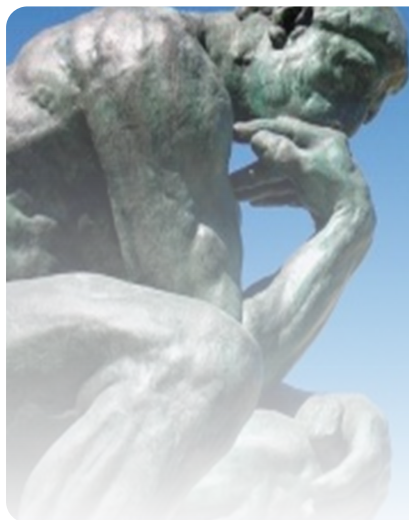




Walled Lake Western IB Diploma Programme Prospectus





What is the IB Diploma Programme?

The International Baccalaureate (IB) Diploma Programme is a rigorous, two-year high school program that provides 11th and 12th grade students with a challenging, educational experience focusing heavily on writing and global perspectives.



Earn Scholarships

Over the past five years, our IB graduates collectively earned just over \$2.2 million, averaging approximately \$30,000 per student!



Earn College Credit

Our graduates typically earn between 18-30 college credits, depending on their IB Scores. Many begin as sophomores or attain sophomore status after one semester.



Higher University Acceptance Rates

IB Diploma Candidates typically have a 22% higher university acceptance rate at most universities. At Ivy League Universities, an IB Diploma Candidate's rate of acceptance is between 5-13% higher... almost doubling a student's chance of acceptance.



Best University Preparation

IB Diploma Graduates have an easier transition to university life, graduate earlier, and typically outperform their peers.



NHS & AP exams

IB Students can "double-dip" in two important areas; AP exams and NHS hours. IB students sit for both AP and IB exams. Similarly, service completed for the IB CAS (Creativity, Activity, and Service) component can also be used for NHS hours.



Balance Social and Academic Life

IB Students are encouraged to participate in extra-curricular activities such as theater, sports, and clubs. Almost everything they are engaged in can be used for the IB CAS (Creativity, Activity, and Service) component!



Conduct University Level Research

IB Diploma Candidates conduct research in several areas of study throughout their coursework, culminating in a 4,000 word Extended Essay on the research topic of their choice.



Excellent Test Preparation

The very nature of an IB course provides outstanding preparation for university readiness tests such as the ACT and SAT.

The IB Advantage, According to The World's Finest Universities

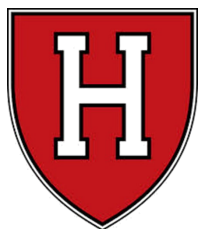


Joseph Gore,
Admissions Counselor, U of M
"We **definitely take note of the IB Diploma in the admissions process** at Michigan! Feel free to quote me on that!"

Cliff Sjogren, former Director of Admissions, U of M

"A transcript that reveals a student's enrollment in International Baccalaureate courses serves notice to the admissions officer that the applicant is someone who **accepts rather than avoids educational challenges**. Further, a successful IB student will enroll at Michigan with **some advantages over students who have taken less intensive programs...**"

Marilyn McGraff Lewis, Assistant Dean of Admissions, Harvard University



"IB is well known to us as excellent preparation. **Success in an IB program correlates well with success at Harvard.** We are always pleased to see the credentials of the IB Diploma Program on the transcript. **GPA is not nearly as important a factor in university admission as the IB Diploma.** If a student has to choose, choose the Diploma over protecting the GPA."

William Shain, Dean of Undergraduate Admissions, Vanderbilt University

"I have always been a supporter of the International Baccalaureate. It is a thoughtful and genuinely intellectual curriculum with an unusually high degree of integrity and connectedness. **There is no other curriculum anywhere that does a superior job of both educating students and inspiring a true and broad-based love of learning.**"



VANDERBILT

Brandon R. Clarke, Former Admission Director, Stanford University



"Highly selective colleges and universities are looking for students who take the **most challenging courses available** to them. The IB programme is notable not just for the rigor of its individual classes, but for the thoughtful integration of the entire programme. **Students who complete the IB diploma are the kind of smart, intellectually curious, and creative students who excel at the top universities.**"

Pamela Horne, Assistant to the Provost for Enrollment and Director of Admissions, MSU

"My eyes light up when I see 'International Baccalaureate Diploma Programme' on a transcript. **Students who apply to Michigan State University with IB credentials are assumed to be mature, curious, and creative.** They have proven to be successful in a rigorous program that is both broad and deep in its content and intellectual challenge.... The challenge of **completing an IB diploma means that a student has engaged in the kind of rigorous work** that is likely to help them become not just an outstanding college student and citizen of the world, but an exceptional one."



Marilee Jones, Director of Undergraduate Admissions, M.I.T.

"Send us prepared students a la IB...**it is the BEST high school prep curriculum** an American school can offer."



**Massachusetts
Institute of
Technology**

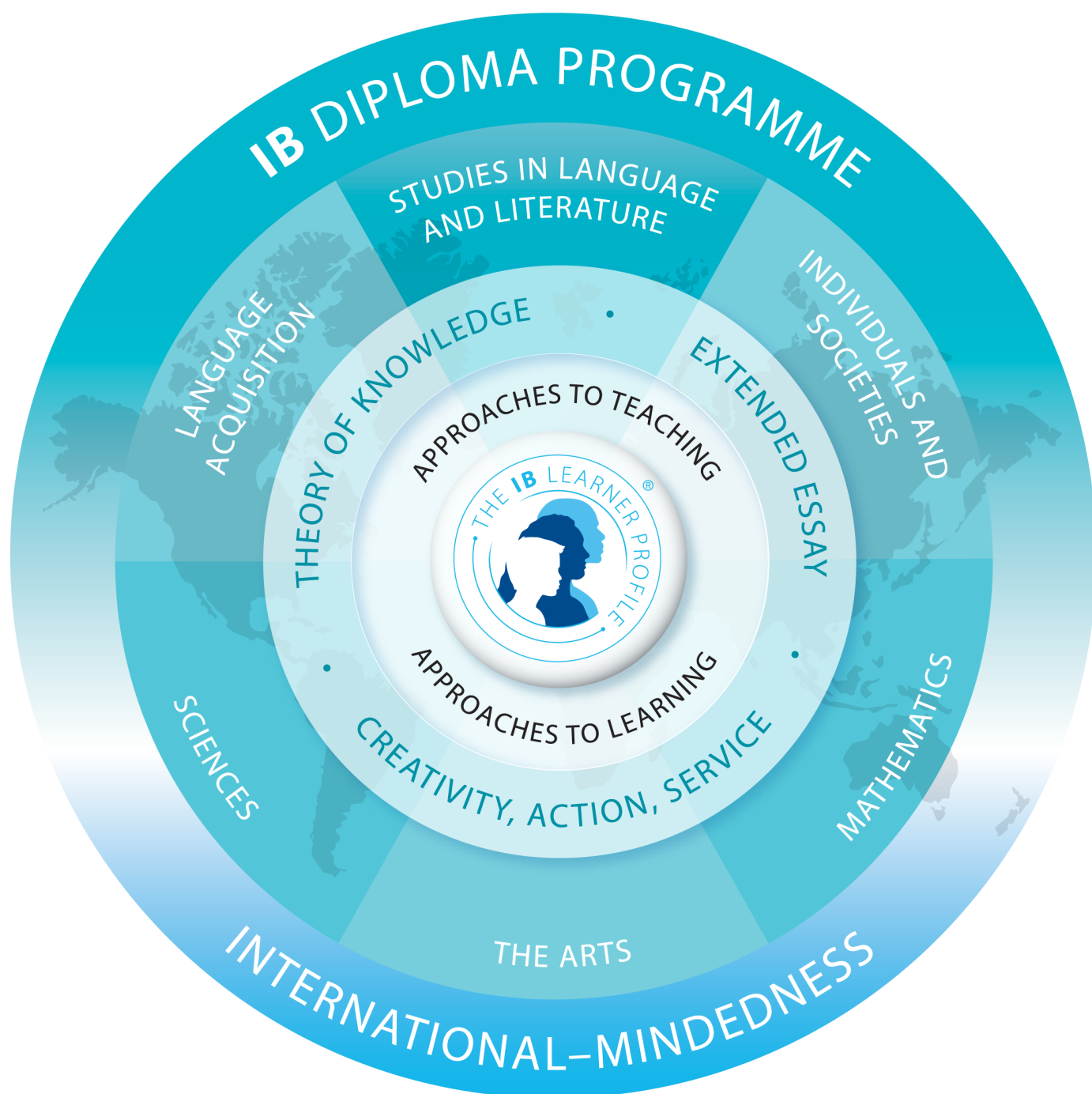
Christoph Guttentag, Director of Undergraduate Admissions, Duke University

"One of the **advantages of an IB curriculum is its structure and quality.** It is a coordinated program, well established, well known and well respected. We know the quality of IB courses, and we think **the IB curriculum is terrific.**"



Diploma Programme

Curriculum Framework



Diploma Programme

A Closer Look

Theory of Knowledge (ToK)

A class that intends to:

- stimulate critical reflection
- question the bases/biases of knowledge
- develop a personal conclusion based on analysis and evidence

Creativity, Action, and Service (CAS)

- completed outside of coursework throughout the duration of the programme
- emphasizes the importance of life outside the world of academics
- encourages students to build/share talents, create awareness, and work cooperatively

Extended Essay (EE)

- 4000 word essay, based on original research, that is completed outside of coursework
- students choose their own topic from a list of IB subjects
- Students select a teacher mentor to help guide them through the research and writing process
- prepares students for the type of writing expected at University level

Assessment

- WLW IB teachers provide an *internal assessment* for each student that is moderated by IB and incorporated into the student's overall IB score for that subject
- students take a total of six *external assessments* (one in May of their junior year and the remaining five in May of their senior year)
- student performance is measured against IB assessment criteria based on the aims and objectives of each subject's curriculum, rather than on the performance of other students taking the same examinations

Award of the Diploma

- final grades are given for each subject on a scale of 1 (minimum) to 7 (maximum)
- requires a total of 24 points and meeting all the criteria
- must complete the Extended Essay, Theory of Knowledge course, and CAS activities
- students who fail to satisfy all the requirements for the IB Diploma are awarded a certificate for each successfully completed subject

Notes:

- Two-year rigorous curriculum
- Grades 11 and 12
- International examinations

Objectives:

- provide a balanced education
- promote international understanding and responsible citizenship
- provide an opportunity for students to explore other cultures and perspectives
- instill academic integrity and intellectual promise

Course Requirements:

- seven IB courses in grades 11 & 12
- one course from each group plus Theory of Knowledge
- 3 Higher Level (HL) courses and 3 Standard Level (SL) courses

Course Offerings:

GROUP 1: English (HL)

GROUP 2: French (SL/HL)
German (SL/HL)
Spanish (SL/HL)

GROUP 3: Global Politics (SL/HL)
Psychology (SL)

GROUP 4: Biology (SL/HL)
Environmental (SL)
Chemistry (SL)
Physics (SL)

GROUP 5: Math: Appl. & Int. (SL)
Math: Analysis & Appr. (SL/HL)

GROUP 6: Theatre (SL)
Visual Art (SL/HL)
Film (SL/HL)
OR
second group 3 or 4 course

IB Student Profile

Attributes of Successful IB Diploma Candidates

At Western High School, we encourage students who want to challenge themselves academically to seriously consider participating in our International Baccalaureate Diploma Programme. In order to help each student (and his/her parents) make a realistic decision about pursuing the IB program, we have provided a profile of what we have found are essential characteristics of a successful IB Diploma Candidate.

The successful International Baccalaureate student...

- ✓ is self-motivated
- ✓ has the desire to challenge him/herself intellectually and academically
- ✓ participates in discussions and works responsibly with others
- ✓ articulates ideas and information effectively, both orally and in writing
- ✓ has the ability to reason, (i.e.: see relationships, draw conclusions, deduce, etc)
- ✓ possesses a broad range of interests beyond the classroom
- ✓ has good attendance and work habits
- ✓ is commitment to service
- ✓ possess (or be willing to acquire) good time and stress management skills
- ✓ be open and tolerant of different ideas
- ✓ understands the commitment and persistence needed to meet the challenges of the program's rigor

Motivation, commitment, and self-discipline are the common traits of many successful IB candidates.

*These are recommendations of what it takes to be a successful IB Diploma Candidate.
If a student is willing to strive for these characteristics, we would like to give them the opportunity to do so.*



The IB Learner Profile

10 Characteristics IB Students Strive to Develop



KNOWLEDGEABLE

You explore concepts, ideas and issues that have local and global significance. In so doing, you acquire in-depth knowledge and develop understanding across a broad and balanced range of disciplines.

COMMUNICATORS

You understand and express ideas and information confidently and creatively in more than one language and in a variety of modes of communication. You work effectively and willingly in collaboration with others.

CARING

You show empathy, compassion and respect towards the needs and feelings of others. You have a personal commitment to service and act to make a positive difference in the lives of others and in the environment.

BALANCED

You understand the importance of intellectual, physical and emotional balance to achieve personal well-being for yourself and others.

INQUIRERS

You have natural curiosity and learn to acquire the skills necessary to conduct inquiry and research and show independence in learning. You actively enjoy learning and this love of learning will be sustained throughout your life.

RISK-TAKERS

You approach unfamiliar situations and uncertainty with courage and forethought and have the independence of spirit to explore new roles, ideas and strategies. You are brave and articulate in defending your beliefs.

PRINCIPLED

You act with integrity and honesty, and with a strong sense of fairness, justice and respect for the dignity of individuals, groups and communities. You take responsibility for your own actions and the consequences that accompany them.

OPEN-MINDED

You understand and appreciate your own cultures and personal histories, and are open to the perspectives, values and traditions of other individuals and communities. You are accustomed to seeking and evaluating a range of points of view, and are willing to grow.

REFLECTIVE

You give thoughtful consideration to your own learning and experience. You are able to assess and understand your strengths and limitations in order to support your learning and personal development.

THINKERS

You exercise initiative in applying thinking skills critically and creatively to recognize, and make reasoned, ethical decisions.

Commonly Asked Questions

About the Western HS IB Programme

Will students earn weighted grades for the IB classes?

Yes. Most IB courses in the same manner as AP courses with the following exceptions: SL courses that are two years long are only weighted the second year. Theory of Knowledge is not weighted. See the District weighted scale for more details.

Is college credit offered for IB?

Yes. Similar to AP, the criteria at individual colleges and universities vary, but because the IB HL courses are all two years long, IB students typically earn more IB credit per course than their AP counterparts. Most universities and colleges will accept HL courses for credit depending on the IB score earned by students taking independent courses. IB Diploma Candidates are more likely to be awarded credit for their SL courses even though this is not advertised.

What is the difference between AP and IB?

Both programs provide students with rich and challenging curricula and both enjoy national and international college and university recognition. They mainly differ in the assessments as shown below.

IB	focused on content and application of knowledge in a <u>variety of contexts</u>	mostly written response (only science has multiple choice)	3-4 different formal IB exams per course; one in class, the rest in May.	IB students can sit for AP exams (most do very well!)
AP	focused on content and application of knowledge <u>within a subject area</u>	mostly multiple choice with some written response	one formal AP exam per course in two sections in May.	AP students may NOT sit for IB exams.

Can I take one or more IB courses without enrolling as an IB Diploma Candidate?

Yes. Students can either take the IB courses that interest them simultaneously with AP and Honors courses. Certain AP and IB courses are combined, which may cause students taking a mixture of classes to essentially take a Diploma Candidate course load. In such cases, students should consider applying as an IB Diploma Candidate.

Do IB Candidates have any room in their schedule for electives?

Yes. During both junior and senior years, students have room for one semester elective. However, we offer the option of flexing 4th hour so students can take one full year elective both junior and senior years. Several of our students opt for this to maintain their band, orchestra, choir, art, or additional AP/IB courses.

Do IB Candidates have time to participate in sports or other after school activities?

Yes. Diploma students do not have to forgo other important parts of high school life. They may remain involved in sports, student government, clubs, theatre, music, community events and other extra-curricular activities. Such activities are incorporated into the Diploma Programme through the creativity, action, service (CAS) requirement.

What is the cost (if any) to an IB student's family?

As with, students taking AP exams, there is a fee for IB exams. If a student wishes to attain a certificate or a Diploma, then there is an assessment fee. Students on free/reduced lunch are eligible to receive assistance from the State of Michigan.

Western High School's

IB Enrollment Process... Easy as 1, 2, 3!

1

Explore your options and do some research!

Use our website, come to a meeting, talk with a counselor/Dr. Friedman

2

Check your eligibility!

Diploma candidates typically must take either Math HL or 2nd Language HL (or both!).

Students may take both at the HL if they so choose. Pathways to Math and 2nd Language HL are listed below.

French/German/Spanish

*Students continuing **French** or **Spanish** or **German (SL/HL)** must complete level 3 before 11th grade.*

*Students may begin French, German, or Spanish (**ab initio SL**) without prior experience in the 11th grade.*

*Students may study **literature in their native language (SL)**.*

Math

*Students taking **Math: Analysis & Interpretation HL** should have completed Hon Algebra 2 before 11th grade.*

Other options exist! Please contact with Dr. Friedman if you are interested in the program but aren't ready for either Math or 2nd Language HL.

3

Apply online!

Students can apply at any time.

Priority deadline is December 15th each year.

Final deadline is Feb 15 of the student's sophomore year.

Western High School Candidates

Colleges and Universities

Our IB Diploma Graduates and a few of the colleges and universities to which they were accepted!



VANDERBILT
UNIVERSITY



THE GEORGE
WASHINGTON
UNIVERSITY
WASHINGTON, DC



THE UNIVERSITY OF
CHICAGO

Dr. Friedman
IB Coordinator
248-956-4414
AmiFriedman@wlsd.org