



IB Acronyms and Vocabulary

Academic Honesty Policy - All IB students sign a declaration of authenticity in which they commit to act with integrity and honesty in any aspect of their scholarship.

Additional Subject (extra): A course and its assessments beyond the six required for earning the IB Diploma. It will not count for the Diploma.

Anticipated Student: An 11th grade student who is completing the requirements for the IB Diploma.

Bilingual Diploma: May be earned when a student completes two Group 1(Language and Literature) courses and their assessments.

The Core: The heart and center of IB curriculum. It includes: IB Learner Profile, Approaches to Teaching and Learning, CAS, the Extended Essay, and the Theory of Knowledge. Together, they serve to connect the subject area (Groups) content and more fully shape a student into a globally aware, tolerant, thoughtful and socially and personally responsible citizen.

Course Student: An 11th or 12th grade student who is not working toward the IB Diploma, but is taking an IB course and therefore is taking an IB exam.

Creativity, Activity, and Service (CAS): A core requirement for the IB Diploma. Student learning and experiences outside of the classroom. 18 month commitment to exploring areas in creativity, activity and service. Seven areas of growth are documented through goal setting and reflection.

Diploma Candidate: An 11th grade student who is completing the requirements for the IB Diploma.

DP: International Baccalaureate Diploma Programme, a two-year comprehensive programme, designed for ages 16 – 19 and grades 11 and 12.

Extended Essay (EE): A core requirement for the IB Diploma. The EE is a 4,000-word research paper written by a Diploma Candidate. Students choose their own topics and are supervised by a faculty advisor.

External Assessments (EA): A component of a class, such as a specific, prescribed essay (English Lit HL) or May IB examinations, that is not graded by the W-LHS teacher, but rather is sent to an IB examiner for assessment.

Group Subjects: IB full Diploma candidates are required to take classes in six subject areas: 3 higher level and 3 standard level:

Group 1: Literature and Language

Group 2: Language Acquisition

Group 3: Individuals and Societies

Group 4: Experimental sciences

Group 5: Mathematics

Group 6: The Arts or an IB Elective

Higher Level (HL): A course of study with increased depth and breadth of subject in comparison to a Standard Level (SL) course. All HL courses are two-year courses with exams the senior year. These courses must include 240+ hours of instruction.

IB: The International Baccalaureate Organization. It administers IB Programs worldwide. The main administrative offices are in Cardiff, Wales.

Internal Assessments (IA): These are IB required assessments and vary depending on the subject. The IA could be an oral exam, a project, an essay, an experiment, etc. that are scored by the teacher using IB criterion. IB externally moderates a randomly selected sample of these assessments to ensure that the teacher is scoring appropriately.

Managebac: An information system and platform used to collect student assessments. At W-LHS, we predominantly use Managebac for CAS and the EE.

Marks: IB assessments are converted from a point range into seven marks, with 1 being the lowest and 7 the highest. A mark of 4 is passing. The highest overall marks that a Diploma Candidate can earn for all of their assessments is 45 (7 marks times 6 course assessments = 42, plus 3 possible marks for EE and ToK combined). Students must earn a minimum of 24 to earn the Diploma.

Paper 1, Paper 2, Paper 3. Externally moderated assessments administered in May. Commonly referred to as examinations. A course may have 2-3 papers which combine with the Internal Assessment to render the final score for the course. These papers are sent to external IB examiners throughout the world. Examiners use an assessment Mark Scheme as a guide in standardizing their scoring.

Predicted Grade: A best guess as to how a student will perform on the IB assessments, based upon the 1-7 Mark range. In April, teachers of IB students are required to submit both Predicted Grades and IA grades to IB. These marks are not made public to the student.

Standard Level (SL): Still a rigorous, university level course, but might not go as deep into a subject or cover as many topics as an HL course. SL courses may be one or two-year courses. These courses must include 150+ hours of instruction.

Theory of Knowledge (ToK): A curriculum dealing with how we as humans come to know and understand our world. It examines knowledge questions, ways of knowing (such as sense perception, rational thought, emotions, etc.) and areas of knowing (the disciplines). The student's grade for ToK combines with the Extended Essay to provide up to 3 points toward the IB diploma.