and the use of in-text citations.

I, _____ have understood the content of the Tarsus American College Academic Honesty Policy, and I promise to act as required by the policy.

Signature

Date:

I have read this agreement, understand and accept the consequences to be followed in case of academic plagiarism.

Parent

Name:

Date:

Signature:



TARSUS AMERICAN COLLEGE

FORM FOR REPORTING VIOLATION OF ACADEMIC HONESTY / 2022–2023

DATE: / /

STUDENT NAME : COURSE/CLASS:

TEACHER NAME :

WHETHER ANOTHER PROCEDURE IS REQUIRED:

YES

NO

SHORT DESCRIPTION OF THE VIOLATION:

CONSEQUENCE AGREED:

I declare and agree that this document fully and correctly expresses the violation of the "Academic Honesty Policy" and the consequence to be followed for this behavior.

STUDENT SIGNATURE :

TEACHER SIGNATURE :

This report must be signed in **three copies** by the teacher and the student. The student and the teacher keep a copy while the third copy is handed to the Academic Committee.