

AHS IB Program ADMISSION REQUIREMENTS

The International Baccalaureate (IB) Diploma Program is an internationally recognized curriculum that offers 11th and 12th grade students an opportunity to earn the IB Diploma or IB Certificates. The IB Program is an inclusive rather than an exclusive program of study at Agoura High School. **ANY STUDENT MAY ENROLL** in the full diploma program or challenge one or more IB certificates. To earn the IB Diploma, students must complete and test in six IB subjects; write an extended essay of independent research guided by a faculty mentor; complete creativity, action, and service experiences (CAS); and participate in a critical thinking course called Theory of Knowledge. This advanced, comprehensive program of study offers an integrated approach to learning across the disciplines with an emphasis on meeting the challenges of living and working in a global, technological society. Students who take IB courses without completing the entire program may earn certificates by testing in selected IB courses.

The entire IB Program at Agoura High School is **self-selecting**. Students who wish to enroll in one or more IB courses within the Certificate program may do so during normal course registration provided they meet the specified prerequisites for each course. Ninth and tenth grade students interested in qualifying for the full IB Diploma program should attend the IB Information. A rough timeline of key dates is listed below:

- 8th, 9th & 10th grade years –Gather information @ IB info night, decide on academic pathway, take appropriate pre-IB courses in 9th and 10th grade
- March, 8th grade – sign up for appropriate pre-IB classes when high school counselors visit your Middle School in March
- January/February, 10th grade – Attend AHS IB informational meeting
- February, 10th grade – Fill out IB Course Request sheet to use when registering on Naviance (with guidance from IB Program Coordinator)
- April, 10th grade – Confirm registration/program requirements; Sign IB Student/Parent Agreement of Understanding (both available from Program Coordinator) **There may be summer assignments for courses students register for. Be sure to attend any info meetings AND check the AHS IB website for summer assignment links.**
- August, 11th grade – Start IB classes
- August, 11th grade - Attend IB Diploma Boot Camp/Orientation Meeting
- August, 11th grade – June, 12th grade – Complete all requirements for IB diploma

Proper planning of courses from 9th grade on is beneficial for all IB program students, but it is especially true for those students who are considering the IB Diploma Path.

A student must maintain a high level of academic achievement within the IB program. Progress will be continuously evaluated by the IB Coordinator, the teachers, and the student. Because all courses offer a high degree of rigor, students should, above all, be highly motivated learners. To participate in the IB Diploma Program, students need to be highly competent readers, desire to challenge themselves intellectually and academically, and speak and write the English language clearly and effectively. The prospective IB student should also possess conspicuous analytical and critical thinking skills, possess or be willing to acquire necessary time and stress management skills, and be open to new ideas, cultures, and tolerant of different beliefs. The IB student must be willing to participate in school and community activities, be able to develop and use information effectively and above all be willing to handle the rigor and pace of a demanding academic curriculum.