

BERKELEY INTERNATIONAL HIGH SCHOOL

BIHS PROGRAM

The following courses will be considered as fulfilling the BIHS program requirements. Although included in the UC *a-g* requirements, math, art, world language, physical education and science classes are not listed below because they are not designated as BIHS classes. BIHS students will take these classes from individual departments (page 49) and can use these courses toward fulfilling requirements for the IB Diploma. Students in BIHS must study a second language and are expected to be able to use this language in a range of contexts and for many purposes. **NOTE:** Some students may be receive a waiver from this requirement, based on their particular needs. The languages available include Spanish, French, Kiswahili, Mandarin, and Latin.

	CREDITS EARNED	UC/CSU	UC/CSU SUBJECT AREA REQUIREMENT
9TH GRADE			
FRESHMAN LITERATURE & COMPOSITION	10	●	“b” - English
GLOBAL STUDIES	10	●	“a” - History
CULTURAL AESTHETICS	10	●	“f” - Visual and Performing Arts
10TH GRADE			
GLOBAL LITERATURE	10	●	“b” - English
COMPARATIVE VALUES & BELIEF SYSTEMS	5	●	“g” - Elective
COMPARATIVE POLITICAL AND ECONOMIC SYSTEMS	5	●	“g” - Elective
GLOBAL HISTORY	10	●	“a” - History
11TH GRADE			
IB ENGLISH HL	10	●	“b” - English
HISTORY OF THE AMERICAS	10	●	“a” - History
12TH GRADE			
IB ENGLISH HL	10	●	“b” - English
HISTORY OF THE AMERICAS	10	●	“a” - History
THEORY OF KNOWLEDGE	10	●	“g” - Elective
SENIOR RESEARCH PROJECT			
CREATIVITY, ACTION, SERVICE (IBCAS)			

Berkeley International High School

Berkeley International High School (BIHS), an International Baccalaureate candidate school, is a program within Berkeley High School, focusing on international studies for grades nine through twelve. The overarching goals of BIHS are to offer insights into the nature of international education and to build students' sense of identity and cultural awareness, fostering a spirit of discovery and enjoyment of learning for all BIHS students. Fundamental to the BIHS curriculum is developing the students' understanding of the nature and value of their own cultures. Students learn to approach academics from a variety of standpoints, and the curriculum furthers students' recognition and development of universal human values.

The integrated 4-year study of humanities focuses first on the study of geographical regions and elements of culture, including literature, art, history, economics and beliefs. It then progresses systematically through the study of nations and the dynamics of global relationships, building in complexity each year. Students will graduate with the knowledge and habits of mind to participate confidently in the increasingly interdependent world.

BIHS prepares all students to participate in the IB Diploma Programme, an internationally recognized curriculum in 11th and 12th grade. Balancing the richness of Berkeley High School's elective options with the value and challenge of the IB, BIHS creates a community of support, accessibility, and diversity of perspective. To this end we split the program into two smaller "houses" that allow teachers and students to work together in a more personalized way.

The Curriculum

Freshman Year

In ninth grade, BIHS students take Global Studies, Freshman Literature & Composition, and Cultural Aesthetics within BIHS. BIHS teachers plan collaboratively in order to integrate the three core classes. Topics covered throughout the integrated curriculum follow geographical "regions" approach and

Sophomore Year

In tenth grade, BIHS students take Global Literature, Global History, and a semester each of Comparative Values and Belief Systems, Comparative Political and Economic Systems. These courses prepare students for the types of assessments and approaches required in the Junior and Senior year International Baccalaureate Diploma Program.

Junior and Senior Years

In eleventh and twelfth grade, students take History of the Americas Higher Level and English Higher Level, two-year courses. In twelfth grade all students take Theory of Knowledge. Theory of Knowledge emphasizes the role of knowledge, faith, opinion, belief, and truth as they relate to the human condition throughout history. Each student writes a 4,000-word essay (twelve to fifteen pages), begun in junior year courses, on a concern of the student's choice about the world away from the classroom.

Finally, students complete a project in the area of Creativity, Action, Service (IBCAS). BIHS is committed to civic engagement and active learning through student participation in planned experiences in the community. This project provides an opportunity for leadership experience and fits naturally with many of the students' interests.

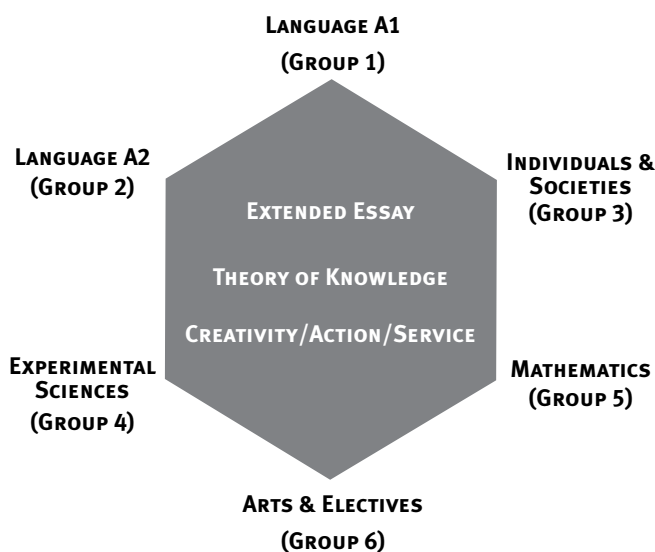
International Baccalaureate Diploma

Students who want to apply for the International Baccalaureate Diploma must complete the following:

- ▶ **THE EXTENDED ESSAY**
- ▶ **THE THEORY OF KNOWLEDGE COURSE**
- ▶ **CREATIVITY, ACTION AND SERVICE OR IBCAS (150 HOURS)**

Diploma candidates must take exams in a minimum of three and a maximum of four Higher Level courses, one in each of the six groups of the hexagon. They must take exams in two or three Standard Level courses as well, testing in six courses altogether. Students may choose to take a second language or a second science exam for group 6, in lieu of art.

Standard level classes are at least 150 hours in length. Higher level classes are at least 240 hours in length.



All BIHS students are enrolled in Higher Level IB English and Higher Level IB History; they may test at the Standard Level in these courses if they prefer to take Higher Level exams in other courses.

In addition, Diploma candidates may take a maximum of two Standard Level exams in their junior year so that they only have four remaining exams in their senior year.

Courses offered to BIHS students for the 2008-2009 school year are:

- IB ENGLISH HL (GROUP 1 – BIHS STUDENTS ONLY)**
- IB SPANISH A2 HL (GROUP 2)**
- IB FRENCH B SL (GROUP 2)**
- IB FRENCH B HL (GROUP 2)**
- IB KISWAHILI B SL (GROUP 2)**
- IB MANDARIN B HL (GROUP 2)**
- IB SPANISH B SL (GROUP 2)**
- IB SPANISH B HL (GROUP 2)**
- IB SPANISH AB INITIO SL (GROUP 2)**
- IB LATIN B HL (GROUP 2)**
- IB HISTORY OF THE AMERICAS HL (GROUP 3 – BIHS STUDENTS ONLY)**
- IB BIOLOGY SL (GROUP 4)**
- IB CHEMISTRY SL (GROUP 4)**
- IB PHYSICS HL (GROUP 4) - STARTING 2009-2010**
- IB MATH STUDIES SL (GROUP 5)**
- IB MATH SL (GROUP 5)**
- IB MATH HL (GROUP 5)**
- IB STUDIO ART SLA/HLA (GROUP 6)**
- IB MUSIC SL (GROUP 6)**

Course Descriptions

Freshman Year

GLOBAL STUDIES (P)

YEAR • 10 CREDITS

This course introduces students to the concept of “global community,” through the study of four realms of the world: North Africa/Southwest Asia, Sub-Saharan Africa, South Asia, and East Asia. Global Studies enriches students’ understanding of the physical environment, history, culture, and current political/environmental issues of people in different areas of the world through rigorous and engaging lessons presented through a variety of media. The core question that drives Global Studies is “How do different members of the global community experience geography and culture, and how am I connected to them?”

FRESHMAN LITERATURE & COMPOSITION (P)

YEAR • 10 CREDITS

Through the study of literature, students examine important issues in cultures at home and across the globe, read a myriad of genres — poems, plays, short stories, and novels — and write in a variety of modes (narrative, descriptive, expository, analytical, argumentative). They explore the meanings

of what they have read and articulate their understanding of culture. The core question is “How do humans explore their world through stories?” The study of literature follows the regional approach of the Global Studies course and is aligned with the California State Standards of Reading, Writing, Speaking, and Listening.

CULTURAL AESTHETICS (P) YEAR • 10 CREDITS

Cultural Aesthetics is a study of artistic expression and art history from the global community. This class follows the regional approach of Global Literature and Global Studies classes. Students master a broad array of art techniques and materials, including drawing, painting and printmaking. The focus includes examining universal principles of art and design that we see across cultures. The core question students grapple with is “How has art shaped the world?” There is a \$15 materials fee.

Sophomore Year

GLOBAL LITERATURE (P) YEAR • 10 CREDITS

Global Literature is a study of literature, composition, and the humanities. The literature studied in this course is representative of the heritage of the cultures covered in Global History and Comparative Values and Beliefs. Literature includes non-Western canonical works in translation, written prior to the 20th century, paired with thematically-related contemporary pieces written in English. Genres include novels, plays, poetry, and non-fiction.

COMPARATIVE VALUES AND BELIEF SYSTEMS (P)
SEMESTER • 5 CREDITS

The Values and Beliefs class focuses on comparative world religion and philosophy. Students examine similarities as well as the obvious differences existing from one culture to another as they appear in creative forms. They look at changes in religion over the centuries, geographies of religions, the nature of sects and cults, and the use of religion to wage war and to make peace. This course utilizes religious texts such as the *I Ching*, *Bible*, *Koran*, *Upanishads*, and *Talmud* to gain deeper understanding of the content.

COMPARATIVE POLITICAL AND ECONOMIC SYSTEMS (P)

SEMESTER • 5 CREDITS

In Comparative Political and Economic Systems students analyze a variety of current issues in the global economy, ranging from the debate over free trade and global interdependence, to competing development models for the world’s poorer nations, to the impact of population and economic growth on social, political and ecological systems. In this course students learn to identify, analyze critically, and to evaluate theories, concepts, and arguments pertaining to the nature and activities of individuals and societies as they relate to the varieties of economic environments that people inhabit.

GLOBAL HISTORY (P) YEAR • 10 CREDITS

This course covers major themes in modern world history, including the industrial revolution, imperialism, rise of Communism, and the World Wars. Emphasis is placed on the interaction between the realms studied in the freshman year and Europe. This course is thematically and regionally integrated with the Global Literature and Comparative Values/Comparative Economics courses. The course meets the California State Standards for tenth grade Modern World History.

Junior and Senior Years

IB HISTORY OF THE AMERICAS HL (P) 10 CREDITS/YEAR

This is a required two-year course for all Berkeley International High School students, involving a thorough examination of our modern world with an emphasis on the interaction of people and events; the formation of students’ own opinions of events; and analysis of the progression of history over time. The primary aim and focus of the course is to guide students towards independent historical analysis. Skills emphasized include: primary and secondary source analysis; formation and completion of independent research; understanding of historical cause and effect; ability to articulate knowledge and opinions orally and in writing; synthesis of information and the ability to use that information to analyze new information. The junior year will focus on the history of the United States and South America through World War II. The senior year will focus on topics in the history of the Americas since WWII, particularly the Cold War as well as other relevant case studies. Students

will also study a subject of their choice for the required IB historical investigation. Students will be capable of taking the AP U.S. history exam in the spring of their junior year and the HL or SL level IB exam in the spring of their senior year. Students who successfully complete both years of the course receive a waiver for the graduation requirements in American Government. Prerequisites: enrollment in Berkeley International High School.

IB ENGLISH HL (P) 10 CREDITS/YEAR

This is a required two-year course for all Berkeley International High School students. This course will provide comprehensive preparation in oral and written expression and in analytical and critical thought through a carefully chosen curriculum of international works by recognized world authors. The curriculum will provide reading and writing opportunities in both genre and time period. Study will focus on international literary works from which multicultural reading, thinking, and writing exercises will be drawn. Emphasis will be on the unique historical, cultural, and geographical influences upon each work. Students will develop a precise and informed critical eye for patterns of literary expression. Students will be capable of taking the AP English literature exam and the SL or HL level IB exam in the spring of their senior year. Prerequisites: enrollment in Berkeley International High School.

Senior Year Only

THEORY OF KNOWLEDGE (P) YEAR • 10 CREDITS

Theory of Knowledge attempts to intensify the curiosity and competence of students, build critical thinking skills, and encourage creative synthesis among all areas of study. The class emphasizes the role of knowledge, faith, opinion, belief, and truth as they relate to the human condition throughout history. The International Baccalaureate Organization views the Theory of Knowledge course as the culminating experience in a student's secondary education.

The aims of the Theory of Knowledge (TOK) course are to engage students in reflection on, and in the questioning of, the bases of knowledge, so that they develop an understanding of why critically examining knowledge claims is important; understand the

strengths and limitations of individual and cultural perspectives; develop a concern for intellectual honesty; and demonstrate an understanding that personal views, judgments and beliefs may influence a student's own knowledge claims and those of others.

SENIOR RESEARCH PROJECT

Each student writes a 4,000-word essay (twelve to fifteen pages), begun in their courses during the junior year. The essay topic is chosen by the student, and work on the essay is begun in the student's English and history classes. Students continue to work independently on their project with the help of a mentor in the community. This project is required of all BIHS students and is also a requirement for the International Baccalaureate Diploma.

CREATIVITY, ACTION, SERVICE (IBCAS)

Although not a course, IBCAS is a framework for experiential learning and reflection about that learning. This process of application and reflection provides an opportunity to extend what is learned in the classroom and, in turn, for the IBCAS experience to have an impact on classroom learning. The IBCAS requirement encourages students to share their energy and special talents with others; students may, for example, participate in theater or musical productions, and sports and community service activities. Students should, through these activities, develop greater awareness of themselves and concern for others, as well as the ability to work cooperatively with other people.

All Grades

STUDENT LEADERSHIP YEAR • 10 CREDITS

Open to any grade level, the purpose of this course is to teach effective and ethical leadership skills.

JACKET YEAR • 10 CREDITS

Students in this course produce the school newspaper and make up the Jacket staff.

YEARBOOK PUBLICATION YEAR • 10 CREDITS

The yearbook course produces the yearbook once a year. Students learn graphic design, business management, and how to write in a yearbook style. The requirements of the course include a willingness to work hard, work after school when necessary and sometimes on weekends in order to meet deadlines. **PREREQUISITE:** Teacher recommendation. This course does not fulfill BHS Senior English elective requirement.