

Course sequences and options for IB students at Eastside High School

IB exams are taken in the 11th and 12th grade years. IB Diploma candidates must create a schedule that allows them to take 3 HL and 3 SL exams (the recommended path), or 4 HL and 2 SL exams (the more difficult path) between their 11th and 12th grade years. The IB coordinator and teachers work with all IB students in this process starting in the 10th grade pre-IB year. This document outlines the course sequences offered in the Eastside IB Diploma Program.

HL courses require 240 hours of contact time between teacher and student, and SL courses require 120 hours. HL exams are only taken by seniors. IB expects that at least one SL course be taken for an entire two years. At Eastside, this is usually achieved through the Group 2 language class, but for many students, it also fits IB Biology and Chemistry classes. **NOTE: all IB classes MUST be taken at Eastside. Classes taken at a university (dual enrollment) CANNOT count for IB diploma credit or assessments.**

A student may take an exam in each of the 6 IB Group (subject) areas. Group 6 (Arts) exams are optional. If a Group 6 exam is not taken the student must replace it with a second exam chosen from Groups 2, 3, 4 or 5. All Eastside IB students are required to take the Group 1 HL exam. Students can take 2 exams from one Group as long as they are not the same subject area: for example, a student could not count both SL Physics and an HL Physics, or both SL Music and an HL Music, but they can count IB SL Physics and IB HL Biology.

Additionally, all IB students are registered for Theory of Knowledge (ToK) in their senior year although it is not taught as a daily class. ToK actually starts in the junior year. Between their junior and senior years, students also complete the requirements of the Extended Essay and CAS (Creativity, Activity, and Service).

Exams in **RED** indicate ones which students must or can choose to take to meet the diploma requirements. A double arrow (← ---→) indicates a course or exam that can be taken in any of the years indicated by the arrows.

While these sequences will apply to most students, special circumstances may dictate a modification for an individual student. Regardless, all students will follow a schedule that will provide them an opportunity to achieve the IB Diploma.

GROUP 1 (Language and literature)

Eastside students are required to take the IB HL English exam.

Students who are multi-lingual may try to earn the IB Bilingual Diploma. Pursuing that special diploma requires approval by the Coordinator and senior English teacher and requires students to study literature in both English and their native language. These students do not take Group 2 Spanish or French.

9 th	10 th	11 th	12 th
Pre-IB English	AP English Language	AP English Literature	IB HL English

GROUP 2 (Language Acquisition)

Students will choose between French or Spanish and most will take the SL exam their senior year after four full years of language study. Native speakers of either of these two languages can elect to study the other language but not their native tongue.

Incoming 9th graders will be offered an opportunity to take a language proficiency exam at Eastside at the end of their 8th grade year. If they qualify, they can be placed in the pre-IB level 2 class.

9 th Pre-IB French 1	10 th Pre-IB French 2	11 th IB French 3	12 th IB SL French 4
Pre-IB French 2	Pre-IB French 3	IB SL French 4	OR IB HL French 5
Pre-IB Spanish 1	Pre-IB Spanish 2	IB Spanish 3	IB SL Spanish 4
Pre-IB Spanish 2	Pre-IB Spanish 3	IB SL Spanish 4	OR IB HL Spanish 5

GROUP 3 (INDIVIDUALS AND SOCIETIES)

Students have a number of options in this group. They can elect to take history all four years in which case they would be expected to take the IB HL Contemporary History exam (with a regional focus on the Americas) or they can combine history courses with studies in psychology and/or environmental studies which may be taken as IB SL exams. Students at Eastside are NOT required to take HL history but in that case they would have to complete one of the other SL Group 3 subjects.

Eastside students must take AP history courses in grades 10 and 11. The AP US History course serves as the first year of the optional IB HL Contemporary History course. Contemporary History will have an Americas regional focus.

Students may take the AP Psychology or AP Environmental Science starting in 10th grade ***but this choice prohibits them from taking the equivalent IB courses in Psychology and Environmental Systems.*** Thus, choosing to take these classes as AP could result in a student having to take HL History in order to complete the Diploma requirements, ***so it is often wise not to choose these classes as electives in grade 10.*** Likewise, students who have done IB Psychology or Environmental are excluded from later taking the AP equivalent course. Colleges will not award double credit for AP and IB courses bearing the same names.

Additionally, students may take AP courses in government, human geography and economics as electives. We do not offer IB exams in these fields.

Finally, IB allows Environmental Systems and Societies to count as either a Group 3 or Group 4 subject.

9 th AP Seminar	10 th AP World History	11 th AP US History	12 th IB HL Contemporary History
(cannot do AP Psych)		IB SL Psychology <----->	
(cannot do AP Environmental)		IB SL Environmental Systems <----->	
	AP Psychology ----->		
	AP Environmental Science <----->		
AP Human Geography <----->			
AP Microeconomics/Government <----->			

*NOTE: students taking IB Psychology or IB Environmental Systems may take AP tests in these areas but will have to pay for them as the District will only pay for one test.
It is not recommended that students take AP Microeconomics/Government in their 9th grade year.
AP Human Geography is a highly recommended elective for grades 9 or 10.
AP Research is a follow-up course to AP Seminar and would make a good elective choice for 10th graders.*

GROUP 4 (SCIENCES)

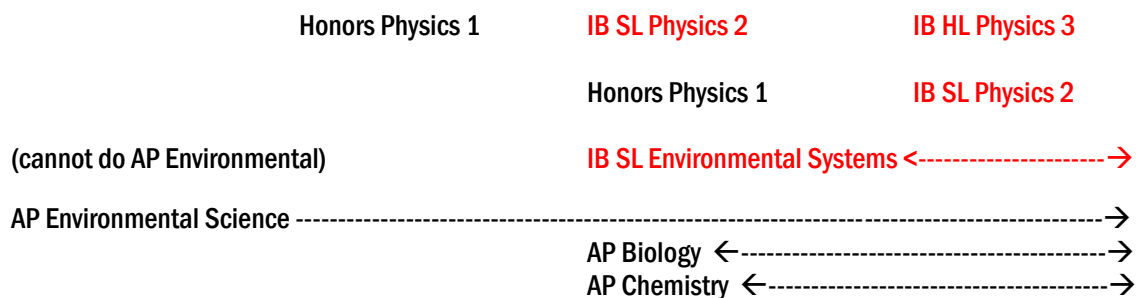
Science options are extensive, allowing for students to gain a solid knowledge base in the four major areas of study (biology, chemistry, physics, and environmental studies) or pursue a smaller number of selected ones in greater depth. It is challenging, but not impossible, for students to take two HL exams in Group 4, e.g., HL Biology and HL Chemistry.

Please note that IB HL science courses provide one college lab credit. IB students are strongly encouraged to take IB sciences rather than AP science courses for this reason, in addition to the fact that IB science courses create a deeper understanding of the nature and creation of scientific knowledge.

Biology and Chemistry will be taken over two years in order to provide students with the time and practice needed for successfully completing science assessments. This means that students will complete their Group 4 tests in the senior year in these subjects. Students are highly encouraged to pursue an HL Group 4 exam but this is optional. Students can elect to additionally take AP science equivalent tests in their senior year at their own expense. This will require additional studying on their part.

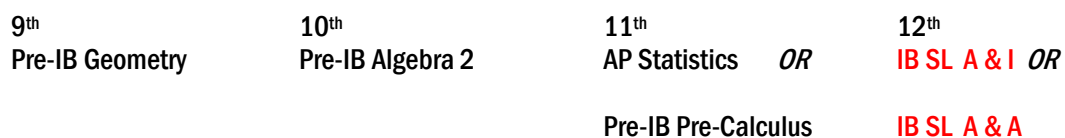
AP Statistics is a very useful class to take before entering into the IB Group 4 courses. It is also helpful for students taking HL Physics to take calculus but this is not a requirement.

9 th Pre-IB Biology	10 th Pre-IB Chemistry	11 th IB Biology 1	12 th IB SL Biology 2 OR IB HL Biology 3
(cannot do AP Biology or AP Chemistry)		IB SL Chemistry 1	IB SL Chemistry 2 OR IB HL Chemistry 3

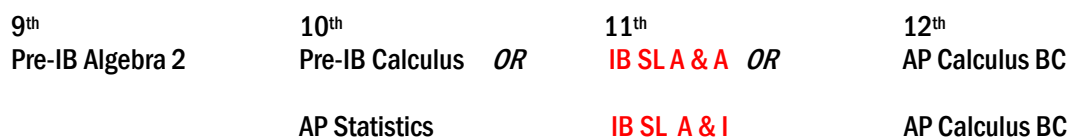


GROUP 5 (MATHEMATICS)

There are three basic tracks for Group 5. Students who have taken Algebra 1 in middle school would likely follow this one:

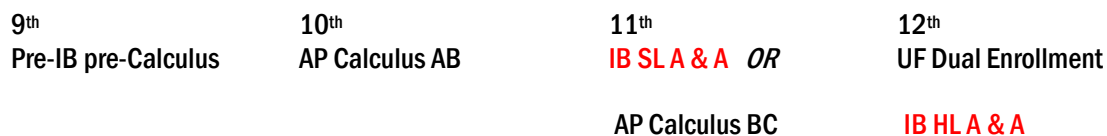


For students who took Geometry in middle school, a likely track is:



NOTE: AP Statistics is recommended as an additional math elective for students planning careers in research, science, engineering, etc. It can be taken at any grade level.

For students who have taken BOTH Algebra 2 and Geometry in middle school, tracks are:



++ Students who want to take IB HL Math should take AP Calc BC in 11th grade rather than the SL IB exam.

NOTE: We do NOT encourage students to take online math classes as they tend to lack the depth obtained in a face-to-face class. We also discourage students from getting too far ahead in math; a growing amount of research suggests that younger students may not be developmentally ready to fully comprehend higher mathematics.

We do not have sufficient numbers of advanced math students to offer a separate math class beyond the level of Calculus BC. Students who take the HL Math exams therefore do a fair amount of independent study under the supervision of the HL math teacher.

Students contemplating careers in Engineering, Business, education or any of the sciences are encouraged to take AP Statistics.

GROUP 6 (THE ARTS)

IB Diploma students are NOT required to take courses in Group 6. However, if they choose not to do a Group 6 exam, they must then replace it with an additional course selected from Groups 2, 3, 4 or 5.

Students who pursue a Group 6 exam typically do not pursue the IB HL Group 3 Contemporary History or IB HL Group 4 exam. They can fulfill their Group 3 exam requirement by taking SL Psychology or SL Environmental Systems.

Group 6 exams are offered at both the SL and HL levels.

Visual Arts will be taken over two years in order to complete the Arts assessments. HL Visual Arts students must have teacher approval as the assessments are considerably involved and time-consuming.

For Music and Theater students, SL level projects and papers are offered to both juniors and seniors. Those students wanting to take the HL courses are required to participate in the SL level projects and papers in the junior year and will replace them with HL projects and papers in the senior year.

The Group 6 teachers strongly recommend that students take appropriate elective classes (see below) in the 9th and/or 10th grade years to provide a foundation for IB level coursework, and consult with the particular arts teacher prior to signing up for an IB level course. Arts teachers will personally evaluate individual students to determine whether they are sufficiently skilled and knowledgeable to handle IB work. It is the obligation of students to arrange such evaluations with these teachers.

9th Art III Honors	10th Draw-3 Honors <i>(required for IB Art)</i>	11th IB Visual Arts 1	12 th IB SL Visual Arts 2 <i>OR</i> IB HL Visual Arts 3
Pre-IB Theatre III (Theatre I or II is a less preferred background)	(Pre-IB Theatre IV)	IB SL Theatre 2 ←-----→	IB SL Theatre 2 IB HL Theatre 3
Prefer music background, but not required		IB SL Music: solo or group ←-----→	<i>OR</i> IB SL Music: solo or group IB HL Music