The International Baccalaureate Diploma Program at SYSNEY ACADEMY
IB Mission Statement

- Inquiring, knowledgeable, caring young people
- Rigorous assessments
- Peaceful world through intercultural understanding
- International education
- Active, compassionate, lifelong learners
- Understanding that other people, with their differences, can also be right.
- Challenging programs
Sydney Academy aims to develop independent, knowledgeable, well-rounded young people who are risk takers, problem solvers, and are actively engaged in helping to solve local and global problems in a creative and critical manner.

To this end, Sydney Academy fosters a challenging environment in which students are actively engaged in rich educational experiences which encourage them to conduct themselves in a principled, compassionate manner that is respectful and open to other possibilities and perspectives.
The IBDP at SYDNEY ACADEMY

- Began its official affiliation with IBO in 1986 by starting the implementation process of the *IB Diploma Program*.

- Completed its first IB examination session in 1987 and graduated its first full IB Diploma candidates in the 1999-2000 school year.

- Has developed “Pre-IB” course sequences in grade 10 which lead to a full array of courses within the IB Diploma curriculum scheme offered to Grades 11 and 12.
The IB Diploma Program
Course of Studies

- IB courses offered in six subject groups:
  - Group 1: Primary Language (English)
  - Group 2: Acquired Second Language
  - Group 3: Individuals and Societies
  - Group 4: Experimental Sciences
  - Group 5: Mathematics
  - Group 6: The Arts (or other elective)
The IB Curriculum at Sydney Academy

Each course is taken at the grade eleven and grade twelve level

Group 1  English Literature
Group 2  French B or Spanish ab initio
Group 3  Economics, History
Group 4  Biology, Chemistry, Physics
Group 5  Mathematics or Math Studies
Group 6  Visual Arts, Music or another course from Group 3 or 4
IB DIPLOMA PROGRAMME

STUDIES IN LANGUAGE AND LITERATURE

LANGUAGE ACQUISITION

THEORY OF KNOWLEDGE

APPROACHES TO LEARNING

APPROACHES TO TEACHING

EXTENDED ESSAY

INDIVIDUALS AND SOCIETIES

MATHMATICS

CREATIVITY, ACTIVITY, SERVICE

THE ARTS

INTERNATIONAL-MINDEDNESS

THE IB LEARNER PROFILE
Elements for the full IB Diploma

The Extended Essay - a 4000 word piece of original research on a topic chosen by the student.

The Theory of Knowledge course – an interdisciplinary course designed to develop habits of critical reflection, clarity of thought and moral judgment.
The Creativity, Activity and Service Program: participation in creative programs, athletics or other physical activities and community service.
Benefits of the IB Program

There are a number of special benefits gained by IB students, particularly those in the full diploma program. They include:

1. A genuine challenge.
2. The development of a critical thinking approach.
3. A program and curriculum that is recognized worldwide.
4. An internationally based standard of achievement.
5. The acquisition of an international and multi-cultural perspective.
6. The development of excellent time management and study skills.
7. Classes with other highly motivated students.
8. Social service activities.
10. Possible course credit or advanced placement standing at university.
The official years for participation in the IB Diploma courses are Grades 11 and 12.

Pre-IB courses for Grade 10 provide a more consistent preparation for the nature and challenge of IB courses in Grades 11 and 12.
Students can opt to complete all the requirements of the full IB Diploma

OR

Students can select individual IB courses within the Diploma program
As students go through Grade Nine they should be thinking about:

Whether they want to pursue the full IB Diploma;

OR

2. Whether they want to take any number of individual courses from IB Diploma programme.
The IB Diploma and the Nova Scotia High School Diploma

Students who earn the IB Diploma are also awarded the NS High School Graduation Diploma.

Students who take only some IB courses **must** meet the NS High School requirements for graduation.
The Pre-IB Program at Sydney Academy

Students who enter Pre-IB are:

- Self-motivated and excited about learning
- Able to prioritize activities and manage their time
- Involved in many activities
- Functional readers and writers
- Successful students
- Interested in keeping their options open
- Mature and responsible
Can any student enroll in the Pre IB program?
• There is no minimum requirement to join this preparation program in grade 10.
• Students who wish to pursue the International Baccalaureate Program should be academically oriented and intend to pursue university studies after high school.
• Grade 9 students who wish to be considered should indicate their intention on their course registration sheets.
Students do not have to navigate these programs alone...

- Updated information booklets/websites for student/parent reference...
- Teachers and staff as *advocates* for student success...
- IB coordinators dedicated to student success and program effectiveness...
- Administrators dedicated to ongoing program development...
If you are presently in a “pre-Diploma” schedule (grade 10 year), then the IB coordinator will be meeting with you this coming April and May to help you strategize about your senior high years within the IB Diploma curriculum scheme.
Whether you plan to take all the IB courses for the Diploma or whether you take any number of individual IB courses, *PLEASE review the IB courses* on our school website so you will have a better idea of how to set up your high school schedule here at Sydney Academy.
Sydney Academy’s Grade 10 Pre-IB Courses

- English 10 Pre-IB
- French 10 Pre-IB
- History 10 Pre-IB
- Science 10 Pre-IB
- Math 10 Pre-IB

(2 semesters)

- Art 10
- Instr. Music 10
Grade 10 Pre-IB Program

**English 10 IB** is a literature based course. You will study a variety of novels, plays and prose. The course requires independent reading and allows for choice in the works studied.

**French 10 IB** is suitable for **Immersion** and **Extended Core** students and focuses on literature study and oral and written communication.

**History 10 IB** is a study of ancient and medieval civilizations, which includes Egypt, Greece, Rome and Europe.

**Science 10 IB** is an advanced study of chemistry and physics.

**Math 10 IB** is an advanced course taught over two semesters.

**Art and Music 10** are also available for potential IB students.
Activities Related to the IB Program

**CAS**

(creativity, activity and service) is an after school program for IB students of all grades which focuses on **debating and critical thinking**. Students have the opportunity to debate competitively at the provincial, national and international level.

Students are expected to become involved in school and community service programs.

The **Key Club** at SA provides many opportunities for students to volunteer their time for worthy causes.
Pre-IB Test Drive

Students who are interested in the Pre-IB program are invited to spend the day at SA. They will shadow grade ten students as they go through their day. It is an excellent opportunity to really experience IB.
Immersion/extended core French students coming from grade 9 may opt to study a combination of French Pre-IB and French IB courses and two additional subject courses in French to receive the Integrated French Certificate.

Students maintain their French fluency and benefit from the IB Program courses. Students are eligible to sit for the DELF tests Levels B1 and B2.
THANK YOU
Contact Information

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Sydney Academy    telephone: 562-5464
Parents, counsellors and students are invited to contact Janet Beaton at the school for further information or to schedule individual appointments.