



# IBDP Language B Course Outline

## High School – Grade 11/12

### Aims/Objectives

- To develop the ability to use the target language effectively for practical communication.
- To develop the ability to communicate accurately in speech and in writing within a range of contexts.
- To develop an awareness of the nature of language and language learning.
- To provide students with a sound linguistic base for further study, work and leisure.
- To offer insights into the culture and civilization of other countries.
- To encourage positive attitudes to the learning of other languages and to their speakers and countries.

### Skills

The four primary language skills, namely listening, speaking, reading and writing are developed in an integrated way. The balance between these language skills is adapted to the needs of the students and the level. Competence in each of the primary skills involves an understanding of three interrelated areas:

- Language: handling the language system accurately (grammar, syntax, etc.)
- Cultural interaction: selecting language appropriate to a particular cultural and social context
- Message: understanding ideas and how they are organized in order to communicate them appropriately.

### Assessment

Tasks will allow students to show how they can put it all together.

Assessment tasks may be: oral presentations, essays, major projects, substantial reading and writing tasks, etc. **The assessment tasks will be evaluated against several criteria.**

### **LANGUAGE B IBDP CRITERIA:**

- A. Language/ productive skills maximum 10
- B. Message/ interactive receptive skills/argument maximum 10
- C. Format/ maximum 5

These criteria come with descriptors. Students are informed on what the requirements are for each task and how they will be assessed.

### **Course Description**

Available at both higher and standard levels, the Language B courses occupy the middle ground of the group 2 modern language spectrum and are language-learning courses for students with some previous experience of learning the target language. The main focus of these courses is on language acquisition and the development of skills considerably beyond those expected of an ab initio candidate, up to a fairly sophisticated degree at higher level. Language B courses give students the opportunity to reach a high degree of competence in a language and to explore the culture using the language. The courses provide an integrated study of grammar, literature and cultural aspects. At the end of these courses students will have developed the ability to communicate clearly and effectively in a range of situations. Students in the higher level courses will demonstrate the ability to communicate more complex ideas and the ability to analyze longer and more difficult texts. They will also engage in an in-depth study of a few literary works.