



**TARSUS  
AMERICAN  
COLLEGE**



# INTERNATIONAL BACCALAUREATE DIPLOMA PROGRAM



## IB DIPLOMA PROGRAM AT TAC

### IB Mission Statement

The IB develops inquiring, knowledgeable and caring young people who help to create a better and more peaceful world through education that builds 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.



IB Diploma Programme is a two-year pre-university program which aims to raise individuals who are communicators, thinkers, risk takers, principled, caring, open-minded, balanced, reflective, knowledgeable and lifelong learners.

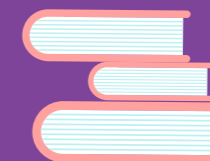
One of the aims of the IB program, is to shape to minds, values, actions and skills of young people, in a way that those assets serve them for their entire life. IB students are challenged academically, become more open minded, to be an independent thinker, to work independently throughout with their courses, Extended Essay, Theory of Knowledge studies and CAS projects.



At the end of the two-year program, students grow up to be openminded, independent thinkers who have maximized their academic capacity. These features become much more evident when the students start university. They are described as learners who are determined, disciplined, courageous, independent thinkers who are resilient.

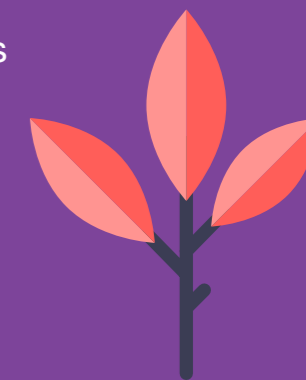


Diploma Program started at TAC in 2004. It has grown tremendously since its first year. In addition to the native language, foreign language, individuals and societies, social sciences, mathematics, art and electives, the International Baccalaureate Diploma Program students will also take “Theory of Knowledge (TOK), “Extended Essay (EE), Creativity, Activity, Service (CAS) which allow the students to earn a real life experience as well as what they experience in the classroom.



### Theory of Knowledge (TOK)

TOK is a two-hour-per-week compulsory course for IBDP students in grades 10 and 11. The purpose of TOK course is to create opportunities, tools and contexts for reflection on knowledge, both with regard to academic disciplines, the student’s daily life, and life in general. For this reason, it also requires thinking on the components that make up a healthy inquiry and principled action.



## EXTENDED ESSAY



At the end of this course, students are expected to:

- Develop the capability to evaluate the foundations of their own knowledge and judgment,
- Understand the importance and diversity of the context in the development of knowledge and judgments,
- Understand the responsibilities of being knowledgeable or living in an informed/ knowledgeable society.



The extended essay, which is a requirement for all students in the Diploma Program, is an academic study where the student chooses a topic in one of the courses they take and examines it in depth. Although the chosen course is one of the 6 diploma courses that the student is taking, it can also be from any other course that is an area of interest for the student. The chosen topic must be approved by the extended essay committee.

The essay develops the students' ability to conduct academic research and to write down their findings, as well as providing them with the opportunity to focus on a topic of his/ her own choosing under the guidance of an advisor from the school. This process results in an academic article in which the ideas and findings in the chosen topic are presented in an organized and coherent fashion.

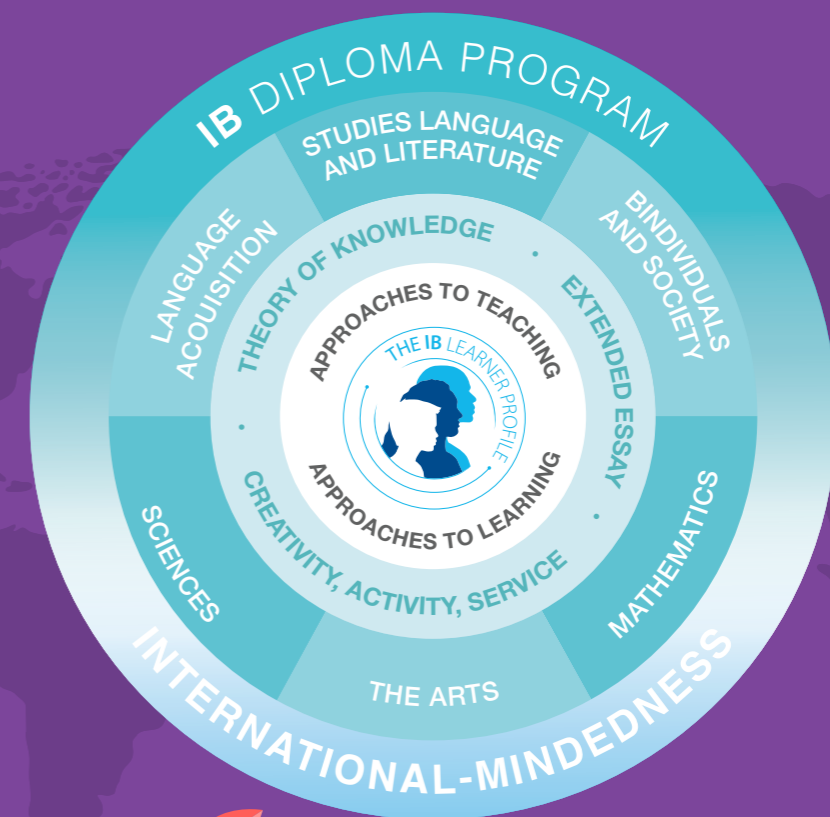
## CAS (Creativity, Activity, Service)



CAS refers to some of the experiences that students need to undertake during the Diploma Programme. These are creativity, activity, and community service experiences. The decision of whether the students complete the CAS program is based on their various studies and whether they have completed the seven learning objectives. As CAS forms the core of the Diploma Programme, students who do not meet CAS requirements, despite being a component which is not graded, lose the right to receive an IB diploma. CAS enables students to develop personally and interpersonally through their work.



As part of the IBDP, students take a total of six courses, each from one of the six academic groups as shown in the program model below. This requirement allows the students to develop comprehensive skills for better preparation for university. The three courses in these six academic groups are taken at High Level (HL) while the remaining three courses are taken at Standard Level (SL).



## Admissions Criteria for the IB Diploma Programme

### Admissions criteria for the IB Diploma Programme

- 1- The school may revise and update the IBDP admissions criteria, course packages and the number of places available in the IBDP each year.
- 2- The admissions criteria for the IBDP are:



On the 9th grade end-of-year report having a GPA of 80 and above for English, Turkish Language and Literature, Mathematics, Science and Social Sciences courses, with no courses being below 50 at the end of the year, having a GPA of 80 and above for English. The student must not have received a disciplinary penalty (reprimand or higher) for the academic year in which he/she will apply to the IBDP program. Students who start the academic year in the IBDP classes may not change the program before the end of the year. Those students who meet the criteria above will be listed according to their GPAs. The admission of the students into the program will be based on the places available.



## 2022 – 2023 / 2023 – 2024 Academic Year Estimated Course List

### 10 TM November

		Level
<b>A</b>	1. Turkish A Literature	(HL)
	2. English B	(HL)
	3. Turkey in the Twentieth Century	(SL)
	4. Environmental Systems and Societies	(SL)
	5. Mathematics	(SL)
	6. Bussiness	(HL)
<b>B</b>	1. Turkish A Literature	(HL)
	2. English B	(HL)
	3. Turkey in the Twentieth Century	(SL)
	4. Environmental Systems and Societies	(SL)
	5. Mathematics	(SL)
	6. Film	(HL)



### 10 FM November

<b>A</b>	1. Turkish A Literature	(SL)
	2. English B	(HL)
	3. Environmental Systems and Societies	(SL)
	4. Physics	(HL)
	5. Mathematics	(HL)
	6. Chemistry	(SL)
	Biology (YKS)*	
<b>B</b>	1. Turkish A Literature	(SL)
	2. English B	(HL)
	3. Environmental Systems and Societies	(SL)
	4. Biology	(HL)
	5. Mathematics	(HL)
	6. Chemistry	(SL)
	Physics (YKS)*	



\*3. The science course is offered as a MEB lesson.

Note: The teaching of the MEB curriculum is integrated into the content of all IBDP courses.

## 2023 – 2024 Academic Year Estimated Course List

### 11 TM November

Düzey

<b>A</b>	1. Turkish A Literature	(HL)
	2. English B	(HL)
	3. Turkey in the Twentieth Century	(SL)
	4. Environmental Systems and Societies	(SL)
	5. Mathematics	(SL)
	6. Bussiness	(HL)

<b>B</b>	1. Turkish A Literature	(HL)
	2. English B	(HL)
	3. Turkey in the Twentieth Century	(SL)
	4. Environmental Systems and Societies	(SL)
	5. Mathematics	(SL)
	6. Film	(HL)

### 11 FM November

<b>A</b>	1. Turkish A Literature	(SL)
	2. English B	(HL)
	3. Environmental Systems and Societies	(SL)
	4. Physics	(HL)
	5. Mathematics	(HL)
	6. Chemistry	(SL)

Biology (YKS)\*

<b>B</b>	1. Turkish A Literature	(SL)
	2. English B	(HL)
	3. Environmental Systems and Societies	(SL)
	4. Biology	(HL)
	5. Mathematics	(HL)
	6. Chemistry	(SL)

Physics (YKS)\*

\*3. The science course is offered as a MEB lesson.

Note: The teaching of the MEB curriculum is integrated into all IBDP courses.

(May session will be terminated in 2022-2023 academic year.)

# Frequently Asked Questions



## Who should apply for Program?

Students who

- are motivated to be challenged academically
- are good at in time-management
- are already studying their lessons systematically
- are diligent in doing their homework on time
- are strict about academic honesty and always careful about malpractice instructions.



## What are the benefits of the Program?

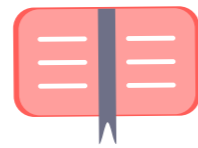
- earning an International Diploma
- being a part of motivated and focused student group
- being exposed to international content and grow in an international-minded academic medium
- learning how to manage time effectively
- learning critical thinking with the rich academic content,
- learning the content in depth and learning how to make analysis with the guidance of theory of knowledge,
- developing research skills
- rigorous university preparation
- prestigious college admissions and scholarships for successful graduates



# Frequently Asked Questions

## Will students be responsible for the Turkish (MEB) curriculum to earn MEB Diploma?

Students are supposed to take school exams administered through the regulations of Ministry of Education. Students must take Religion, History, Turkish Revolution,, Philosophy courses in addition to the IB offered courses and must follow the national university entrance program planned by the Tarsus American College.



## Does the program prepare students for university?

Students enrolled in the DP develop soft skills which enables a smooth transition from high to higher academic studies. Specifically, these skills include; research and essay writing, speaking, critical thinking, data analysis, time management and reflection.

The diploma program has world wide recognition so that it is acknowledged by the college counsellors of the universities located in Europe and USA, Canada, Far East. Universities in the US may give course credits.



## What are the advantages of the Diploma Program in foreign and national universities? Why did the school decide to switch to the transition to the DP November session?

November Exam Session provides sufficient amount of time to better prepare for national examination system. The November session which officially begins at the beginning of Grade 10 term 2, gives extended period of time for academic preparation and

# Frequently Asked Questions

two summer breaks to finalize their internal assessments. Early take of exams enables students to prepare for YKS in grade 12 in almost 9 months. They will find more time to dedicate to their overseas university preparation in the second semester of their Grade 11 year. Retaking the IB exams in May may also be a strategy.

## I have a low-level English language proficiency. Will my language skills improve if I join the program?

It is not recommended for students with a low level of English proficiency to participate in the program as the majority of coursework is taught in English and the program curriculum is the equivalent of the first year of university.



## I am very concerned about my grades and my GPA. Is the program the correct fit for me?

The workload and responsibilities of students who take two the programs (MEB and IB DP) are quite high. This may result initially in lower grades and GPAs as students adjust to a new curricular program, style of teaching and learning, and finally a different approach to assessment. These factors may lead to loss of motivation in some students whose sole focus is their GPA. Therefore the program is not recommended for students and parents who cannot focus on the learning the program provides rather than only the GPA.



# Frequently Asked Questions

## What is the structure of the assessment components in DP?

The Diploma Program assessment philosophy differs from the one in the national system. Program assessments consist of a variety of tasks, including examination papers, written assignments such as essays, oral interviews, scientific and mathematical investigations, fieldwork projects and artistic performances, which are completed by IB students at various stages during the program.



## How can I get more information about the Program?

Prospective parents can contact with our Program Coordinator by appointment. Also [www.ibo.org](http://www.ibo.org) web site has all the necessary information



## The Program strongly encourages students to take on their own academic responsibility. Is this correct?

Yes, students must oversee their academic obligations and responsibilities for the courses and the program. The DP is designed so that students take full responsibility for their academic organization and university planning. The Program is a rigorous two-year academic program in which students must be well organized, proactive in their planning, and clearly communicate with their course instructors.



# Frequently Asked Questions

## Can I switch back to the national program?

The decision to start and continue with the program is an important decision that must be made carefully. Students can leave the program only at the end of the first academic year.



## In order to be enrolled in the program, the additional fee for the program needs to be paid during the registration period. If I want to drop out of the program later, can I get a refund?

The additional fee for the program will not be refunded.



## Is IB only for students who want to pursue science or engineering?

No, the Diploma Program is an option for any student who is academically motivated and proactive, organized, and committed to putting the required effort.

The program allows students to explore their strengths and challenges. IB courses are suitable for students who would like to pursue their interest in the arts or humanities as well as business, science and engineering. For example; a student who wants to study visual arts at university, is offered IB “visual arts” subject from group 6.



# Frequently Asked Questions

## How much homework do IB students have?

Students are expected to spend approximately 1 hour per day for academic work and revision.



## Can anyone teach an IB class?

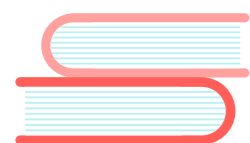
No, all Program teachers must first be trained and certified at designated Program workshops. As part of the authorization process schools must meet certain professional development requirements. All DP subject teachers, TOK teachers, CAS Coordinators, and the DP Coordinators must have attended as a minimum, IB category 1 workshops, in their subject area. The IBO expects professional development to be an ongoing process with all faculty attending in-person or on-line workshops to continually develop their approaches to teaching and learning.

## How are the IB course books purchased?

When the students are registered for the, in the SEVYAY book order screen, IB specific list will appear.

## What is the TAC world average and overall results in IB World Exams?

The world average IB diploma score is 33 whereas our school average is 36 for May 2022 Exams.



# Frequently Asked Questions

## What is the Highest Diploma Score for this year?

45 is the top score that our students have achieved so far.

## Are students with disciplinary penalty admitted to the program?

The student should not have any disciplinary penalty (reprimand or higher) during the academic year in which he/she is planning to apply to IBDP.

## What are the plans for the number of IB teachers and adjusting the conditions in case of high demand?

Planning the academic conditions in the school environment is at the discretion of the school and necessary preparations are being undertaken.

## Are there ways/paths other than the IBDP for international university applications?

Yes, there are. You can receive detailed information from our International Universities Counselor.



**Funda Kaçan**  
IBDP Coordinator  
IB Diploma Koordinatörü

fkarasmanoglu@tac.k12.tr  
0324 241 8148

**Ahmet Coşkun**  
IBDP Vice Principle  
IBDP Müdür Yardımcısı

acoskun@tac.k12.tr  
0324 241 82 23

**Sercan Kırık**  
Intl.Univ.Counselor&CareerAdvisor  
Uluslararası Üniversiteler Danışmanı

skirik@tac.k12.tr  
0324 241 81 75

## Tarsus American College

Caminur Mh. Cengiz Topel Cd. No: 44 33440 Tarsus  
T: +90 (324) 241 81 81 F: +90 (324) 241 81 04  
www.tac.k12.tr

CEEB Code: 696600  
IB School Code: 2205