

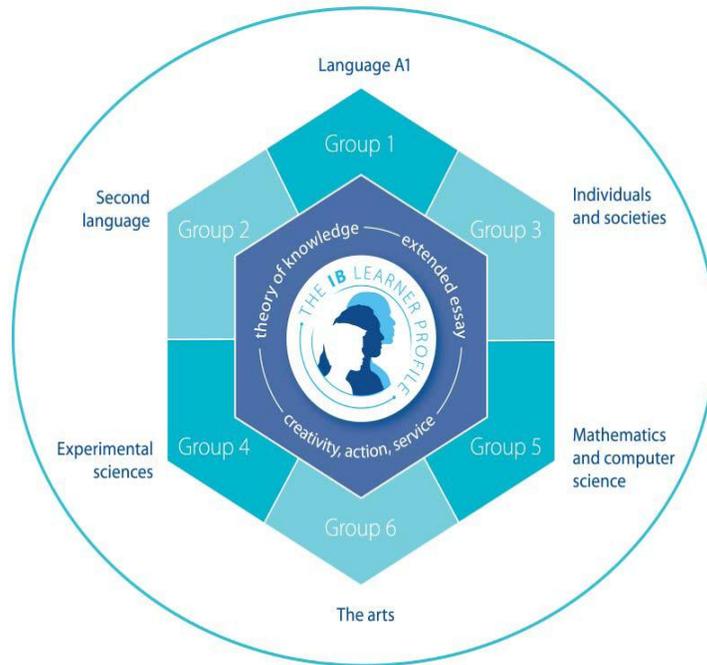
IB Diploma Programme Curriculum Model

The IB Diploma Programme emphasizes transdisciplinary learning and requires students to study courses across six disciplines:

- Native language
- Second language
- Individuals and societies
- Mathematics and computer science
- Experimental sciences
- The arts

The IB Diploma Programme has at its core three unique elements:

- **The Extended Essay:** A 4,000-word essay, supported by original research, on a subject of the student's choice.
- **Theory of Knowledge (ToK):** An interdisciplinary course that challenges students to question the basis of knowledge, to be aware of subjective and ideological biases and to develop the ability to analyze evidence that is expressed in rational argument.
- **Creativity, Action and Service (CAS):** The CAS component encourages students to share their energy and special talents with others through experiential learning.



IB Courses at BRCI

BRCI offers the following IB subjects:

- **Group 1** – English A: Literature, HL, *French A1, SL Self Study
- **Group 2*** - Language B: French, SL, French ab initio, SL
- **Group 3** - Individuals and Societies: History. HL
- **Group 4** - Experimental Sciences: Biology, HL and/or Chemistry, SL
- **Group 5** – Mathematics: Math Standard Level
- **Group 6** – Arts/Electives: Visual Arts, SL



*Prospective students should contact Student Services to discuss IB French language options. e.g. Bilingual IB Diploma

Course Descriptions

English A: Literature (HL)

Prerequisite: English 10

English A: Literature is a two year pre-university course “built on the assumption that literature is concerned with our conceptions, interpretations and experiences with the world” (Language A: literature guide, 2011). It encourages students to appreciate literature as an art form and to develop an ability to reflect critically. The program focuses on literary and cultural context. An appreciation of global perspective aims to create an international awareness and encourages tolerance, empathy, and a genuine respect for perspectives different from one’s own. The study of works in translation will facilitate the experience. Students in this course will experience a variety of approaches to the text in order to enhance their understanding and appreciation of the literary merits. We will explore issues that concern us personally as well as those that apply to a global society. I will ask you to think critically and creatively as you process information, make decisions and attempt to solve problems. The writing process is reinforced. There will be a number of reading, writing, speaking, viewing and listening activities used to facilitate this process. Completion of the English A: Literature course fulfils the requirements for ELA 20, ELA A30 and ELA B30.

French B (SL)

Prerequisite: French 10 (or up to 4 years French language experience). See Guidance Office.

In order to meet the needs of our increasingly interconnected global community, we must thrive to develop intercultural understanding and respect. The study and acquisition of a second language and its culture can be of tremendous use in this respect. The purpose of the two-year study of IB French B, Standard Level, is therefore to foster and promote the learners’ ability to communicate clearly and effectively in spontaneous and appropriate ways for a range of contexts and purposes, while also gaining an awareness of their role as citizens of the world. To this end, students will apply the French language system in the four active and interrelated skills of listening, speaking, reading and writing. Successful Diploma Programme candidates will be able to apply these skills not only for communicative purposes, but also to develop and demonstrate an awareness of the subtle nuances of different Francophone cultures around the world. In an encouraging and monolingual learning environment, students will demonstrate their competencies in language use, cultural interaction and message. These competencies will flourish through the study of the French language, a range of French literary and other creative works and the opportunity to experience French communicatively. Completion of the course fulfils the requirements for French 20 and French 30.

French ab initio (SL)

Prerequisite: Less than 2 years of French Language experience. See Guidance Office.

The language ab initio course is organized into three themes.

- Individual and society
- Leisure and work
- Urban and rural environment

Each theme has a list of topics that provide the students with opportunities to practise and explore the language as well as to develop intercultural understanding. Through the development of receptive, productive and interactive skills, students should be able to respond and interact appropriately in a defined range of everyday situations.

The language ab initio course is designed for students with **little or no prior experience** of the language they wish to study. All final decisions on the appropriateness of the course for which students are entered are taken by coordinators in liaison with teachers, using their experience and professional judgment to guide them. The most

important consideration is that the language ab initio course should be a challenging educational experience for the student. (Language ab initio guide 2011)

***French A: Literature, SL Self Study**

Pre-requisite: Students with more than five years of French language instruction/experience and at the IB French teacher's discretion.

*Students who take this course qualify for a bilingual French IB Diploma.

History (HL)

Prerequisite: History 10

This course is 240 hours over two years, covering major global events in the 20th century. Students will be asked to examine conflict, political ideology, and international relations, from a global perspective. It also explores basic questions, such as what is history, how is history created by historians, how can we tell what's true, whose 'story' gets covered, and whose gets ignored? Completion of the course fulfills the requirements for History 20 and History 30.

Biology (HL)

Prerequisite: Science 10

IB Biology HL is a rigorous course designed for the highly-motivated learner interested in the life sciences. The curriculum will stress scientific method, experimental activities, bio-technology, and practical investigations. An introduction to the vast body of accumulated knowledge in biology will be done via four themes interwoven throughout the course: structure and function, universality and diversity, equilibrium within systems, and evolution. The course will be ordered as to maximize the use of out-of-school facilities and will take the seasons in our area into account while maintaining the integrity of the flow of the curriculum.

The Theory of Knowledge component of the Diploma Programme will be addressed from a science perspective. Students will be asked to think about the relationships between science and technology, science and creativity, science and society, science and religion, and science and morality. Biology is the study of life. Upon completion of this course, a student will gain a deeper understanding of the paradox of life – simple vs. complex, fragile vs. robust, order vs. chaos and our society's tendency to undermine the interdependence of living things.

Completion of the course fulfills the requirements for Biology 20 and Biology 30.

Chemistry (SL)

Prerequisite: Science 10

IB Chemistry SL is an overview course designed for the highly-motivated learner interested in the physical sciences. The curriculum will stress scientific method, experimental activities and design, and practical investigations. Chemistry is often called the central science. Upon completion of this course, a student will hopefully gain a deeper understanding of the chemical principles that are the foundation of our physical world and also the biological world around us.

The Theory of Knowledge component of the Diploma Programme will be addressed from a science perspective. Science and society are intrinsically linked. Throughout this course, a dialogue about the impact of science on society and society on science will be opened. Students will be challenged to analyze their contribution to this dynamic and presented with opportunities to put this understanding into action. Additionally, students will be asked to evaluate international perspectives of various environmental, social, and ethical issues in the area of chemistry.

Completion of the course fulfills the requirements for Chemistry 20 and Chemistry 30.

Mathematics (SL)

Prerequisites: Math Foundations 10 Pre-Calculus and Math Pre-Calculus 20

The Mathematics SL course is a high level course that is approachable to the majority of students with a good mathematical background. It covers a broad range of topics: Algebra, Functions and Equations, Circular Functions and Trigonometry, Statistics and Probability, Matrices, Vectors and Calculus, which also lead to learning about international mindedness and the philosophy and history of mathematics. Mathematics SL also offers students opportunities to delve deeply into math with IB internal evaluations and, at the students' interest, the extended essay. The course will prepare students for post-secondary subjects which require mathematics. Completion of the course fulfils the requirements for Pre-Calculus 30 and Calculus 30.

Visual Art (SL)

The aims for Visual Art SL are to enable students to investigate and develop ways to interpret and comment critically on the human condition, from within, locally and internationally through the language of Art. Visual Art, SL allows two options. Option A emphasizes Studio Work and Option B emphasizes Investigation. The method of assessment judges each student in relation to identified assessment criteria and not in relation to the work of other students. Markband descriptors, developed by the IBO, are used for assessment. Markband descriptors are available to students at all times. No marks will be officially assigned without a dialogue between the teacher and the student. Completion of the course fulfils the requirements for Art 20 and Art 30.

Theory of Knowledge (ToK)

ToK is a 100 hour course. It looks at all the areas of knowledge, from math and science to language and the arts, by asking such questions as: in what ways are all areas of knowledge similar and different; how does each area of knowledge come to be; what issues does each area of knowledge face, what issues do all areas of knowledge share; what is truth, and how does science or math or literature deal with truth? The purpose of Theory of Knowledge is to have students see their learning from both inside, as a learner, and outside at an objective distance, viewing the whole world of knowledge, and gaining insight into how it has come about, and where knowledge is headed. Completion of the course fulfils one credit towards a Saskatchewan high school diploma.