Diploma Programme Subjects

ISU offers a range of IB Diploma Programme subjects. Diploma students all choose one subject from each group 1-5. In addition, students may choose to take Visual Arts in group 6, or choose a 6th subject from groups 3, or 4. Students must choose to study 3 subjects at Higher Level (HL) and 3 subjects at Standard Level (SL).

Group 1 Language and Literature (SL&HL)

- English Language and Literature
- Dutch Language and Literature
- Language A Literature School Supported Self Taught (SSST) (SL only)

Group 2 Language Acquisition (SL&HL)

- Spanish B
- Dutch B
- Dutch ab initio (SL only)
- A 2nd group 1 subject
- English Language B (HL only)

The required fluency for Language and Literature is near native language level and at least six years of intensive use and study is required for a strong learner to reach this level; Language Acquisition is a foreign language course requiring 2-5 years of prior study. It is possible for a student to take 2 group 1 languages in lieu of a group 2 language. This results in a bilingual diploma. SSST Literature and English Language B HL also results in a bilingual diploma. For more information, please view the ISU Language Policy.

Group 3 Individuals and Societies

- History (SL&HL)
- Geography (SL&HL)
- Business and Management (SL&HL)
- Economics (SL&HL)
- Environmental Systems and Societies (SL&HL)

Group 4 Sciences*

- Biology (SL&HL)
- Chemistry (SL&HL)
- Physics (SL&HL)
- Environmental Systems and Societies (SL&HL)
- Design Technology (SL&HL)

* A 3rd science (group 4) may be selected in place of a group 3 subject, but will be reviewed by the science department.

Group 5 Mathematics

- Mathematics: analysis and approaches (SL&HL)
- Mathematics: applications and interpretation (SL&HL)

Group 6 Art and Electives

- Visual Arts (SL&HL)
- Music (SL&HL)
- A 2nd group 3 subject
- A 2nd group 4 subject

Final DP Subject Choices

Student choices should be informed based on their wishes for study at university. Students need to take into account the language the university course is assessed in and the university subject specific admissions requirements. Universities will have an admissions section, which specifies course requirements from the IB Diploma Programme. If this cannot be found you can speak to your mentor, university/careers counsellor, or contact the university directly.

Please find all the subject briefs on the IB website.