

Ridgeway High School



International Baccalaureate Diploma Programme

Curriculum Guide

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Table of Contents

The International Baccalaureate Diploma Programme	4
IB Diploma Requirements	5
IB Career Programme Requirements	6
IB Diploma/Career Programme Courses	7
IB Diploma/Career Programme Course Progression	8

The International Baccalaureate (IB) Diploma Programme

The Diploma Programme provides a rigorous, challenging, internationally focused, broad and balanced educational experience for students. Students are required to study six subjects and a curriculum core concurrently over two years. The programme is designed to equip students with the basic academic skills needed for: university study, further education and their chosen profession as well as developing the values and life skills needed to live a fulfilled and purposeful life. The driving force behind the Diploma Programme is a philosophy about the nature of education, which is expressed in the IB mission statement.

IB Mission Statement

The International Baccalaureate aims to develop inquiring, knowledgeable and caring young people who help create a better or 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 is the embodiment of the IB mission statement in 10 attributes and aims to define the type of learner the IB aspires to develop in its programme.

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 support their learning and personal development.

IB Diploma Programme Requirements

International Baccalaureate is the Optional School focus for Ridgeway High School. Entrance requirements if IB Diploma include meeting the 60th percentile in ELA or Math on recent state testing and maintaining a 2.5 GPA.

Core Courses

Diploma Candidates study 6 subjects two years from the following groups:

Group 1: Language A

Group 2: Language B

Group 3: Individuals and Societies

Group 4: Experimental Sciences

Group 5: Mathematics

Group 6: The Arts

* Candidates must select: **3 subjects to study at higher level (HL) 3 subjects to study at standard level (SL)** During the two-year programme, **candidates are assessed both internally and externally in each subject.**

The Extended Essay (EE)

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 the university level.

Theory of Knowledge (TOK)

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.

Creativity, Activity, & Service (CAS)

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

***Instead of selecting a course from Group 6, students may elect to study another subject from Group 3 or Group 4.**

To earn an IB Diploma a Candidate must:

- Successfully complete the internal and external requirements of 3 HL courses and 3 SL courses
- Successfully complete the Extended Essay, TOK requirements, and CAS requirements
- Earn a minimum of 24 points out of the 45 total possible points - each subject is graded on a 1-7 scale and 3 points can be earned for the Extended Essay and TOK combined (points are awarded after completion of the IB exams)

IB Career Programme Requirements

International Baccalaureate is the Optional School focus for Ridgeway High School. Entrance requirements for IB Career include meeting the 50th percentile in ELA or Math on recent state testing and maintaining a 2.5 GPA.

Core Courses

Diploma Candidates study 6 subjects two years from the following groups:

Group 1: Language A

*Group 2: Language B

Group 3: Individuals and Societies

Group 4: Experimental Sciences

Group 5: Mathematics

Group 6: The Arts

*** Candidates must select at least 2 IB courses (one HL course and Spanish initio AB) related to their career focus, 50 hours of service learning, 2 years of a professional skill class and complete a reflective project**

Personal and Professional Skills Class

Personal and professional skills is designed for students to develop attitudes, skills and strategies to be applied to personal and professional situations and contexts now and in the future.

In this course the emphasis is on skills development for the workplace, as these are transferable and can be applied in a range of situations.

50 Hours of Service Learning

Service learning is the development and application of knowledge and skills towards meeting an identified and authentic community need.

In this research-based approach, students often undertake service initiatives related to topics studied previously in their academic disciplines, utilizing skills, understandings and values developed in these studies.

Reflective Project

The reflective project is an in-depth body of work produced over an extended period of time and submitted towards the end of the CP. Through a reflective project students identify, analyse, critically discuss and evaluate an ethical issue arising from their career-related studies.

The reflective project is intended to promote high-level research, writing and extended communication skills, intellectual discovery and creativity.

***As part of the Language Acquisition of the CP, students MUST take Spanish AB (SL)**

To earn an IB Career Program Certificate a Candidate must:

- Successfully complete the internal and external requirements of 2 DP course (one at HL level)
- Successfully complete the 2 year Personal and Professional Skills class, 50 hours of service learning, and Reflective Project totaling at least 3,000 words
- Earn a minimum of 24 points out of the 45 total possible points - each subject is graded on a 1-7 scale and 3 points can be earned for the Extended Essay and TOK combined (points are awarded after completion of the IB exams)
- Earn a minimum of one Level 1 Industry Certification and one Level 2 or 3 Industry Certification.

IB Diploma/Career Programme Courses

The following are the DP courses that will be offered under the 6 subject areas at RHS. Most courses are studied for 2 years. Each candidate should also begin deciding which 3 courses they will complete at the higher level (HL) and which 3 courses they will complete at the standard level (SL). Candidates should make an informed decision and get input from their parents/guardians, counselor, and teachers. They should select a balanced course load and incorporate subjects in which they have already found success while also selecting courses that will challenge them and expose them to new topics and learning experiences. Once the candidates' final selections are made, a schedule will be created. Furthermore, due to potential course conflicts, schedule/course changes will be difficult later, so candidates should spend a considerable amount of time selecting the appropriate courses.

Group 1 (Language and Literature)	Group 2 (Language Acquisition)	Group 3 (Individuals and Society)	Group 4 (Experimental Science)	Group 5 (Mathematics)	Group 6 (The Arts)****
IB Language A (HL)-2 years	IB Language Initio Ab (SL)-1 year	IB History of the Americas (HL)*-2 years	IB Biology (HL)-2 years	IB Math Applications and Interpretations (SL)**-1 year	IB Music-Band (HL)-2 years
IB Language and Literature (SL)-1 year		IB Economics (HL)-2 years	IB Chemistry (SL)-1 year	IB Math Application and Interpretations (HL)***-2 years	IB Music-Choir (HL)-2 years
		IB Global Politics (SL)-1 year	IB Computer Science (HL)-2 years		IB Visual Arts (HL)-2 years
		IB Business Management (HL)-2 years	IB Design Technology (HL)-2 years		IB Theater (HL)-2 years

*History of the Americas (HL) substitutes for US History, US Government, and Economic Graduation Requirements.

**To be taken Senior Year if no Algebra I in Middle School.

***To be taken Junior and Senior Year if Algebra I taken and passed in middle school.

****Group 6 can be replaced by taking History of the Americas HL and either Economics (HL) or Business Management (HL)

IB Diploma/Career Programme Progression

This is the recommended progression of classes for the RHS IB diploma programme.

	Group 1	Group 2	Group 3	Group 4	Group 5	Group 6 The Arts/CCTE Elective	Other Graduation Requirements
9 th Grade	Pre-AP English 9	Spanish I Honors	AP World History	Pre-AP Biology	Pre-AP Algebra I	Honors Level Art/1 st Level CCTE Elective	Lifetime Wellness
10 th Grade	Pre-AP English 10	Spanish II Honors	AP African American Studies	Pre-AP Chemistry	Pre-AP Geometry	Honors Level Art/1 st Level CCTE Elective	Computer Science
11 th grade	IB Language (HL)/AP Seminar	IB Spanish Initio Ab (SL)	IB History of the Americas (HL)/IB Economics (HL)/IB Global Politics (SL)/IB Business Management (HL)	IB Biology (HL)/Chemistry (SL)/IB Computer Science (HL)/IB Sports, Exercise, and Health (SL)	Pre-AP Algebra II/IB Math (HL)	IB Music-Band or Choir (HL)/IB Visual Arts (HL)/IB Theater (HL)/Personal and Professional Skills Class (CP only)	PE w/TOK I
12 th Grade	IB Language (HL)/IB Language and Literature (SL)	Economics w/Elective	IB History of the Americas (HL)/IB Economics (HL)/IB Global Politics /IB Business Management (HL)	IB Biology (HL)/Chemistry (SL)/IB Computer Science (HL)/IB Sports, Exercise, and Health (SL)	IB Math (HL)/IB Math (SL)	IB Music-Band or Choir (HL)/IB Visual Arts (HL)/IB Theater (HL)/Personal and Professional Skills Class (CP only)	Personal Finance w/TOK II