

# IB ASSESSMENTS CLASS of 2018

## **YEAR ONE NOVEMBER**

1. Group 4 Project

## **DECEMBER**

1. English HL/SL IOP

## **APRIL/MAY**

1. Biology HL/SL IA
2. Physics HL/SL IA
3. TOK Presentation
4. English HL/SL WA

## **YEAR TWO**

### **SEPTEMBER**

1. Math Studies SL IA

### **OCTOBER**

1. Music HL/SL MLI
2. Math HL IA

### **NOVEMBER**

1. Economics HL/SL IA
2. Psychology HL/SL IA
3. Math SL IA

### **DECEMBER**

1. History HL/SL IA
2. English HL/SL IOC
3. Chemistry HL/SL IA

### **JANUARY**

1. French HL/SL WA
2. German HL/SL WA
3. Business HL/SL IA
4. Visual Arts HL/SL CS

### **FEBRUARY**

1. TOK Essay
2. French HL/SL IOC
3. German HL/SL IOC
4. Spanish HL/SL IOC

### **MARCH**

1. Design Tech HL/SL IA
2. Music HL/SL IA
3. Visual Arts Show (IA)

### **MAY**

1. May Exams

## **UNDERSTANDING THE DP**

Welcome to the IB Diploma Program (DP) here at the Academy. Our purpose is to keep you informed regarding the expectations of the students in the DP. This document focuses on the required assessments, scoring, and diploma candidacy. First, you'll need to understand some of the acronyms and language used. Here is a list of some of the more common terms.



**IA - Internal Assessment** - Every course has at least one assessment that is completed and scored prior to May of Year Two. The structure of the IA can range from a research project to a presentation.

**EA - External Assessment** - EA's are any assessments not graded by Academy teachers. The majority of the EA's completed are seated exams in May of Year Two, but also include other assessments completed prior to May.

**WA - Written Assignment** - Literature & Language Acquisition courses require all students to complete a WA. The WA is assessed externally by IB examiners all over the world. The process takes several weeks to complete and is done in class.

**EE - Extended Essay** - All diploma candidates are required to submit a 4,000 original work. The EE is not part of any course here at STEM. While some time is provided during the day, the majority of this assignment is completed independently outside of school. In order to earn an IB diploma, students must earn a passing grade on their EE. This is an EA, which is graded by external IB examiners.

**CAS - Creativity, Activity, Service** - The CAS Program is at the heart of the Diploma Program, encouraging students to grow beyond the classroom by focusing on seven learning outcomes. Students complete CAS independently, but have guidance from the school over an 18 month period. CAS is assessed as pass or fail.

**Papers 1, 2, 3** - The seated exams in May of Year Two are referred to as papers. These papers include anywhere from multiple choice questions to essays. Every course except Visual Arts and Theory of Knowledge has at least one paper at the end of the course. Many classroom assessments are modeled after these papers.

**A NOTE ABOUT THE ASSESSMENT CALENDAR:** *The list of assessments (left) is a reflection of the submission of the final draft of the assessments. All assessments completed prior to May of the second year are benchmarked into key steps over an extended period of time.*

# THE SCORING OF IB COURSES

All IB courses from the six subject groups are graded on a 7 point scale. The number of points awarded for a course are determined by performance on all the IB assessments for that course. For example, IB Biology HL has one IA and three EA's. Each of the four assessments counts for a percentage of the points earned for the course. Once the total points are determined, a course grade of up to 7 is awarded based on the scale. Each course weighs its assessments differently.

Each of the six courses taken counts for up to 7 points, totaling 42 possible points. Three additional bonus points can be earned through EE and TOK, which are scored on a more traditional A to E scale. A diploma candidate must accumulate 24 of the 45 possible points and meet the additional criteria listed below to earn their diploma.

It is important to note that school based assessments such as teacher designed quizzes and exams are not included in scoring by the IB Assessment Office. Only IB Assessments are used when awarding grades. Pathway courses are not part of the DP. It should also be noted that the criteria for earning an IB Diploma is independent of the criteria needed to earn a DASD Diploma.



**The six groups can be seen on the outside of the IB circle with the IB Core represented by the center.**

## EARNING AN IB DIPLOMA

About 85% of each graduating class at the Academy chooses to pursue the IB Diploma. Eligibility for the IB Diploma (which is independent of a DASD Diploma) is as follows:

1. Successful completion of CAS.
2. Earning a passing grade for the EE and Theory of Knowledge Course.
3. Successful completion of ALL assessments, both internal and external.
4. Earning a total of 24 or more points with the following criteria:
  - A. Earning 12 or more points from the 3 HL courses.  
*\*For students with 4 HL courses, the highest 3 HL course grades will be used.*
  - B. Earning 9 or more points from the 3 SL courses.  
*\*For students with 4 HL courses, students must earn at least 6 points from the 2 SL courses.*
  - C. Earning no more than 3 course grades of 3.
  - D. Earning no more than 2 course grades of 2.
  - E. Earning no more than 3 course grades of 3 or less.
  - F. Earning no course grades of 1 or "No Grade".
5. No penalty of academic misconduct is given by the awards committee.

## DIPLOMA VS. NON-DIPLOMA STATUS

Students may choose not to pursue the full IB Diploma, changing their status to Non-Diploma, or Course candidacy. Course candidates are still expected to complete a course from each of the six groups shown on the IB Circle (see above), but are not required to complete the core requirements of EE and the second year of TOK. Course candidates are expected to complete all IB assessments for their six courses including all May exams. In addition, CAS requirements are reduced, but must be met to receive a DASD diploma. The changing of candidacy status must be approved by administration and parents.

***All Diploma Program criteria are set externally by the IB Assessment Office in Cardiff, Wales and not by the Downingtown Area School District.***