

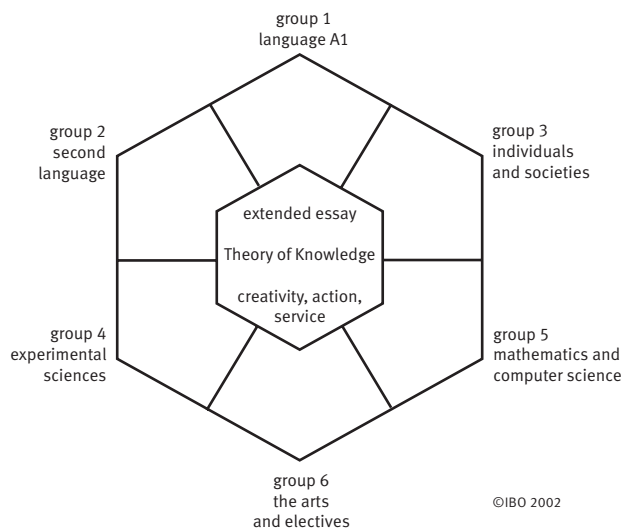
# Department of International Studies

## The International Baccalaureate Diploma

Founded in Switzerland in 1968, the IB curriculum covers a wide range of subjects. Every year more than 70,000 young people at schools all over the world take the IB examinations. Most of them then go on to study at universities, other higher education institutions, business schools or enter professional training programmes. It is probably the fastest growing university preparation course in the world.

### IB subject choices

The IB curriculum is often represented as a hexagon with six subject groups:



Students must select six subjects, one from Groups 1–5, plus either an arts subject from Group 6 or a further subject from Groups 1–5. Three subjects must be at Higher Level (HL) and three at Standard Level (SL).

At the Lyceum Alpinum Zuoz students can put together their programmes from the following range:

#### Group 1 Mother tongue or best language

English or German A1. Other mother tongues by arrangement as «self-taught» at SL only.

#### Group 2 Second Language

English A2 and B, German A2, B and ab initio, Spanish ab initio, French B

#### Group 3 Individuals and Society

Economics, History

#### Group 4 Experimental Sciences

Biology, Chemistry, Physics

#### Group 5 Mathematics

Mathematics Higher Level, Mathematics Standard Level, Maths Studies SL

#### Group 6 The Arts and Electives

Visual Arts

## **Additional requirements**

Theory of Knowledge: An inter-disciplinary course in critical thinking on fundamental questions of knowledge, ethics, beliefs and values.

The Extended Essay: an independent research assignment of 4000 words in one of the six subject areas.

CAS: Creativity Action Service (minimum of 150 hours in two years). This allows students to gain real-life experience beyond the classroom and helps them develop their creative faculties, their physical and personal well-being and their ability to be of help in the local or global community.

## **University recognition of the IB**

The world's leading universities welcome applications from IB students because IB graduates are assessed on the basis of reliable international performance criteria. Universities know that IB students have been educated to think critically, to apply knowledge and to debate real-world issues from an international perspective.

## **Recognition of the IB in Germany and Switzerland**

- To be admitted to a German university students must study a foreign language at an advanced level (English A2), take a science at Higher Level (Biology), complete a challenging Maths course (Mathematics Standard) and provide evidence of previous language studies (e.g. four years of French or Latin).
- For Swiss universities, students must obtain at least 32 points in their Diploma examinations and include either a science or mathematics at Higher Level.

Please refer to the individual universities for details.

## **Student guidance and counselling at the Lyceum Alpinum Zuoz**

The school's university and college counsellor helps students with their applications to institutes of higher education. These might be in the USA, the United Kingdom, Germany, Switzerland, Canada, Australia, or anywhere in the world.

Students are members of tutor groups under the close guidance of a teacher. The role of the tutor is to support students in their personal and academic development. Furthermore the tutor:

- Monitors academic performance, completion of homework, attendance and communicates with parents.
- Provides support in life skills such as conflict resolution, motivation, responsibility, facing setbacks.

Students are helped to gain self-knowledge by taking the Morrisby Test, widely used in schools and businesses. It yields reliable information on a range of skills and aptitudes. The test is administered at the Lyceum Alpinum Zuoz by the Independent Schools Careers Organisation (ISCO). A few weeks after the test students receive a detailed report based on the test results.

Lyceum Alpinum Zuoz IB graduates have gained places at the following colleges and universities:

**Australia:** University of Melbourne **Canada:** University of Victoria **Europe:** TU Berlin; TU München; King's College, London; Imperial College, London; University of Durham; European Business School, London; London School of Economics; Warwick University; Hotelfachschule Lausanne; Parsons School of Design Paris; Erasmus University Rotterdam; University of Zürich **United States:** Georgetown University; North Western University, Chicago; University of Pennsylvania; Cornell University; University of Minnesota; Bentley College; University of Southern California, Los Angeles.

### **Pre-IB programme in Grades 7 and 8**

The classes study a broad range of subjects with a significant number of lessons devoted to learning English. Both English and German are available as first languages in addition to combined sciences (physics, chemistry and biology), art, music, handicrafts and social studies. The programme is open to all pupils who are aiming eventually for an IB Diploma, who already have some knowledge of English and who have perhaps grown up in international surroundings.

### **Pre-IB programme in Grades 9 and 10**

The course of studies prepares students for admission to the IB Diploma in years 11 and 12.

There are classes in the following subjects:

First language: English, German

Second languages: English (two levels), German (two levels), French (two levels)

Mathematics (two levels)

Science: Biology, Chemistry, Physics

Global Studies: Geography, Business Studies, History/World Studies

Information Technology

Art

Music

### **International standards and the Lyceum Alpinum Zuoz**

The Lyceum Alpinum Zuoz is a member of the following international education organisations:

- The International Baccalaureate Organisation: [www.ibo.org](http://www.ibo.org)
- Cambridge International Examinations: [www.cie.org.uk](http://www.cie.org.uk)
- Council of International Schools: [www.cois.org](http://www.cois.org)
- Swiss Group of International Schools: [www.sigischools.com](http://www.sigischools.com)