

### Sample Four-year Program

**Freshman Year:** Placement in some courses depends upon credit received for courses taken in middle school.

- \* MCPS Pre-IB English 9
- \* Foreign Language (Level 2 or 3) \*French or Spanish
- \* Honors Geometry or Geometry
- \* MCPS Pre-IB Biology or Honors Environmental Science
- \* Honors or AP US History
- \* Elective—Physical Education
- \* Elective—Technology Education

**Sophomore Year:**

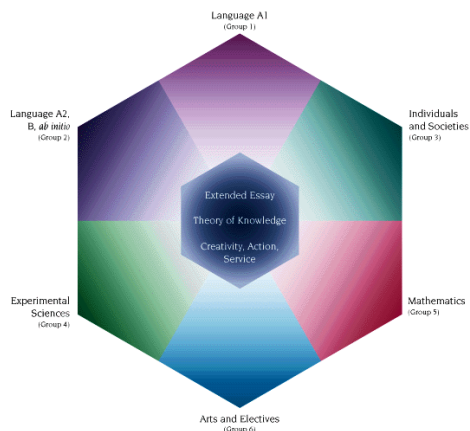
- \* MCPS Pre-IB English 10
- \* Foreign Language (Level 3 or 4)
- \* Algebra 2 with Analysis or Algebra 2
- \* MCPS Pre-IB Biology and/or MCPS Pre-IB Chemistry
- \* AP Government or Honors National, State and Local Government
- \* Elective—Health (one semester)
- \* Elective—Fine Arts

**Junior Year: (Anticipated Candidate)**

- \* IB English I
- \* IB Foreign Language (Level 4 or 5)
- \* IB History I
- \* IB Psychology SL, IB Environmental Systems SL, IB Chemistry SL
- \* IB Physics I, IB Biology I
- \* IB Precalculus with Analysis or IB Mathematical Studies
- \* IB Art I, IB Theatre I
- \* Theory of Knowledge I/Extended Essay

**Senior Year: (Diploma Candidate)**

- \* IB English 2
- \* IB Foreign Language (Level 5 or 6)
- \* IB History 2
- \* IB Psychology SL, IB Environmental Systems SL, IB Chemistry SL
- \* IB Physics 2; IB Biology 2
- \* IB Mathematics SL (Calculus); IB Mathematical Studies
- \* IB Art 2, IB Theatre 2
- \* Theory of Knowledge 2 (one semester)



# The International Baccalaureate Program



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International Baccalaureate Office  
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## Curriculum and Diploma

To earn the IB Diploma a student must complete all course requirements and six exams prepared by the IB Assessment Office in Cardiff, Wales. A student must demonstrate mastery in each of the following areas:

- Group 1 Language A: English (first language) including the study of selections from World Literature.
- Group 2 Language B: IB French or Spanish (second language).
- Group 3 Study of the Individual in Society: (History of Europe, including Russia and 20th century world history topics).
- Group 4 Experimental Sciences: IB Biology, IB Chemistry, IB Environmental Systems, IB Physics.
- Group 5 Mathematics: IB Mathematical Studies; IB Mathematics SL (Calculus); IB Mathematics HL (Multivariable Calculus).
- Group 6 Arts and Electives: Visual Arts I and 2; Theater Arts I and 2; a second experimental science, a second foreign language, or IB Psychology.

A minimum score of 24 points is required to earn the IB Diploma. These points can be earned by performance on six examinations, three or four at the higher level and two or three at Standard level. The Extended Essay, a research paper on a self-selected topic, gives students the opportunity to earn bonus points which can be counted toward the diploma. In addition, completion of a course entitled Theory of Knowledge (ToK) and 150 hours of CAS (Creativity, Action, Service) are both requirements which offer two further opportunities to earn bonus points

### Admission Requirements

While Watkins Mill students do not need to pass entrance exams to participate in the IB Diploma Program, there are some strongly recommended entrance "conditions" of which students and their parents should be fully aware:

- 1. Self Motivation:** The student must recognize that entering into and persisting in the IB program requires a conscious decision to willingly meet the challenges of the courses. Support from the family is critical, but the desire to succeed in IB must ultimately come from within the student.
- 2. Time Management:** The student (and parents) should be prepared to carefully decide which activities, both in and out of school, will best supplement the IB program. This may mean having to make some thoughtful decisions about what courses to take and what can realistically be done in addition to the student's academic schedule.
- 3. Reading:** Each IB program involves a large amount of reading, most at the advanced level. A successful student should enjoy reading and be willing to read extensively.

## About Watkins Mill High School

Established in 1989, Watkins Mill High School serves parts of the Gaithersburg and Germantown communities in Montgomery County, Maryland. A comprehensive public senior high school, WMHS has a full complement of challenging academics and innovative programs including an Honors program, and Advanced Placement program, and the International Baccalaureate program. WMHS is accredited by the Middle States Association.

### About the International Baccalaureate Program

Watkins Mill High School students in Grades 11 and 12 have the opportunity to participate in the International Baccalaureate Diploma Program. The International Baccalaureate (IB) program is a rigorous and comprehensive curriculum designed to meet the challenge of college-bound and highly motivated students. Successful completion of course work and examinations at the Junior/senior level may earn students credit at colleges and universities around the world.

The program requires students to pursue studies in six curricular areas: English, foreign language(s) experimental sciences, mathematics, social studies and an elective. Teachers provide interdisciplinary instruction whereby students study common processes, themes, and materials within and across the subject areas. The curriculum is based upon the topics and goals identified by the curriculum board of the International Baccalaureate Office in Cardiff, Wales.

The IB requirements for an IB diploma include: course work and passing scores on examinations in each of the six curricular areas; successful completion of a course, restricted to and required of all Diploma candidates, entitled Theory of Knowledge; completion of a 4,000 word extended essay; and 150 hours of CAS (creativity, action, and service).

Students enrolled in the IB program must also fulfill MCPS and Maryland State Department of Education graduation requirements. IB Diploma students who successfully meet these requirements will earn an IB Diploma, a Maryland High School Diploma, and a Certificate of Merit.

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**International Baccalaureate Organization Information:**  
**[www.ibo.org](http://www.ibo.org)**