The International Baccalaureate® aims to develop inquiring, knowledgeable and caring young people who help to create a better and more peaceful world through intercultural understanding and respect. To this end the organization works with schools, governments and international organizations to develop challenging programmes of international education and rigorous assessment. These programmes encourage students across the world to become active, compassionate and lifelong learners who understand that other people, with their differences, can also be right.
Students take at least three but no more than four courses at a Higher level and three (or two) at Standard level. All students complete the curriculum core.

The core of the IB curriculum:

Made up of three required components, the DP core aims to broaden students’ educational experience and challenge them to apply their knowledge and skills.

The three core elements are:

- **Theory of knowledge**, in which students reflect on the nature of knowledge and on how we know what we claim to know.
- **The extended essay**, which is an independent, self-directed piece of research, finishing with a 4,000-word paper.
- **Creativity, activity, service**, in which students complete a project related to those three concepts.

The six subject groups are:

- Studies in language and literature
- Language acquisition
- Individuals and societies
- Sciences
- Mathematics
- The arts

The IB at DHHS

Students in the IB Programme at DHHS have access to to the Emory University Research Library and have been recruited for internships at Emory, Children’s Hospital, Fernbank Science Center, the Carter Center and Georgia Tech amongst others.

IB students at DHHS have been chosen for the Governor’s Honors Program, Posse and Questbridge scholarships, and in 2020, all of those who applied were admitted to UGA and/or Georgia Tech. Students have been recruited to attend Yale, MIT, Princeton, Harvard, Duke, Brown University of Chicago, often on full scholarships. They have also engaged in projects including building a website to offer free tutoring community wide, and in volunteering as mentors in elementary and middle school, organizing school-wide efforts to bring awareness to human trafficking and school voter registration drives.

What colleges say about the IB...

"Highly selective colleges and universities are looking for students who take the most challenging courses available to them. The IB programme is notable not just for the rigor of its individual classes, but for the thoughtful integration of the entire programme. Students who complete the IB diploma are the kind of smart, intellectually curious, and creative students who excel at the top universities."

Brandon R. Clarke
Former admission director, Stanford University

"I have always been a supporter of the International Baccalaureate. It is a thoughtful and genuinely intellectual curriculum with an unusually high degree of integrity and connectedness. There is no other curriculum anywhere that does a superior job of both educating students and inspiring a true and broad-based love of learning."

William Shain
Dean of Undergraduate Admissions
Vanderbilt University

"Send us prepared students a la IB...it is the BEST high school prep curriculum an American school can offer."

Marilee Jones
Director of Undergraduate Admissions, M.I.T.