

The IB Studies at Joensuu Lyseon Lukio

At Joensuu Lyseon Lukio, the IB Diploma Programme consists of three academic years: the preparatory or pre-DP year (1ib), the first DP year (2ib) and the second DP year (3ib). Pre-DP mainly comprises studies somewhat similar to those in the Finnish national programme but focused particularly on preparing students for studies in the DP. Another distinction is that most compulsory courses are taught in English (the exceptions being languages). After successfully completing the pre-DP year, students are then accepted to the Diploma Programme.

At the end of the pre-DP year, the students choose the subjects they want to study in the Diploma Programme from the selection of courses in the IB curriculum of the school. The number of subjects is normally six. In addition to the subjects, the students will participate in the CAS programme (Creativity, Action and Service, administered by the CAS coordinator), take a course in the Theory of Knowledge (TOK) and compile an Extended Essay of some 4000 words in one of the subjects taught in the Diploma Programme at the school.

The pre-DP students plan their own individual study programmes by choosing the courses from the selection of courses the school offers. There is a certain number of courses/ points that are compulsory for all students, with the exception of non-Finnish students, who are not required to study Finnish or Swedish. In addition to the compulsory studies, the students take courses from the school curriculum so that they have a minimum of 60 points during the academic year. It is, however, possible in some cases to take courses from outside the school curriculum. These exceptions must be agreed upon with the DP Coordinator. Sixty points is the minimum, but the students are strongly encouraged to take more courses if they wish, according to their own interests. It is advisable to take courses that support the student's choices in the IB Diploma Programme. Should there occur any problems with the course selection, the IB Faculty is more than willing to help.

The compulsory courses for all pre-DP students are as follows:

- Finnish, Courses 1, 2 and 3
- English, Courses 2, 3, 4 and 5
- Swedish, Courses 1, 2 and 3
- Advanced Mathematics, Courses 1, 2, 3, 4 and 5
- History and Social Sciences, Courses 1 and 2
- Introduction to Business Management 1
- Psychology, Course 1
- Physics, Courses 1
- Chemistry, Course 1
- Biology, Course 1
- Philosophy, Course 1
- Research Methods 1

In order to be promoted to the Diploma Programme, the pre-DP students are required:

1. to have a minimum of 60 points successfully completed
2. to have successfully completed all the compulsory pre-DP courses as described above (with the exception of non-Finnish students who do not need to study Finnish or Swedish)

Should any of the preconditions mentioned above not be fulfilled, the students may still be accepted to the DP after first consulting the IB Coordinator and then fulfilling the tasks given to him/her by the IB Faculty. The deadline for this extra work is determined by the IB Faculty.

School reports

During the pre-DP year the students receive term reports after each study term, i.e. five times during the academic year. During DP1 (2ib) the students receive term reports at Christmas and in spring when the school year is over. The DP2 (3ib) students receive a term report at Christmas. In the ceremony for all graduates in the spring, these students will be awarded a final report, also called the school leaving certificate, and a white cap, provided their final report fulfils the requirements. The IB Diploma will be awarded in the IB Diploma Award Ceremony arranged at the school on the first Friday of the following September.

International Baccalaureate Diploma Programme (DP 1 & DP2)

The two-year IB Diploma Programme consists of studies in six (or seven) subjects offered on two levels, Higher Level (HL) and Standard Level (SL). The student must have at least three and not more than four HL subjects. HL subjects include 240 hours of instruction (equivalent to 18 points in the national programme). SL subjects include 150 hours (11 course points).

Subjects offered at Joensuun Lyseon Lukio's IB Diploma Programme:

- Group 1: Finnish A Literature HL/SL, English A Language & Literature
- Group 2: Finnish B SL, Swedish B HL/SL, German B HL/SL
- Group 3: Business Management HL/SL, History HL/SL, Psychology HL/SL
- Group 4: Biology HL/SL, Chemistry HL/SL, Physics HL/SL
- Group 5: Mathematics: Analysis and Approaches HL/SL and Mathematics: Applications and Interpretations SL.

In order to be awarded the IB Diploma the candidates must:

1. complete at least one subject from each of the subject groups above (or then two from Group 1)

2. complete at least three and not more than four subjects on Higher Level
3. submit an Extended Essay on one of the subjects taught in the Diploma Programme
4. participate in the Theory of Knowledge course and submit the required work
5. successfully participate in the CAS Programme (Creativity, Action, Service)

In order to be promoted to Class DP2, DP1 students are required:

1. to have successfully completed their studies in the IB subjects on the following terms:
 - the total grade not less than 24 in six subjects (self-taught Language A1 candidates: 20 points in five subjects)
 - no SL subject grade lower than 3
 - no HL subject lower than 4
2. to have successfully completed all the required written assignments and other tasks set by the IB Faculty, following the given deadlines
3. not to have missed more than 15 per cent of their classes in each subject course

If the student receives a low grade (SL: lower than 3, HL: lower than 4), s/he becomes an "academic probationer". S/he must pass a test set by the corresponding teacher in order to be promoted to the final year of the IB Diploma Programme. This probation test is arranged about one week prior to the next academic year. It is important that the student informs the IB Coordinator whether s/he will sit this examination or not. If this test is not passed or not attended, the student is to start the IB Diploma Programme from the beginning the following autumn.