

Educating for a better world



What is the IB?

The aim of all International Baccalaureate (IB) programs is to develop internationally-minded people who, recognizing their common humanity and shared guardianship of the planet, help to create a better and more peaceful world¹. John Adams is one of 4,781 schools worldwide that provides students with the opportunity to achieve an International Baccalaureate diploma or certificate.²

IB students strive to be:

- inquirers
- knowledgeable
- thinkers
- communicators
- principled
- open-minded
- caring
- risk-takers (courageous)
- balanced
- reflective

¹ IB Organization. "Learner profile for IB students." *International Baccalaureate*®, www.ibo.org/benefits/learner-profile/. Accessed 6 Sept. 2017.

² IB Organization. "Facts and figures." *International Baccalaureate*®, www.ibo.org/about-the-ib/facts-and-figures/. Accessed 27 Aug. 2017.

What are the benefits of an IB diploma?

As a demanding, college-prep liberal arts curriculum emphasizing inquiry, critical thinking and writing skills, the IB Diploma Program provides an opportunity for students to follow their academic passions and develop their own course of study, resulting in a student who is uniquely prepared for university life and the world beyond.

Additionally, due to its global nature, the Diploma Program trains students to be immersed in the cultures and concerns of other nations and people and to become better able to see the relationships, similarities, and differences among the world's cultures and systems.

How do I get into the IB program at John Adams?

Most students who take IB classes at John Adams come in through the IB magnet. There is an application process that begins in November of the student's 8th grade year. The deadline for application is December 15. Acceptance letters are mailed in January.



Two students collaborate in their IB Spanish ab initio class. The IB focuses on cross-cultural connections and requires all students working toward the full IB Diploma to take another language.

Students accepted into the IB magnet submit a letter of intent and sign up for honors, honors advanced, and AP courses for 9th and 10th grade at Adams. These courses prepare the student for the rigor of the IB program.

Any student who meets the prerequisites for an IB course when they register for classes may take the IB class regardless of magnet status.

Can I schedule a visit?

Prospective students are encouraged to register online during our prospective student visit window, usually October through February. The dates fill up quickly, so keep an eye on the website for openings. Unfortunately, due to high-stakes standardized testing mandated by the State, we can only offer those dates. All requests are on a first-come, first-served basis.

What are the prerequisites for taking IB classes?

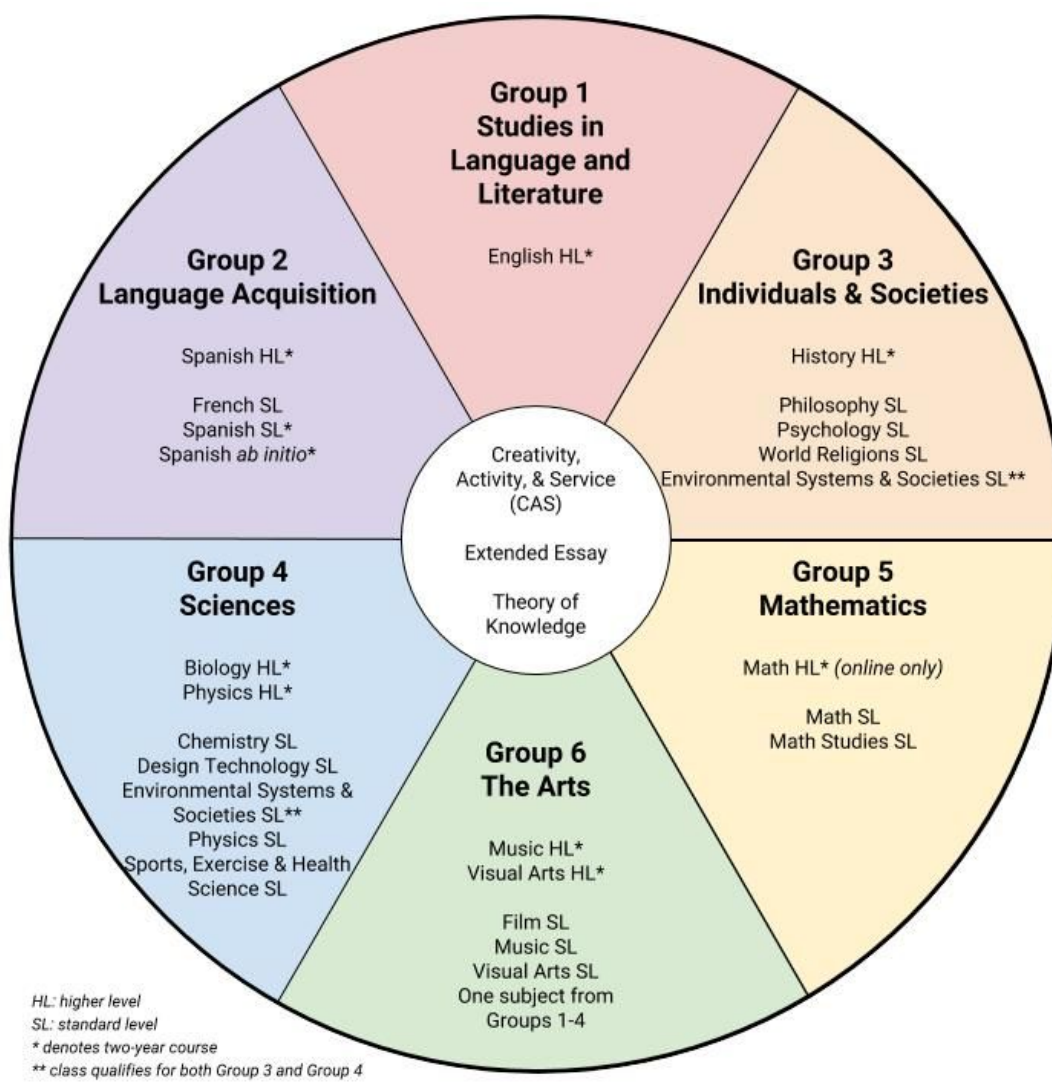
Each IB class has its own set of prerequisites. Generally speaking, if you have maintained a C or higher in all honors and AP classes, you will probably be ready for the rigor of the program.

What IB classes do I take?

In the 11th and 12th grade, students may take a variety of IB classes across a range of subjects. We encourage students to choose the classes that most interest you, that you are passionate about, or that will best help you get ahead in your career.

Students seeking to earn a full IB diploma, must take at least one class from each of the subject groups —3 Higher Level (HL) and 3 Standard Level (SL)—, earn 24 points on their exams (12 from HL classes), and complete the core. Students may choose to take 4 HL classes, but must score 16 points.

Students seeking to earn an IB Course certificate may take as many IB classes as they like and earn a 4-7 on the exams. These students do not need to complete the core, and there are no HL/SL restrictions other than the prerequisites for the class. A student may choose to do CTE+IB Course certificates for Technical Honors.



What is the core?

The core consists of:

- **Creativity, Activity, and Service (CAS):** 18 continuous months of personal betterment, which includes learning new skills, caring for others, and finding balance. Many students achieve their CAS by participating in team sports and extracurricular activities here at John Adams, and volunteering in the community. Students must also complete a collaborative CAS Project of at least one-month duration in which they have a lead role.
- **Extended Essay (EE):** a 4,000-word research paper written over the course of a year about a topic of your choosing. This independent investigation prepares you for college-level research and writing.
- **Theory of Knowledge (TOK):** a one-year class taken in the spring of junior year and the fall of senior year. In this course we tie together all of our classes, discussing the nature of knowledge and encouraging an appreciation of other cultural perspectives



Following a class discussion about refugees, students organized a fundraising event to support a local refugee resettlement organization. The IB encourages global thinking and active global citizenship.

All parts of the core carry equal weight. Failure to complete any part of the core will result in the loss of the IB Diploma.

What are some different ways to get the IB Diploma?³

The majority of students have a natural academic preference, and these can usually be classified as an interest in one of the liberal arts, sciences, languages, or arts.

1. **Humanities students** have a strong interest in the social sciences and an enjoyment in written argument and debate.
2. **Science students** have an enjoyment of experimental research and quantitative analysis, and have good numeracy skills.
3. **Language students** are bi- or tri-lingual, with access to two language programs, and wanting to improve a third language.
4. **Liberal Arts students** enjoy the creative process, have some artistic flair, and will be able to generate independent workbooks/projects.

These preferences mean the majority of students choose one of four different diploma concentrations. When we add some subjects, we often have individual programs that look like this:

³ *International Baccalaureate Diploma Handbook Class of 2017. International Baccalaureate Diploma Handbook Class of 2017, IPS, Paris, France, 2016. p.13*

	Humanities	Science	Languages	Liberal Arts
Group 1	English HL	English HL	English HL	English HL
Group 2	Language B HL	Language B SL	Spanish HL	Language B HL/SL
Group 3	History HL	Humanity HL/SL	Humanity HL/SL	Humanity HL/SL
Group 4	Science SL	Biology HL	Science SL	Science HL/SL
Group 5	Math A&I or A&A	Math A&I HL/SL	Math A&I or A&A	Math A&I or A&A
Group 6	Philosophy SL	Physics HL/SL	French SL	Visual Arts HL

Notes *This can lead to law, journalism, business, politics, diplomacy, government.* *The sciences concentration can lead to medical school or other scientific disciplines, like engineering.* *Like the liberal arts concentration, this can lead to law, journalism, business, diplomacy, government, media. Language skills are highly transferable.* *The single arts subject in Group 6 provides access to specialist art schools, but will also support courses in media, design, or architecture.*

What does a magnet schedule look like?

Students seeking the full IB Diploma need to get certain prerequisite classes out of the way. Almost all IB Diploma and many IB Course candidates qualify for the Indiana Academic Honors Diploma. Additionally, IB Course candidates who participate in Career & Technical Education (CTE) classes may also qualify for the Indiana Technical Honors Diploma. This is an example of a student schedule. Please see your school counselor for more information and other recommendations that fit your academic passions.

9th grade	10th grade	11th grade	12th grade
English 9 Adv	English 10 Adv	IB English HL	
Spanish II	Spanish III	IB Spanish HL	
AP World History	Government/ Economics	IB History HL	
Biology 1 Honors	Chemistry 1 Honors	Physics SL	World Religions SL
Geometry Honors	Algebra II Honors Adv	Pre-Calculus Honors Adv	IB Math SL
Intro to 2D & 3D Art	Photography	Photography II	Film SL or Visual Arts SL
Physical Education	Health (fall) Foods (spring)	Spanish VI (fall) TOK (spring)	TOK (fall) Community Service (spring)



A student performs an experiment as part of his IB Physics internal assessment. Each IB course has a different kind of assessment that seeks to prove that students not only know the content but can apply it.

What are the exams like?

Throughout each IB course, students work on the assessments for the end of the class. Most course assessments have 3 or 4 components, including oral presentations, research papers, creative works, and exams. While many components are due earlier, the exams are only offered in late April and May in the year the course is studied.

With a couple of exceptions, all exams are short answer or essay. Each exam is submitted to the IB for marking on a scale of 1-7. Passing scores are 4-7.

In order to receive the IB certificate for the course, you need to receive a 4-7 in the class. In order to receive an IB Diploma, you must score a total of 24 points from all six classes. Additionally, twelve of those points must come from your three HL classes (or 16 points from four HL classes).

What is the difference between IB and AP courses?

Both IB and AP courses are college-prep classes through which students can earn college credit, depending on the policies of the individual university a student attends.

IB courses emphasize critical thinking, writing, and problem-solving skills while AP courses place more emphasis on learning specific information.

The IB provides a well-rounded curriculum, requiring advanced work across a range of subjects. In contrast, the AP is often a course-by-course program, with students selecting individual subjects in which to pursue advanced work.

The IB is an internationally recognized curriculum that allows students to attend IB schools in other countries if they participate in a high school foreign exchange program. The IB also facilitates application to international universities.

How much homework do IB students have?

While we recognize that best practice is 10 minutes of homework per grade level (thus 11th grade students would have 110 minutes of homework), the IB courses require more work than other non-IB courses. As a result of the demands of the program, IB students at John Adams develop effective time-management skills while still participating fully in sports and other extracurricular activities.

Can I have a job, participate in clubs, play sports, and do IB?

In short, yes. Like with anything else, you will need to find a balance. If you are closing up shop or coming home from practice every night to several hours of homework, something is going to have to give, and we don't want that to be your health.

That being said, we encourage you to try new things and find creative and physical outlets to offset the academic rigor of the IB coursework.

We have award-winning Mock Trial and Science Olympiad teams, in addition to numerous other academic and athletic groups that meet throughout the year. In fact, IB Diploma students often meet their CAS requirements by taking leadership roles in one or more of our many clubs and organizations.

Many of our students participate in a sport or two (or three), and a few even work up to 20 hours a week to save money for college. You will need to find a balance between academics and work or athletics. It's all about balance.

What support is available for IB students?

All students at John Adams have access to Study Tables in the Library hosted by several teachers daily before and after school on different subjects. Additional tutoring is available, and can include students, university students, and teachers who are willing to help.

Furthermore, many IB classes offer study hall periods throughout the week. See the specific subject teacher for more details.

Because IB classes can be stressful, we also have an IB Student Advisory Group, which, in conjunction with our Department of School

Counseling and our Social Worker Mr. Geissler, acts as a support network for students.

What would lead a student to choose IB Course over IB Diploma track?

The full IB Diploma course-load is demanding and specific. Historically, we have had students who begin their studies seeking the full IB Diploma who have chosen to change to IB Certificate status for a variety of reasons, including:

- class scheduling conflicts;
- familial obligations;
- work-related reasons;
- change of focus; and
- health concerns.

When a student chooses to drop the full IB Diploma, there is a conference with the Guidance Department and the IB Coordinator before changes are made to the student's schedule.



Parents, students, and faculty tour the IB Visual Arts Showcase, which is one component of the IB Visual Arts assessment. Through IB art, students explore themes and media across cultures all while producing many works of their own.

What percentage of students seeking the IB Diploma at John Adams receive the IB Diploma?

It is important to remember that the rigor of the work the students complete to earn an IB Diploma or Course certificate is astounding. We are proud of all of our students who take IB classes and attempt the assessments. We believe that there should be a sense of accomplishment and pride for all students who take on the challenge of IB classes, and we celebrate their personal successes, even if they do not achieve the IB Diploma or certificate.

	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018
Total Candidates	62	66	76	129	157	149	179	188	185	223	206
Diploma Candidates	10	17	9	13	16	11	27	31	35	37	37
Diplomas Received	7 (70%)	13 (76%)	3 (33%)	6 (46%)*	9 (56%)*	3 (27%)*	21 (78%)	23 (74%)*	27 (77%)	22 (60%)	26 (70%)
Certificates Received**	55	53	73	123	148	146	251	291	339	282	365

*denotes years in which several diploma candidates competed at National Mock Trial championship and chose not to complete the IB Diploma

**number of subject entries receiving a score of 4-7, including Diploma, Anticipated, and Course candidates

How does the IB help prepare me for college?

Our students find that the concerns of a general university freshman student—time management, analytical papers, heavy reading—do not phase them, as they have already participated in college-level classes through the Diploma Program. Additionally, some IB Diploma students have received up to 30 hours of credit and have begun studies at the sophomore level, or have been able to compete at the highest level for scholarships, including the Cox Scholarship at Indiana University, Bloomington, and the Eli Lilly Scholarship.

For more information, visit:

<http://www.ibo.org/university-admission/recognition-of-the-ib-diploma-by-countries-and-universities/>

Students present and lead a discussion on Buddhism during their IB World Religions class. The IB Diploma Program invites students to stretch out of their comfort zones and investigate similarities and differences among cultures and ways of knowing, like imagination, memory, and faith.



Where are our IB students going to university?

After graduation, our students go on to attend both public and private universities throughout North America and Europe. Additionally, many of our students continue their cross-cultural education by studying abroad in China, Russia, and South and Central America and the Caribbean.

John Adams IB graduates have attended or are attending university in:

NORTH AMERICA

CANADA

McGill University, Montreal

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

California

Occidental College

Pomona College

University of California--Berkeley

Connecticut

Yale University

Florida

University of Tampa

Illinois

Northwestern University

University of Chicago

Indiana

Ball State University

Bethel College

Butler University

Goshen College

Holy Cross College

Indiana University at Bloomington

Indiana University at South Bend

Purdue University

Rose-Hulman Institute of Technology

Saint Mary's College

University of Notre Dame

Iowa

Drake University

Louisiana

Tulane University

Maryland

Johns Hopkins University

Massachusetts

Boston University

Brandeis University

Harvard University

Michigan

Calvin College

Kalamazoo College

Michigan State University

Minnesota

Carleton College

University of Minnesota

Missouri

Washington University, St. Louis

Nebraska

Creighton University

New Jersey

Princeton University

New York

Columbia University

New York University

Sarah Lawrence College

North Carolina

Duke University

Wake Forest University

Ohio

Case Western Reserve University

Oregon

Reed College

Pennsylvania

Penn State University

Swarthmore College

University of Pennsylvania

Tennessee

Vanderbilt University

Texas

Abilene Christian University

Texas A&M University

Vermont

Middlebury College

Virginia

University of Richmond

Washington, D.C.

Georgetown University

Wisconsin

Marquette University

University of Wisconsin

EUROPE

AUSTRIA

Universität Wien

(University of Vienna)

IRELAND

University College Dublin

After university, our students follow their passions. Many continue studying and become doctors, lawyers, teachers, professors, and engineers. Others work in journalism or international relations, nursing or entrepreneurship. Others become actors, video game designers, graphic artists, and creative writers. With an IB education, the sky's the limit and the world is your campus.

COURSE OFFERINGS: HIGHER LEVEL⁴

All Higher Level (HL) classes are offered over the period of two years and require an average score of 4 in each class to receive the IB Diploma.

GROUP 1: Language & Literature

English HL

2-year course

Prerequisite: English 9 and 10 Honors (Advanced)

Studies a variety of literary genres, literary analysis, and works in translation.

GROUP 2: Language Acquisition

Spanish HL

2-year course

Prerequisite: Spanish III or IV or Heritage Spanish III.

Studies culture and literature of Spanish-speaking countries. Some units include: immigration, dictatorships, indigenous peoples, and fine arts.

GROUP 3: Individuals & Societies

History of the Americas HL

2-year course

Recommended prior knowledge: World History & Civilizations, U.S. Government, Economics

Focuses on the history of the Americas and Western Europe, pre-Columbian period to present, with special attention paid to 20th century world history.

GROUP 4: Sciences

Biology HL

2-year course

Prerequisite: Biology (Honors)

Recommended prior knowledge: Chemistry

Studies cell biology, molecular biology, genetics, ecology, evolution and biodiversity, human physiology, and additional topics.

Physics HL

2-year course

Prerequisite: Biology (Honors), Algebra II

Recommended prior knowledge: Physics, Pre-calculus

Studies measurements and uncertainties; mechanics; thermal physics; waves; electricity and magnetism; circular motion and gravitation; atomic, nuclear and particle physics; energy production; and additional topics.

GROUP 5: Mathematics

Math HL

2-year course (online only)

Prerequisite: Calculus

Studies algebra; functions and equations; circular functions and trigonometry; vectors; statistics and probability; calculus; etc.

GROUP 6: The Arts

Music HL

2-year course

Prerequisite: Band or orchestra or music lessons

Studies music perception, music creation, and solo performing.

Visual Arts HL

2-year course

Prerequisite: Introduction to 2D/3D Art and advanced art course

Studies a variety of visual arts methods to create a portfolio and exhibition. Reflective and comparative writing required for class assessments.

COURSE OFFERINGS: STANDARD LEVEL

Most Standard Level (SL) classes are offered in one year and require a score of 4 or higher in the class to receive an IB Course Certificate.

GROUP 1: Language & Literature

There are currently no Group 1 SL classes being offered.

GROUP 2: Language Acquisition

French SL

1-year course

Prerequisite: French III

Studies culture and literature of French-speaking countries, focusing on communications and media, global issues, and social relationships, as well as other topics.

Spanish SL *ab initio*

2-year course

Prerequisite: little or no previous Spanish

Studies culture and literature of Spanish-speaking countries, focusing on individuals and society, relationships, leisure and work, and urban and rural environments. NOTE: This class does not earn an IB Course Certificate; it is only valid as an IB Diploma class.

Spanish SL

2-year course

Prerequisite: Spanish II or III

Studies culture and literature of Spanish-speaking countries. Some units include: immigration, dictatorships, indigenous peoples, and fine arts.

⁴ All information regarding specific subjects comes from the specific IB subject briefs. © 2014-2017, IBO.

GROUP 3: Individuals & Societies

Environmental Systems & Societies SL

1-year course

Recommended prior knowledge: Biology, Chemistry

Examines foundations of environmental systems and societies; ecosystems and ecology; biodiversity and conservation; water and aquatic food production systems and societies; soil systems and terrestrial food production systems and societies; atmospheric systems and societies; climate change and energy production; and human systems and resource use. NOTE: This class may count as EITHER a Group 3 or a Group 4 for the IB Diploma.

Philosophy SL

1-year course

Recommended prior knowledge: none

Examines the core theme of "being human," in addition to other topics and philosophical texts.

Psychology SL

1-year course

Recommended prior knowledge: none

Examines the biological, cognitive, and sociocultural level of analysis, as well as other topics.

World Religions SL

1-year course

Recommended prior knowledge: none

Examines five world religions through their rituals, practices, doctrine, sacred texts, and moral conduct to answer the questions of what is the human condition; where are we going; and how do we get there.

GROUP 4: Sciences

Chemistry SL

1-year course

Prerequisite: Biology (Honors), Chemistry

Studies stoichiometric relationships; atomic structure; periodicity; chemical bonding and structure; energetics/thermochemistry; chemical kinetics; equilibrium; acids and bases; redox processes; organic chemistry; and measurement and data processing.

Design Technology SL

1-year course

Prerequisite: none

Studies human factors and ergonomics; resource management and sustainable production; modelling; raw material to final product; innovation and design; classic design. NOTE: This is not a computer science class.

Environmental Systems & Societies SL

1-year course

Recommended prior knowledge: Biology

See description in GROUP 3: Individuals & Societies.

Physics SL

1-year course

Prerequisite: Biology (Honors), Algebra II

Recommended prior knowledge: Physics, Pre-calculus

Studies measurements and uncertainties; mechanics; thermal physics; waves; electricity and magnetism; circular motion and gravitation; atomic, nuclear and particle physics; and energy production.

Sports Exercise Science SL

1-year course

Prerequisite: Biology (Honors)

Recommended prior knowledge: Anatomy and physiology

Studies anatomy; exercise physiology; energy systems; movement analysis; skill in sport; and measurement and analysis of human performance.

GROUP 5: Mathematics

Math SL

1-year course

Prerequisite: Pre-Calculus Honors Advanced

Studies algebra; functions and equations; circular functions and trigonometry; vectors; statistics and probability; calculus; and additional topics.

Math Studies SL

1-year course

Prerequisite: Algebra II Honors

Recommended prior knowledge: Pre-calculus

Studies numbers and algebra; descriptive statistics; logic, sets, and probability; statistical application; geometry and trigonometry; mathematical models; and introduction to different calculus.

GROUP 6: The Arts

Film SL

1-year course

Prerequisite: none

Studies film elements, focus, and production roles, along with cultural contexts.

Music SL

1-year course

Prerequisite: Band or orchestra or music lessons

Studies music perception, and either creating music or solo or group performing.

Visual Arts SL

1-year course

Prerequisite: Introduction to 2D/3D Art and advanced art course

Studies a variety of visual arts methods to create a portfolio and exhibition. Reflective and comparative writing required for class assessments.



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