

The IB Diploma Programme

Presently EMDI is changing its structure to adapt to the requirements of the IB Diploma Programme some of our teachers are adapting and learning new teaching skills to be able to offer instruction at the Higher and Standard levels of the IBDP for 1st and 2nd Bacc students in 2014 and 2015 onwards. The reasons for this move towards the IB Programme is because, life in the 21st century, in an interconnected, globalized world, requires critical-thinking skills and a sense of international-mindedness, something that International Baccalaureate® (IB) Diploma Programme students come to know and understand. Hence, EMDI want to give our students the best options available to progress onto Universities and higher education both in Ecuador and other countries.

What is the Diploma Programme?

The IB Diploma Programme is designed as an academically challenging and balanced programme of education with final examinations that prepares students, normally aged 16 to 19, for success at university and life beyond. The programme is normally taught over two years and has gained recognition and respect from the world's leading universities.

The curriculum

IB Diploma Programme students study six courses at (3)higher level and (3) standard level. Students must choose one subject from each of groups 1 to 5, thus ensuring breadth of experience in languages, social studies, the experimental sciences and mathematics. The sixth subject may be an arts subject chosen from group 6, or the student may choose another subject from groups 1 to 5.

In addition the programme has three core requirements that are included to broaden the educational experience and challenge students to apply their knowledge and understanding.

The Extended Essay is a requirement for students to engage in independent research through an in-depth study of a question relating to one of the subjects they are studying. Producing a 4,000 word essay in either Spanish or English.

Theory of knowledge (TOK) is a course designed to encourage each student to reflect on the nature of knowledge by critically examining different ways of knowing (perception, emotion, language and reason) and different kinds of knowledge (scientific, artistic, mathematical and historical).

Creativity, action, service (CAS) requires that students actively learn from the experience of doing real tasks beyond the classroom. Students can combine all three components or do activities related to each one of them separately.

Assessment

Students take written examinations including an Extended Essay and at the end of the programme, these are marked by external IB examiners. Students also complete Internal Assessment (IA) tasks in the school, which are either initially marked by teachers and then moderated by external moderators or sent directly to external examiners.

The IBDP diploma is awarded to students who gain at least 24 points, subject to certain minimum levels of performance across the whole programme and to satisfactory participation in the creativity, action, service requirement. The highest total that a Diploma Programme student can be awarded is 45 points.

Quality Assurance and Professional Development

Schools wishing to offer the Diploma Programme and to attain IB World School status must first go through the authorization process. The requirements for authorization are the same for all schools, even though the process is administered slightly differently in each IB region. The process is designed to ensure schools are well prepared to implement the programme successfully. Currently EMDI is an official IBDP Candidate school and is progressing with the Authorization application stage.

This is a challenging IBDP programme that demands the best from both motivated students and teachers. Schools can access an extensive package of IB professional development for teachers and administrators and commit to ongoing professional development. Schools are required to participate in an ongoing process of review and development, using standards and practices that apply to all IB World Schools.

Parents Involvement

EMDI parents will be asked to take an active role in helping their children to study and achieve the requirements of the IBDP they undertake. This will also mean a PTA and involvement in CAS activities in collaboration with the IBDP teachers and Counselor to ensure the success of the programme.

EMDI - IBDP TEACHERS/STAFF

IBDP Coordinator & History (HL/SL)**	Kevin Ashford
Counselor	Pamela Castellanos
Biology and Chemistry (HL/SL)**	Henry Ede
Maths & Physics (SL)*	Erik Coral
Economics (SL)**	Henry Segovia
English B (HL)**	Washington Toro
Spanish Lenguaje & Literatura (HL) *	Úrsula Benítez
Music (SL)*	Hugo Iñiguez
Visual Arts (SL)*	Nancy Romero
Geography (HL/SL) & TOK**	Christina Maldonado
CAS*	Gaby Rueda

* Taught in Spanish

** Taught in English