

THE INTERNATIONAL BACCALAUREATE DIPLOMA PROGRAMME

The International Baccalaureate Diploma Programme is a comprehensive two-year pre-university programme which has academic rigour, breadth and coherency. It has been designed to meet the standards of university entry requirements worldwide. Students holding the I.B. Diploma are accepted in over 2,750 universities in more than 75 countries.

The curriculum, studied by over 50,000 students in over 2,000 schools in 135 countries, is specifically designed for international use and is assessed by an international team of examiners. Each student is required to study a minimum of six subjects, three at Higher and three at Standard Level. The I.B. Programme at Li Po Chun United World College offers the following subjects:

1. Studies in Language and Literature: A Literature course or a Language & Literature course in your mother tongue, or best language, offered at HL & SL in Chinese, English, or Spanish, or a SL “self-taught” Literature course in your mother tongue (other than the languages mentioned).
2. Language Acquisition: The study of a second language at a range of levels. English, French, Mandarin, Spanish
3. Individual & Societies: Economics, Geography, History, Business & Management, Environmental Systems & Societies, Global Politics
4. Science: Physics, Chemistry, Biology and Environmental Systems & Societies.
5. Mathematics: This can be studied at various levels.
6. The Arts: Visual Arts, or Theatre Arts OR another subject from 1-4

There are three other requirements for the award of the Diploma:

Theory of Knowledge – is a course designed to encourage students to reflect on the nature of knowledge by critically examining different ways of knowing (perception, emotion, language and reason) and different kinds of knowledge (scientific, artistic, mathematical and historical).

Extended Essay – a piece of personal research of approximately 4,000 words in one of the I.B. subjects.

Creativity, Activity and Service (CAS) – Since international understanding and attitudes of mutual tolerance cannot be adequately fostered in the classroom alone, as an integral part of their education, students are required to participate in a variety of activities to develop these qualities and new skills. Special importance is attached to the programme of community service. This is met through our “Quan Cai” programme, which aims to integrate students into the community and allows them to share their knowledge, individual cultures and particular abilities with others.

To be awarded the Diploma students must have gained a satisfactory mark in all six courses, have fulfilled the requirements of the Theory of Knowledge course, submitted an Extended Essay and participated in the CAS Programme. A wide range of assessment types is used including written, oral and practical work, project work and assessment by subject teachers, in addition to more traditional examinations.