# 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:

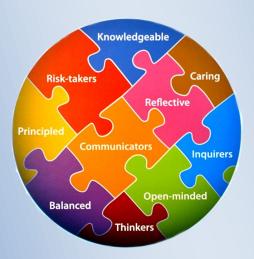
•Inquirers •Open-Minded

•Knowledgeable •Caring

•Thinkers •Risk-takers

CommunicatorsBalanced

•Principled •Reflective



#### Why Choose IB?

The IB Diploma Programme at Ballston Spa High School 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.

# **Ballston Spa High School**

# International Baccalaureate Diploma Programme

### 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 Psychology SL (1 year course)

Psychology HL

## **Group 4: Experimental Sciences**

Biology SL (1 year course)

Biology HL Physics HL

#### **Group 5: Mathematics**

Mathematics SL: Applications & Interpretation/Algebra 2
Mathematics SL: Analysis & Approaches/Pre-Calculus (1 year course)

**Group 6: Arts** 

Film SL/HL Visual Arts SL/HL

## Core Elements

To earn an IB Diploma, students must also successfully complete three required core elements, throughout the 2-year program of study. **Creativity, Activity and Service (CAS):** Students engage in a range of self-selected extracurricular activities, including a project, which encourages Creativity, (i.e., engagement in the arts), Activity (i.e., participation in athletics) and Service (i.e., community and social service activities).

**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 will explore the values and limits of knowledge in all subject areas and examine this fundamental question: How do we know what we know, and how reliable is the knowledge we possess?

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

All courses listed are twoyear courses unless noted otherwise.

## 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

Contact the IB Coordinator:

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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** 

**American University** 

**Bard College** 

**Boston College** 

**Brandeis University** 

**Brown University** 

**Bryn Mawr College** 

**Clark University** 

**Clarkson University Colgate University** 

**College of the Atlantic** 

**College of the Holy Cross** 

**Connecticut College** 

**Cornell University** 

**Dartmouth College** 

**Drew University** 

Florida Institute of Technology

**Fordham University** 

**George Washington University** 

**Georgetown University** 

**Hamilton College** 

**Hobart and William Smith Colleges** 

**Hofstra University** 

**Ithaca College** 

**Marist College** 

**Marymount Manhattan College** 

**McGill University** 

**Muhlenberg College** 

**Nazareth College** 

**New York Conservatory for Dramatic Arts** 

**Northeastern University** 

**Oberlin College** 

**Pennsylvania State University** 

**Providence College** 

**Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute** 

**Rochester Institute of Technology** 

Siena College

**Skidmore College** 

St. Lawrence University

**SUNY Albany** 

**SUNY Binghamton** 

**SUNY Brockport** 

**SUNY Cortland** 

**SUNY ESF** 

**SUNY Geneseo** 

**SUNY New Paltz** 

**SUNY Oneonta** 

**SUNY Plattsburgh** 

**SUNY Stony Brook** 

**SUNY University at Buffalo** 

**Syracuse University** 

**Trinity College Dublin** 

**Union College** 

**University of Chicago** 

**University of Connecticut** 

**University of Delaware** 

**University of Denver** 

**University of Florida** 

**University of Hartford** 

**University of Massachusetts Amherst** 

**University of Miami** 

**University of Michigan** 

**University of New Hampshire** 

**University of New Haven** 

Univ. of N. Carolina at Wilmington

**University of Rhode Island** 

**University of Rochester** 

**University of Vermont** 

**Washington College** 

Williams College

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.