



**AGOURA HIGH SCHOOL**  
**INTERNATIONAL BACCALAUREATE**  
**DIPLOMA PROGRAM**

**CONTACT INFORMATION :**

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**AHS IB WEBSITE :**

**<http://www.agourahighschoolib.com>**

**OTHER LINKS :**

**<http://www.ibo.org> (IB Organization)**

**<http://www.ibo.org/iba> (IB North America)**

**IB MISSION STATEMENT :**

The International Baccalaureate aims to develop inquiring, knowledgeable and caring young people who help to create a better and more peaceful world through intercultural understanding and respect.

To this end the organization works with schools, governments and international organizations to develop challenging programs of international education and rigorous assessment.

These programs encourage students across the world to become active, compassionate and lifelong learners who understand that other people, with their differences, can also be right.

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**WHAT IS THE IB DIPLOMA PROGRAM?**

The IB Diploma Program is an internationally recognized college preparatory curriculum, which prepares students to enter college with the skills they need to succeed in order to be life-long learners. It is a challenging two-year curriculum for students in 11<sup>th</sup> and 12<sup>th</sup> grade, which leads to a diploma that is recognized by the world's leading universities. Enrollment in the AHS pre-IB program in 9<sup>th</sup> and 10<sup>th</sup> grades is essential for admission to and successful completion of the Diploma Program.

**THE IB DIPLOMA :**

The Diploma Program prepares students for the university level and life through encouraging them to:

- § ask challenging questions
- § learn how to learn
- § develop a strong sense of their own identity and culture
- § develop the ability to communicate with and understand people from other countries and cultures

**THE IB CURRICULUM :**

In order to be awarded the IB Diploma, students are required to successfully complete:

**§ Six Core Academic Subjects:**

- s Language A1 (Language Arts)
- s Language B (World Language)
- s Individuals and Societies
- s Experimental Sciences
- s Mathematics
- s Elective

**§ Extended Essay:** a 4,000 word essay, supported by original research on a subject in the student's area of interest

**§ Community-Action-Service (CAS):** a central element which encourages students to be involved in artistic pursuits, sports and community service, thus fostering students' awareness and appreciation of life outside the academic arena

**§ Theory of Knowledge (ToK):** an interdisciplinary course designed to provide coherence by exploring the nature of knowledge across disciplines and encouraging an appreciation of other cultural perspectives



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**FAQs :**

§ **How is IB different from AP?** – Both IB and AP offer rigorous courses and are excellent preparation for college; however students learn differently within the courses. AP courses focus on the student’s area of strength, while IB is a comprehensive curriculum that requires the student to take courses in all subjects and is centered around a global perspective. AP courses are taught individually, whereas IB is an interdisciplinary, international program of study focused on the student.

§ **Who is an IB student?** – IB learners strive to be: inquirers, knowledgeable, thinkers, communicators, principled, open-minded, caring, risk-takers, balanced, and reflective (the IB “Learner Profile”). IB programs promote the education of the whole person, emphasizing intellectual, personal, emotional and social growth through all domains of knowledge. By focusing on the dynamic combination of knowledge, skills, independent critical and creative thought and international-mindedness, the IBO espouses the principle of educating the whole person for a life of active, responsible citizenship.

§ **Do IB students have time to participate in extra-curricular activities?** – IB students are able to participate in extracurricular activities including sports, performing arts, cheerleading, church activities, scouts, student government, and a variety of other activities. Effective time-management skills are key for successful IB students.

§ **How are students assessed?** – IB Students are assessed both internally and externally in ways that measure individual performance against stated objectives for each subject with externally marked examinations forming the greatest share of the assessment for each subject. The grading system is criterion based.

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Agoura High School is an IB World School. IB World Schools share a common philosophy —a commitment to a high quality, challenging curriculum, and an international education recognized world-wide.

**BENEFITS OF THE IB DIPLOMA PROGRAM :**

§ *IB is an Education for Life* – IB students learn life skills — critical-thinking, time management, responsibility towards a global community, leadership skills, public speaking, and research, among others — that will be with them long after they leave high school.

§ *Preparedness* – An IB Diploma demonstrates that a student is serious about learning and is prepared for college level work and beyond.

§ *University Admissions & Scholarships* – An IB diploma is widely recognized by US and International universities as a strong academic curriculum, giving students an “edge” in the admissions process. A number of universities offer scholarships for IB diploma holders. (A list of universities recognizing the IB Diploma can be found on the IBNA website.)

§ *College Credit* – The University of California (UC) system now automatically accepts approved courses for UC honors credit, and students holding an IB Diploma of 30 points or above earn 30-quarter (20 semester) units towards the UC undergraduate degree. For details on other universities’ policies, refer to each college or university’s website.

§ *Highly Trained Teaching Staff* – IB teachers are highly qualified. They have had extensive training to prepare them to educate IB students.

§ *International Community* – Agoura High School has joined an international community of more than 2,000 schools worldwide committed to rigorous academics.

**GETTING STARTED :**

Students who plan to enter the IB DP in their junior year should:

§ determine whether or not he or she fits the IB “Learner Profile”

§ read all relevant publications available on the AHS website IB info page and visit the IBO website

§ contact his or her counselor and the IB DP Coordinator