

Developments in the IB Diploma Programme

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Welcome

This session has three main objectives:

- To provide updates on developments in the DP
- To present and gather feedback on ideas for future initiatives
- To answer questions about implementing the programme



Updates – New in 2015

These subjects have finished their curriculum review and have new guides for **first teaching in 2015**:

- Creativity, Activity, Service (CAS)
- Environmental systems and societies
- Global politics
- History

New guides for these subjects are now available on the OCC.

Updates – New in 2016

These subjects have finished their curriculum review and have new guides for **first teaching in 2016**:

- Extended essay
- Sports, exercise and health science (adding HL)

New guides for these subjects will be available in time for subject specific seminars beginning in February 2016.

Updates – School Based Syllabuses (SBS)

What is an SBS?

- An optional sixth subject in the Diploma Programme
- It is linked to a subject group
- It can be offered at SL only
- Schools must apply to become authorized to teach an SBS (new or existing)
- Students are permitted to do one SBS only
- The IB is now responsible for the quality assurance processes associated with the assessment of the SBS and the curriculum review of the SBS

Current SBSs:

- Art History
- Astronomy
- Chile and the Pacific Basin
- Chinese Studies
- Classical Greek and Roman Studies
- Brazilian Social Studies
- Marine Science
- Political Thought
- **Turkey in the 20th Century**
- World Arts and Cultures



Updates – Global Politics

- Has completed a successful pilot phase
- Mainstream course now with a new guide for first teaching in September 2015, first assessment in 2017
- Available in both May and November sessions, and at SL and HL
- Guide available now on the OCC; teacher support material will be available through the OCC in May
- Explicitly focused on concepts such as power, liberty, sustainability and conflict
- Internal assessment is an engagement activity, e.g., Model UN



Updates – Nature of Science (pilot)

- Currently in the pilot phases – 21 schools participating in the pilot
- The pilot syllabus (SL only) consists of 4 parts
- Part A: Concepts of science
- Part B: The quest for understanding
- Part C: The impact of science
- Part D: Challenges and the future

Initiatives – Possible future courses?

Initial research is being conducted regarding the feasibility of adding more courses of interdisciplinary nature to the DP, for example:

- Big History
- Sustainability
- Global media
- Musical technology
- Digital wisdom

Initiatives – DP student workload study

- Large-scale global survey of DP students at the beginning of the programme, at the end of the first year, and at the end of the programme
- Pilot results (DP students in approx. 100 schools) are currently being analyzed
- Areas of investigation
 - How demanding do students find the DP? Which particular courses or aspects of the programme do they find demanding?
 - What are students' perceptions of their own stress levels while studying the DP?
 - Which students are most affected by the demands of the programme?

Initiatives – Flexibility in the DP

Initial investigations are being conducted into flexibility in the DP. Areas of investigation include the following:

- Where do we offer flexibility in the current programme, and where are we more prescriptive about programme requirements? What are the reasons for that?
- Flexibility in time (to deliver the programme) and flexibility in requirements / composition of a Diploma – what do schools need from the IB, and what can the IB reasonably provide in order to enable more schools to offer the DP ... **while maintaining the high standards of the programme**

Approaches to teaching and to learning (ATL) now appear at the centre of the DP model



Approaches to teaching: Pedagogical principles

Based on inquiry

Focused on
conceptual
understanding

Developed in local
and global contexts

Focused on
effective
teamwork and
collaboration

Differentiated to
meet the needs of
all learners

Informed by
assessment
(formative and
summative)



Approaches to learning: Student skills

Thinking Skills

Communication Skills

Self Management Skills

Research Skills

Social Skills



ATL in the DP: New resources for teachers

From January 2015

- Guide: *Approaches to teaching and learning in the Diploma Programme*
- Videos: 26 videos, each 5 min or less
- Unit planners
- Interviews with experts in the field, e.g. Grant Wiggins
- “Case studies” of ATL pilot school initiatives
- “Self reflection tool” for teachers

From February 2015

- New DP workshop (category 3) specifically on ATL

From April 2015

- A more detailed section on ATL in the next *DP: From principles into practice*
- Detailed sections on ATL in each subject guide as it comes out of curriculum review





Guide

In practice

Tools



Guide

Approaches to learning

Approaches to teaching

Pedagogical leadership



In Practice

Videos

Case studies

Interviews



Tools

Self reflection tool

Unit planners

Thank you

Many thanks for attending this session.

Please share your questions and feedback
regarding the Diploma Programme.

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