

Desert Mountain High School International Baccalaureate Pre-Diploma and Diploma Program Course Selection 2008-2009

General Information

The IB Diploma Program at DMHS is a course of study that takes place during the junior and senior years. DMHS preparation, prior to the Diploma Program, occurs during the freshman and sophomore years. Freshman and sophomore preparation is referred to as "Pre-Diploma."

DMHS offers only Full IB Diploma Candidacy in contrast to some schools that offer only IB courses and "certificates." "Full Diploma Candidacy" is designated on the college transcripts of DMHS IB seniors.

IB Diploma Candidates undertake:

- Three core requirements
- Six IB Subject Courses, in a minimum of five different disciplines
- DMHS non-IB, graduation requirements
- Optional Honors, AP, or IB SL electives, if schedules permit

IB Pre-Diploma Students:

- Study five or more academic subjects, each year.
- Choose electives, after consideration of IB Diploma Program course prerequisites and DMHS graduation requirements.

Program Admission, Registration and the Course Selection Process

Eighth grade students submit applications for IB Pre-Diploma enrollment. Pre-Diploma and other high achieving sophomores submit applications for Full IB Diploma Candidacy. Notification of acceptance into the programs is mailed in mid-February.

Families are notified regarding deadlines for course selection and pre-registration. Students should be prepared with alternative course choices since difficulty with the scheduling of electives may arise. Infrequently, electives with insufficient enrollment may be cancelled. Student course requests will appear online for parental verification. Families will be able to modify course requests by contacting the appropriate DMHS Guidance Counselor before the first week in April. Post April scheduling errors may require course changes during the August registration week. Schedule changes must be approved by administration and signed by parents.

Diploma Program Subject Courses are:

- **Higher Level (HL) two-year classes**
- **Standard Level (SL) one-year classes**

Diploma Candidates choose a minimum of three HLs, or a maximum of four HL courses.

The choice of four HLs is infrequent.

Three HL option:

Candidates study HL English, SL World Language, one SL Elective and:

HL History, HL Math, and SL Science or

HL History, HL Science, and SL Math or

HL Math, HL Science, and SL Psychology or SL Business & Management or SL Economics

Four HL option:

Candidates study HL English, HL History, HL Math and HL Science, SL World Language and one SL Elective.

DMHS IB Program Diploma Candidate Course Selection

The International Baccalaureate Program Core

When	Where	Choices	Courses & Requirements
Two semesters in Sr year	In Classroom	Required	Theory of Knowledge (ToK)
March of Jr year to Nov. of Sr year	Out of Classroom	Required	The Extended Essay (EE)
75 Hours in each of Jr & Sr year	Out of Classroom	Required	Community Action & Service (CAS)

IB Higher Level (HL) & Standard Level (SL) Subject Group Courses

	Choices	When	Courses	HL	SL
Group 1 Native Language	Required	Jr & Sr	HL English AI	X	
Group 2 World Language	Must Choose One	Jr or Sr	SL Spanish SL French		X X
Group 3 Individuals & Societies	Must Choose One	Jr & Sr Jr or Sr Jr or Sr Jr or Sr	HL History SL Psychology SL Business & Management SL Economics	X	X X X
Group 4 Experimental Science	Must Choose One	Jr & Sr Jr & Sr Jr or Sr Jr or Sr Jr or Sr	HL Biology HL Chemistry SL Chemistry SL Physics SL Biology	X X	X X X
Group 5 Mathematics	Must Choose One	Jr & Sr Jr or Sr Jr or Sr	HL Mathematics SL Mathematics SL Math Studies	X	X X
	Elective	Jr or Sr	SL Computer Science		X
Group 6 Arts -or- Electives From Other Subject Groups	Must Choose One	Jr or Sr	SL Art Design SL Theater SL Music -or- SL Psychology SL Business & Management SL Chemistry SL Physics SL Biology SL Computer Science SL Economics		X X X X X X X X X X

Other DMHS and State Graduation Requirements

When	Choices	Courses
Soph, Jr, or Sr, One Semester	Required	Economics/Free Enterprise or Economics/Free Enterprise Honors (Can be fulfilled by SL Economics)
Soph, Jr, or Sr, One Semester	Required	American and Arizona Government or AP American and Arizona Government
Fr, Soph, Jr, or Sr, Two Semesters	Required	Career/Technical Education or Fine Arts Class (Can be fulfilled within the context of IB)
None, as long as students pursue the IB diploma	Not Required (For IB Students)	Physical Education

Other DMHS and State Graduation Requirements

AIMS

Students must meet the standard on the reading, writing, and mathematics portions of the Arizona Instrument to Measure Standards (AIMS). Students will have the opportunity to take the AIMS test once per semester, beginning in the spring of the sophomore year.

Computer Basics

All students who did not meet the computer proficiency requirement at an SUSD middle school will be required to pass a District high school proficiency test for computer skills or successfully complete the Computer Basics course.

Notes on IB Diploma Candidate Course Selection:

- All SL electives may not be offered for each school year.
- Only two SL tests are allowed in the junior year.
- Students, whose schedules permit, may select from the full range of DMHS electives including Honors, AP and additional IB SL classes.
- Additional IB Subject Courses, above and beyond the required six, do not contribute to the final IB score.
- Economics and Government, and a few additional electives are offered, optionally, during Zero Hour and online. Zero Hour offerings are listed, annually, by the guidance department during pre-registration.
- Students sometimes take Zero Hour or pre-approved, non-IB, online classes to create more flexibility in the regular school day schedule.
- SUSD school bus service to Zero Hour is not offered.
- For those students graduating 2012 and beyond, there are different graduation requirements for the higher levels of diploma. For more information, please consult the SUSD High School Planning Guide, which is available on the SUSD web site.

DMHS IB Program Pre-Diploma Course Selection

	Choices	When	Courses
Native Language	Required	Fr Soph	Pre-Diploma English I H Pre-Diploma English II H
World Language	Choose One Each Year	Fr & Soph	French I, II, or III Spanish I, II Pre-Diploma, or III Pre-Diploma (*See Notes below)
Individuals & Societies	Required	Fr Soph	Pre-Diploma World History H Pre-Diploma American History H
Experimental Science	Choose One Each Year	Fr only Fr or Soph Fr or Soph Soph	Physics First or Physics First H (*See Notes below) Biology or Biology H Chemistry, Chemistry H, or Pre-Diploma Chemistry H Physics or Physics H
Mathematics	Choose One Each Year	Fr Soph	Algebra I, Geometry, Geometry/Trig H, or Algebra II H Geometry, Algebra II, Algebra II H, or Trig/Pre-Calc H
Arts and Other Classes	Choose One or Two Each Year	Fr & Soph	Other Classes might include Fine Arts, Diploma Program Prerequisites, DMHS non-IB Graduation Requirements or personal choice. (See below).

Other Classes

Fine Arts Electives

Two semesters of Fine Arts are required for DMHS graduation. IB Diploma Program, SL Art Design requires Art I and II as prerequisites. Art III is not required, however, it is considered to be advantageous prior to undertaking SL Art Design. SL Theater requires Theater I and either Theater II **or** Musical Theater as prerequisites. SL Music does not have prerequisites.

Science Electives

Selective colleges look for the inclusion of Biology, Chemistry and Physics on student transcripts. Students may select another science, such as Earth Science, Earth Science H or a third science from the list above, in anticipation of Diploma Program Science course plans. Chemistry H is a prerequisite for IB Standard Level Chemistry. Chemistry H is not a required Higher Level Chemistry prerequisite, however, it is considered advantageous for students who plan to take HL Chemistry.

Early Completion of Certain DMHS Graduation Requirements

Strong social science students may wish to complete one or both DMHS, additional graduation requirements, Economics or Economics H, American Government, or AP American Government during the sophomore year. Early completion of these requirements opens room in junior and senior schedules for other course work. Early completion of these courses may also enable students to avoid a junior or senior year Zero Hour class or to make room for Zero Hour,* Service Learning or Music classes.

Personal Choice

After careful consideration of IB Diploma Program Course prerequisites and DMHS graduation requirements, students, who believe that they will have space in their schedules, may select from the many DMHS electives.

*Notes:

World Language

French I, II, and III are prerequisites for IB Standard Level French. Spanish I, II, and III are prerequisites for IB Standard Level Spanish.

Physics First

Students enrolled in Physics First must be concurrently enrolled in Algebra I.

Students enrolled in Physics First Honors must be concurrently enrolled in Geometry/Trig Honors or the recipient of a grade of "A" in both semesters of Algebra.

SUSD School Bus Service to Zero Hour is not offered.