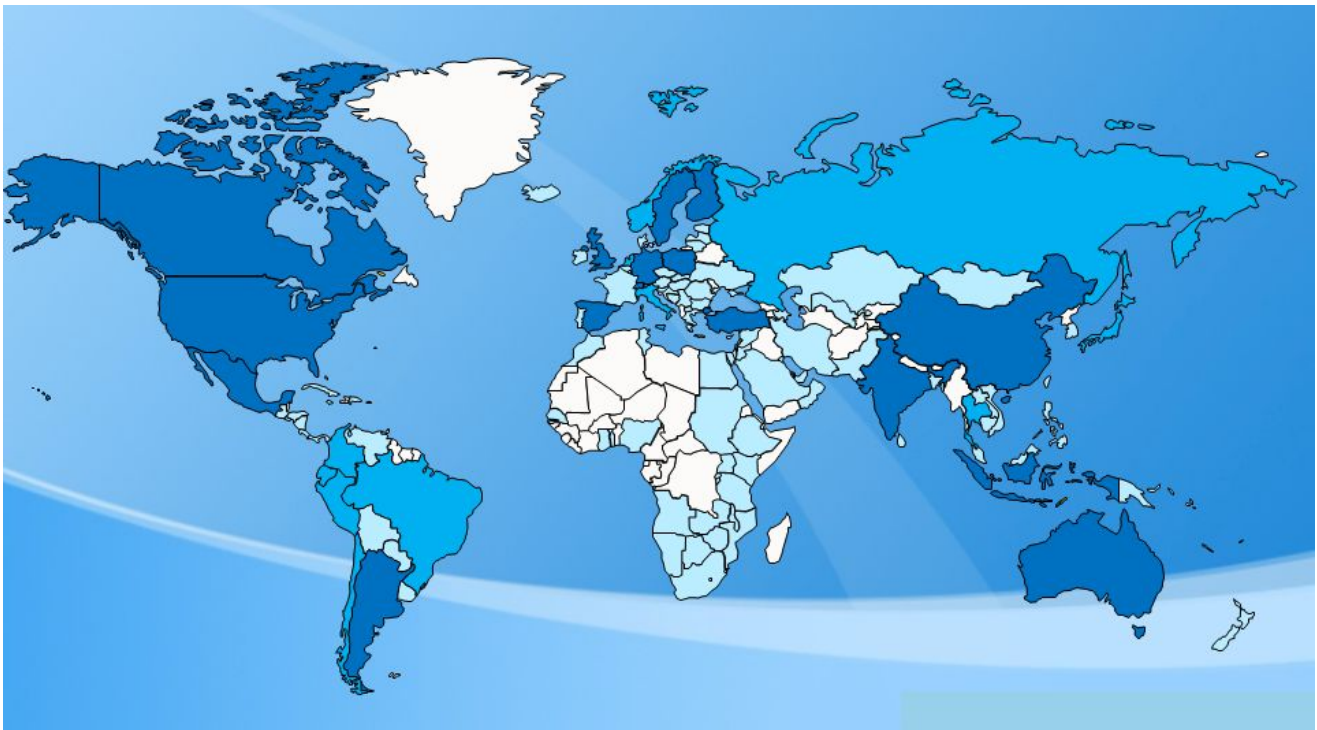


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# INTERNATIONAL BACCALAUREATE

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## Wait, what's IB?



The IB Program is a highly respected curriculum of international education that emphasizes the intellectual, personal, emotional and social skills needed to live, learn, and work in a rapidly globalizing world. Contrary to popular belief, the International Baccalaureate program was not founded in the United States. In fact, it did not even exist until the early 1960s, and even then it had a slightly different approach than we see now. It was developed by a group of international educators in an effort to provide a preparatory program for the international student. The program developed with an emphasis on progressive education trends, such as critical analysis, student choice, child-centered education, and range of

**There are 3,188 IB Schools in 140 countries, comprised of about 917,000 students.**

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skills testing. In 1967, Theory of Knowledge was introduced. It was the first course of its kind to provide an opportunity for students to reflect on the nature of knowledge, and how we know what we claim to know. Soon after, in 1968, CAS was introduced to the diploma program. CAS (creativity, activity, and service) involves students in range of activities alongside their academic studies. Although not formally graded, it provides students with an opportunity to reflect on their initiative, perseverance, and skills they have developed, such as collaboration, problem solving, and decision making. Finally, in 1974, the extended essay was introduced, creating the IB Diploma structure we are most familiar with today. The extended essay is an independent, self-directed piece of research, finished with a 4,000 word paper. As the program developed further, changing its name from “International Passport to Higher Education” to “International Baccalaureate”, introducing a mission

statement and implementing a learner profile, the program also became more widely accepted around the world. As of 2014, the IB

**“Only a well-rounded intellect, a spirit nourished in the eternal sources of intelligence and culture, of justice and wisdom, is a safeguard against both indifference and skepticism.”**

*-AMEEN RIHANI*

future may be like”. IB is an ever changing program aimed at providing an education like no other, a program with high standards of teaching, pedagogical leadership, and student achievement, that will continue to grow and adapt in the years to come.



**Class of 2017 and 2018 IB Diploma Candidates attempt a ropes course on their fall retreat, emphasizing team building and perseverance.**



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# THE IB EQUATION

## IB Subject Areas

**DIPLOMA CANDIDATES ARE REQUIRED TO TAKE SIX IB LEVEL CLASSES. THESE SHOULD SATISFY EACH OF THE SIX SUBJECT AREAS.**

- |  |                       |
|--|-----------------------|
| <b>1. Studies in language and literature</b> | <b>4. Sciences</b>    |
| <b>2. Language acquisition</b>               | <b>5. Mathematics</b> |
| <b>3. Individuals and societies</b>          | <b>6. The arts</b>    |

### HL Literature

IB HL Lit is one of the most interesting classes IB offers. It is a two-year Higher Level class, where delving deeper into literature is the focus, and having intellectual discussions is the medium for achieving that. Three books are read per semester, and for each of these books, there is an Interactive Oral (IO). The IOs are the teachers' favorite part of the class, as well as most of the students. For every book we read, a third of the class designs two days to teach their classmates (and the teacher) about the culture we read about in its correlating book. These IOs usually consist of ethnic food and games to help students gain a deeper understanding of the culture behind the books. Every project, whether group or individual, is designed to expand one's knowledge creatively.



### 3 or 4 HL Courses

**THE FIRST CLASSES TO CHOOSE ARE YOUR HIGHER LEVEL, TWO-YEAR COURSES. AT MINNETONKA, DIPLOMA CANDIDATES ARE REQUIRED TO TAKE IB HL LITERATURE AND IB HL HISTORY OF EUROPE. THE OTHER ONE OR TWO ARE UP TO YOU!**



### 2 or 3 SL Courses

**THE OTHER IB CLASSES YOU'LL CHOOSE FROM ARE STANDARD LEVEL, ONE YEAR COURSES. THESE MUST SATISFY THE OTHER 2 OR 3 SUBJECT AREAS YOU ARE NOT TAKING AS HIGHER LEVEL CLASSES.**

### HL History of Europe

IB Euro is not your typical history class. The IB team describes history as more "than the study of the past. It is the process of recording, reconstructing and interpreting the past through the investigation of a variety of sources." Through the Higher Level course, students are able to take a look at 20th century world history, in specific regard to Europe and the Middle East. One aspect of this course, that is favored by many students, is the Internal Assessment. Although many courses contain an IA, none are quite like this one; students choose any historic topic to research, reporting their investigation and interpretation. It allows students to choose an area of interest and develop their understanding in a way where learning, discovering, is made interesting.

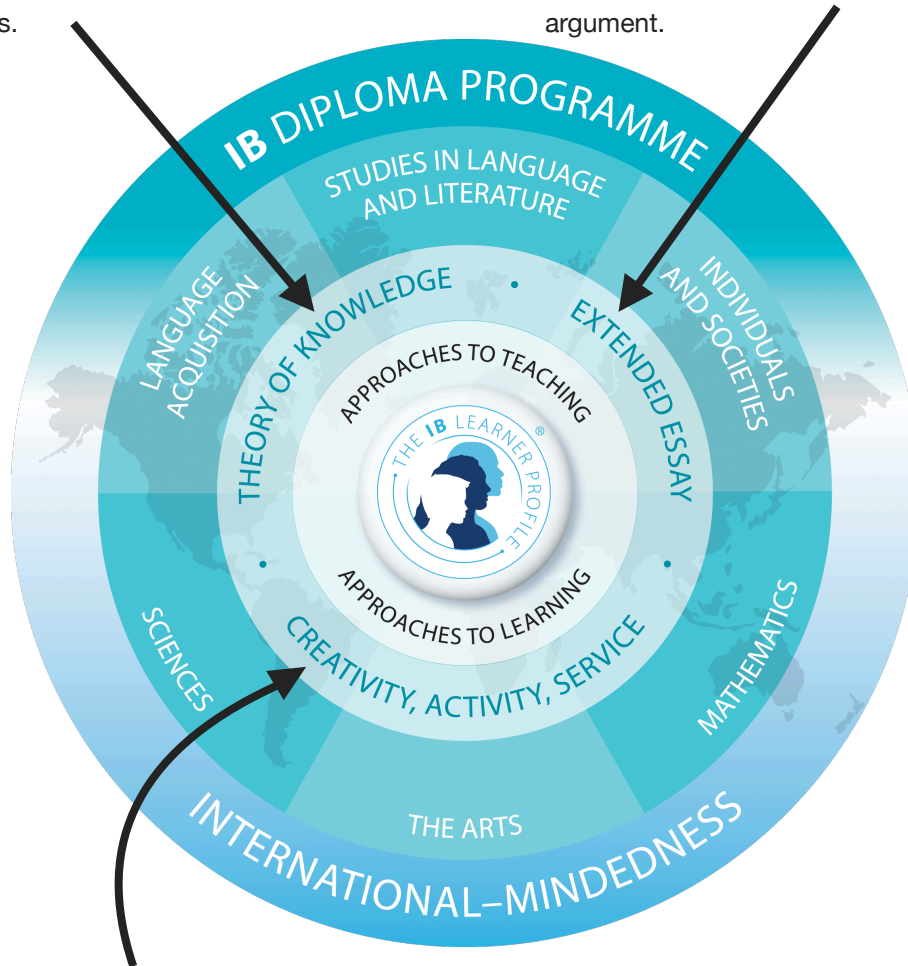
In addition to these six classes, Diploma Candidates must also complete what IB calls "the core." It aims to broaden students' educational experience and challenge them to apply their knowledge and skills. The elements of the core include Theory of Knowledge, CAS, and the Extended Essay.

# Theory of Knowledge

This class is required in addition to your six IB classes and addresses a seemingly simple question: how do we know what we know? ToK encourages all students to present their unique viewpoints on various topics, creating an even stronger sense of community. Students are asked to reflect on the knowledge they've gained and how reliable it is.

# Extended Essay

The Extended Essay (EE) is designed to prepare candidates for undergrad research. The candidates choose a topic that has meaning to them, and that is also related to one of the six IBDP's subjects. The EE will help candidates develop skills in learning how to research, communicating their ideas, and developing an argument.



# Creativity, Activity, and Service

There are three pieces that make up CAS: Creativity (any activity that involves creative thinking), Activity (physical activity that inspires a healthy lifestyle), and Service (unpaid volunteer work that provides learning experiences for the student). For candidates to demonstrate these elements, they have to do a 'CAS Project' to show perseverance and initiative. The CAS project allows the candidates to develop necessary skills that will help decision making, critical thinking, and collaboration.

# TEACHER SPOTLIGHTS

## Ms. Peterson

*IB BIOLOGY SL*



### What makes IB classes different from other classes offered at Minnetonka from your perspective?

IB classes are different because class topics are explored from a global perspective where students first learn the basics and then learn about real life scenarios that are impacting people around the world. There is a strong emphasis on individualized learning. Lab activities are designed and carried out by students.

### In your opinion, what is the most essential trait a student needs to be successful? Why?

In order for students to be successful they need to be resilient and determined. IB courses are designed to be challenging and students often struggle at some point during the year. When students face these struggles head on and work to overcome them they usually see the most growth.

## Mrs. Duncan

*IB HISTORY OF EUROPE HL AND IB THEORY OF KNOWLEDGE*



### In your opinion, what is the most essential trait a student needs to be successful? Why?

One trait? Well, if I have to choose one, I'll say the ability to stay focused and interested in class. I know that's not always easy, but students who can maintain a strong focus learn the most. It is also important to maintain concentration and interest while reading but I think paying attention and contributing in class is even more important.

### What is the one of the most memorable moments you've had as an IB teacher?

For years we have worked to increase the number of students participating in the full IB Diploma Program. When we gathered in the Forum this fall, it was very moving to me to see so many students who are taking on this work. But there are many other moments I could name – when you work with such smart, kind, and thoughtful students and colleagues, you have a lot of good memories.

## Mr. DeLorenzo

*IB THEORY OF KNOWLEDGE*



### How long have you been teaching an IB subject?

This is my first year teaching in the IB program. I have been teaching English in the district for 23 years and I have taught all levels of English. I spent the past four years teaching AP Language and Composition, which was great, but now I have been given this wonderful opportunity to teach IB Theory of Knowledge along side Ms. Duncan.

### What makes IB classes different from other classes offered at Minnetonka from your perspective?

Teaching IB Theory of Knowledge is really different from any course I have ever taught. This class encourages students to examine how they have come to understand the world around them, how they have come to know what they know. And we explore the many concepts of the curriculum through in-depth discussions--and no two discussions on the same topic are the same. Students connect the ideas to their own experiences and really bring the concepts to life. It is their own questions and ideas that drive the learning--and I consider it a privilege to guide that understanding as it develops over the course of the school year.

# STUDENT SPOTLIGHTS

## Sophie Henke

CLASS OF 2018 DIPLOMA CANDIDATE



### What's your favorite thing about IB so far?

My favorite thing about the IB program is the people. I have gotten to know so many different people, and they are all interested in academics like me. It's been really nice to see new people that I could connect with!

### What makes you an IB student?

I think my determination to work hard and push myself is what makes me an IB student. We have lots of new and different assignments, but even though they may be difficult I strive to do my absolute best each time.

### What is something prospective IB students should know?

Prospective IB students should know that, although difficult, IB is a really great program. I am interested in almost all of my classes, and the assignments are so different from sophomore year, I really like it! Plus, there are tons of other IB students going through the same things as you, so you know that if you need support you have lots of great people to turn to.

## Aidan O'Donnell

CLASS OF 2018 DIPLOMA CANDIDATE



### What's your favorite IB class?

IB Biology SL is definitely my favorite.

### What activities do you participate in outside of the IB program?

I participate in many service clubs, including leading our grade's legacy project. I participate in nordic skiing in the winter. I also row!

### What is something prospective IB students should know?

IB isn't as bad as they say. If you're willing to put in the necessary work, you can do really well.

## Jess Larsen

CLASS OF 2017 DIPLOMA CANDIDATE



### What's your favorite thing about IB so far?

My favourite thing in the world is talking and getting to know others. It sounds strange, but it truly is fascinating to discover new things about yourself and your friends through newly attained friendships. IB is academic, obviously, but the incorporation of friendship and community is too important not to mention, and I love that.

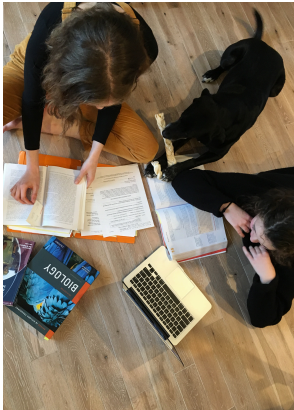
### What's your favorite IB class?

Math, because it doesn't make any sense, and it doesn't have to.

### What is something prospective IB students should know?

If you are considering the IB, I would say good for you for already researching the classes you should take your junior and senior year. That type of forward thinking is exactly the kind of mindset necessary for IB - and I think you should go for it.

# THE **IB** COMMUNITY



*THE DIPLOMA PROGRAM CREATES A TIGHT-KNIT GROUP OF STUDENTS AND TEACHERS DEDICATED TO BETTERING THEMSELVES IN ALL ASPECTS. STUDENTS FROM ALL BACKGROUNDS ARE BROUGHT TOGETHER AND ENCOURAGED TO SHARE THEIR IDEAS AND VALUES. THE IB MISSION IS TO MAKE THE WORLD A BETTER AND MORE PEACEFUL PLACE THROUGH EDUCATION AND EXPOSURE TO OUR QUICKLY GLOBALIZING WORLD.*







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# THE AUTHORS

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**Georgia Brabec**

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**Kate Patten**

*CLASS OF 2018 DIPLOMA CANDIDATE*

**Taylor Mechtel**

*CLASS OF 2018 DIPLOMA CANDIDATE*



International Baccalaureate®  
Baccalauréat International  
Bachillerato Internacional



February 2017				
Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
		1 Math Studies IA IB Psych IA Lit Review Due	2 Spanish IB-HL IA IB Psych IA	3 Spanish IB-HL IA IB Psych IA Research Prop Due
6 Spanish IB-HL IA IB Psych IA	7 IB Psych IA	8 IB MidWinter Mindfulness IB Psych IA Intro & Methods Due	9 IB Psych IA	10 IB Psych IA Lit & Performance Upload
13 IB Psych IA Peer Review Board IB SL Biology IA deadline	14 IB French SL Orals IB Psych IA	15 IB French SL Orals IB Psych IA Prcdr & Consent Forms Due	16 IB French SL Orals IB Psych IA Pilot	17 IB French SL Orals IB Psych IA Pilot Early Release
20 No School - Presidents Day	21 IB Lang and Lit FOA Part 1 IB Psych IA Data Collection	22 IB German WT Upload IB Lang and Lit FOA Part 1 IB Psych IA Data Collection	23 IB Lang and Lit FOA Part 1 IB Psych IA Data Collection Spanish SL WR Upload	24 Upload Mandarin B WT IB Psych IA Data Collection
27 IB Spanish SL WR Upload IB Lang and Lit FOA Part 1 IB Psych IA	28 IB Lang and Lit FOA Part 1 IB Psych IA Data Analysis			
March 2017				
Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
		1 IB Langand Lit SL WrittenTask Part 1 IB Psych IA Data Analysis IB French SL W Upload	2 IB Psych IA Results Due IB SEHS IA #2 Conferences 4-8 p.m.	3 No School - Conferences 8 a.m.-4 p.m.
6 IB SL Physics IA deadline IB Psych IA	7 Spanish SL IA French HL WT Upload French SL WT upload IB Psych IA Discussion Due	8 Spanish SL IA IB Psych IA Lang & Lit WT Upload	9 Spanish SL IA IB Psych IA Lang & Lit WT Upload	10 Bus&Mngt SL & HL IA Due Psych IA due ToK Essay Due
13 Spanish HL IA	14 Spanish SL IA & Spanish HL IA	15 Spanish SL IA Spanish HL EA Math HL IA	16 MCA Testing	17
20 German SL IA SEHS IA	21 German SL IA Chinese SL and HL IA	22 German SL IA Comp Sc IA Chinese SL and HL IA	23 German SL IA Math SL IA Euro HL IA final draft due	24
27 No School - Spring Break	28 No School - Spring Break	29 No School - Spring Break	30 No School - Spring Break	31 No School - Spring Break