

# Rockwall HS International Baccalaureate Programme





# IB Diploma Framework

IB is a course of study in which you will become an active, compassionate, and lifelong learner who understands that other people, with their differences, can also be right.



# IB Learner Profile







## IB Myths

**RUMOR** IB students have six hours of homework ~~every~~  
**TRUTH** about two hours • some assignment flexibility

**RUMOR** IB students don't have time to have a life!  
**TRUTH** IB students are active and involved  
• athletics • music • jobs • clubs • leadership

**RUMOR** All IB students are gifted or super genius  
**TRUTH** capable students work ethic • time management

## English Literature

This is a two-year course which will provide students with skills for literary criticism and analysis, and the ability to clearly express an argument in writing and speaking.

## History of the Americas

This is a two-year course based on a multiperspective approach to history. Students will study political, economic, social & cultural history.

## Physics, Biology, or Environmental Systems & Societies

These are one or two-year course options which will help students understand the natural world, and give them the ability to alter their environments.

## Mathematics Applications & Interpretation **OR** Analysis & Approaches

This is a two-year course in which students will explore the practical side of mathematical models by describing the real world and solving problems using mathematics.

## French or Spanish

This is a two-year course which will allow students to acquire an additional language, and to promote an understanding of other cultures through the study of language. Honors 3 is equivalent to IB Year 1.

## Visual Arts, Music, Film, Social & Cultural Anthropology, or Philosophy

These courses allow students to pursue their varied interests and encourage students to challenge their own creative and cultural expectations and boundaries.

## Theory of Knowledge

Students explore the nature of knowledge and connections between areas of shared knowledge and personal knowledge in such a way that students become more aware of their own perspectives.

## Extended Essay

Offers the opportunity for students to investigate a topic of special interest in the form of a 4000-word piece of independent research.

## Creativity-Activity-Service

Helps students maintain balance and develop their own identities in accordance with the ethical principles embodied in the IB mission statement.



# World Class Education

- Internationally recognized diploma will transfer to universities in other countries.
- An IB Diploma guarantees ~~at least~~ 24 credit hours at state universities (Senate bill 111).
- Cost of the IB Diploma is approximately \$800 over the two years of the program (compare with a year of full-time university tuition – national average \$10,423 for in-state residents at public colleges).
- Guarantees multi-disciplinary endorsement, and may supplement other endorsements, as well.





# IB Courses

- You may select **IB Courses** instead of the full diploma program
- Most colleges/universities offer credit hours per course, similar to AP.
- You can diversify with IB, AP, and specialized courses at RHS and at GBCCA
- IB Exams are distributed over the duration of the course, and on multiple days in the Spring
- Talk to current IB Scholars!



## What Next?

**For maximum success in the IB Programme we recommend:**

- Some AP/Honors/SAGE classes through 10<sup>th</sup> grades
- Completed Algebra II by end of sophomore year
- Completed Spanish I & II or French I & II by end of sophomore year



## How is IB different from other programs

- IB encourages students **think critically** and **challenge assumptions**
- IB students take **responsibility for their own learning** and understand how **knowledge itself is constructed**
- IB students are part of cohort of **like-minded students** and adults who support both academic learning and **social-emotional learning**
- IB students are part of the larger campus community, and form **lasting friendships** within their cohort



## Why IB?

### IB is not for everyone, but it is manageable:

- Diploma or Courses options allow flexibility
- Students are prepared for college, not dismayed or daunted by college level expectations
- Our IB Grads say that IB prepared them for life after high school with writing skills, notetaking, time & project management, communication, collaboration, and discipline



# Questions?

Please contact your counselor or  
RHS IB Coordinator

[Michelle.Ghormley@rockwallisd.org](mailto:Michelle.Ghormley@rockwallisd.org)

Stop by the IB Office  
Lower Library in IB Connect

