

Ballston Spa High School

International Baccalaureate Diploma Programme



What is the Diploma Programme?

The International Baccalaureate Diploma Programme (IBDP) is a rigorous college-level program for motivated students in the last two years of high school. The program of study leads to exams in six different subject areas and is aimed at developing global citizens and life-long learners who are committed to serving their communities.

Profile of an IB Student

Students in the IB Diploma Programme strive to be:

- Inquirers
- Open-Minded
- Knowledgeable
- Caring
- Thinkers
- Risk-takers
- Communicators
- Balanced
- Principled
- Reflective



(Lip Sync 2015)

Why Choose IB?

The IB Diploma Programme at Ballston Spa High School is a rigorous course of study that prepares students to succeed in college and to effectively participate in an increasingly global society.

The IBDP helps students become confident learners and critical thinkers who desire to create a better world through intercultural understanding and respect.

The IB Curriculum

IB Diploma Programme students must choose one course from each of five subject groups including studies in language and literature, language acquisition, individuals and societies, the sciences, and mathematics. Furthermore, students must also choose either an arts course from the arts group or a second course from one of the other subject groups.

IB Courses Offered at Ballston Spa High School

Group 1: Studies in Language and Literature

English Language and Literature HL

Group 2: Language Acquisition

French SL

Spanish SL

Group 3: Individuals and Societies

History of the Americas HL

Environmental Systems and Societies SL (1 year course)

Psychology SL (1 year course)

Group 4: Experimental Sciences

Biology HL

Physics HL

Environmental Systems and Societies SL (1 year course)

Group 5: Mathematics

Math Studies SL (1 year course)

Mathematics SL (1 year course)

Group 6: Arts

Theatre SL/HL

Music SL/HL

Visual Arts SL/HL

Students must successfully complete three HL (higher level) and three SL (standard level) courses in two years.

All courses listed are two-year courses unless noted otherwise.

Core Elements

To earn an IB Diploma, students must also successfully complete three required core elements.

Extended Essay (EE): Students engage in independent research and write a 4,000 word essay on a topic of their choice.

Theory of Knowledge (TOK): Students participate in a 2 year course that focuses on critical thinking and the nature of knowing.

Creativity, Activity and Service (CAS): Students engage in a range of self-selected extracurricular activities that encourage creativity, physical activity and community service.

Facts & Figures

95% of IB Diploma Programme graduates in the US enroll in four-year institutions (60% national average).

IBDP students not only do well academically while in high school, but also go on to perform well at the university level.

University admissions officials say the IBDP is the best qualification for developing students' non-academic skills (independent inquiry, open-mindedness, global awareness, self-management skills) and preparing them for further education and careers.

Studies find that the alumni of the IBDP attend top-ranking universities.

89% of IBDP students recommend that other students participate in the IBDP.

IBDP alumni report the IB has profound, long-lasting effects on students' lives. It helps them develop critical thinking, analytical and writing skills and a broader world view. In addition, they point out that they earned advanced credits for university.

* Source: www.ibo.org

Want More Information About IB?

Visit the International Baccalaureate at www.ibo.org

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IB Assessments

The IB Diploma Programme uses both internally and externally assessed components to assess student performance. In the IBDP, students receive grades ranging from 7 to 1, with 7 being the highest. Students receive a score for each exam attempted.

A student's final diploma result score is made up of the combined scores for each subject. The diploma is awarded to students who gain at least 24 points, subject to minimum levels of performance including successful completion of the three essential elements of the DP Core (EE, TOK and CAS).

Colleges and Universities Accepting Ballston Spa

IB Diploma Programme Candidates

[Albany College of Pharmacy](#)

[Bard College](#)

[Boston College](#)

[Boston University](#)

[Brandeis University](#)

[Bryn Mawr College](#)

[Clarkson University](#)

[Connecticut College](#)

[Cornell University](#)

[Dartmouth College](#)

[Drew University](#)

[Fordham University](#)

[George Washington University](#)

[Hamilton College](#)

[Hobart and William Smith Colleges](#)

[Hofstra University](#)

[Ithaca College](#)

[Marist College](#)

[Nazareth College](#)

[Northeastern University](#)

[Oberlin College](#)

[Providence College](#)

[Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute](#)

[Siena College](#)

[Skidmore College](#)

[St. Lawrence University](#)

[SUNY Albany](#)

[SUNY Brockport](#)

[SUNY Cortland](#)

[SUNY ESF](#)

[SUNY Geneseo](#)

[SUNY New Paltz](#)

[SUNY Plattsburgh](#)

[SUNY Stony Brook](#)

[SUNY University at Buffalo](#)

[Union College](#)

[University of Connecticut](#)

[University of Delaware](#)

[University of Florida](#)

[University of Hartford](#)

[University of Mass Amherst](#)

[University of New Hampshire](#)

[University of New Haven](#)

[University of Rhode Island](#)

[University of Rochester](#)

[University of Vermont](#)

The IB curriculum is internationally recognized for its rigor and quality. Completion of the full Diploma Programme or of individual courses can give students advanced standing in college and an advantage in the college admissions process.

More than 1,000 colleges and universities in North America have recognition policies on how they weigh IB in admissions, advanced standing, college credit and scholarships.