



ISSUE 8 March 2018
NEWSLETTER
G.T. (Ellen Yeung) College - Secondary Section

G. T. (Ellen Yeung) College is an IB World School since February, 2018.
For information about the IB and its programmes, visit <http://www.ibo.org>



The verification visit

The final step in the authorisation process is the verification visit which aims to verify the school's claim on all the necessary actions and preparations to become an IB World School. On January 22 and 23, two representatives from the International Baccalaureate Organisation (IBO), Mr. Leslie Millard and Ms. Catherine Jouffrey, visited GTC to verify our preparation to offer the IB Diploma Programme (DP). The verification team scrutinised GTC based on the programme practices and standards by interviewing representatives from all stakeholders as well as checking through school campus and facilities. Both commendations and recommendations were received at the end of the visit and formally written in the report of the verification visit. Two weeks after the visit, we were gratified to receive the news that IBO had approved our application to be an IB World School offering the IBDP.

GTC is now an IB World School

We are proud to announce that GTC was approved in early February 2018, by the IBO to offer the Diploma Programme. The success relied on the team effort and full support from all stakeholders, including the school governing board, Professor Rex Li, Principal Dr. Raymond Tam, the IB team, teachers, parents and students.



The official certificate of authorisation for the IBDP

Stream selection for G9 students

As the school is now authorised to offer the IBDP starting in the next school year (2018/2019), the preparation for the implementation of the DP at GTC is now in full force.

This year, we have 22 G10 students in the pre-IB cohort and they will be our first IB year 1 class. For G9 students who intend to take the IBDP curriculum in their senior secondary years, they need to opt for the IB stream when filling out the stream selection form later in the third school term. Before that, a number of events will be held to ensure all G9 students and their parents have received sufficient information and also meetings or channels to clarify their puzzles on how GTC is running the IBDP, giving them a better understanding of the programme. Here are some coming events:



Mon 12/3/18	Tue 13/3/18 IB Newsletter Issue 8	Wed 14/3/18	Thur 15/3/18	Fri 16/3/18 *Parents' Night on IBDP for interested G9 parents	Sat 17/3/18
Mon 19/3/18	Tue 20/3/18	Wed 21/3/18 #Lunch Gathering (room 711) for interested G9 students	Thur 22/3/18	Fri 23/3/18	Sat 24/3/18
Mon 26/3/18	Tue 27/3/18	Wed 28/3/18 #Lunch Gathering (room 711) for interested G9 students	Thur 29/3/18	Fri 30/3/18	Sat 31/3/18

* Parents' Night on IBDP: G9 parents who may consider their child to enroll in the IBDP are welcome to join the special meeting with the IB teams; an e-notice will be issued for registration

Lunch Gathering (room 711): for interested G9 students, please bring your lunch to room 711 to chat with the IB team on any questions regarding the IBDP. The gathering will take place between 12:15 – 1:10pm.

Room 700A (on the right)
IB student common room

Room 700B (on the left)
IB resource corner plus coordinators' offices.



Admission requirements for G10 pre-IB class

As IB offers an all-round education with stress on English writing, we have to set up certain requirements for its admission. This includes a good command of English, competence in Chinese, Math and at least one science subject. In order to be eligible for studying the **IB preparatory course** in G10, current G9 applicants should attain the following academic standards:



ADMISSION REQUIREMENTS

- | | |
|---------------------------|--|
| (1) English | • To attain Grade C or above in IGCSE (ESL) |
| (2) Mathematics | • To attain Grade C or above in IGCSE (Mathematics) |
| (3) Biology | • To attain Grade C or above in IGCSE (Biology) |
| (4) Chinese | • To attain a pass (score ≥ 50) in GT's overall internal assessment in G9 |
| (5) Two elective subjects | • To attain a good pass (score ≥ 60) in GT's overall internal assessment in G9 |

In addition, applicants will be selected on the following criteria:

• Personal Interview

A personal interview will be conducted to assess the applicant's interest and knowledge on IB. The applicant's communication skills and aspirations for future study will be evaluated.



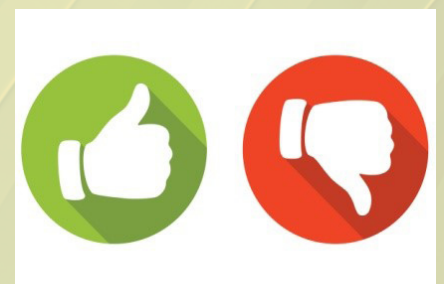
• Personal Subject Preference and Research Interest Statement

The applicant is required to fill in a form on Personal Subject Preference and Research Interest Statement. He/She will have to show his/her genuine interest and breadth in the field of study of his/her choice.



• Recommendation from Teachers

The class and subject teachers will assess the students on:
Self-study skills, research skills, project work skills, team work abilities



An IB admission committee will consider all the information together with the applicant's academic and unique personal abilities for a final decision.

In case of queries, please feel free to contact Dr. Vincent Tam, our IB coordinator or Mr. Anselm Kwok, IB CAS coordinator at 2535 6867.



Knowing more about Chinese A: Language and Literature

1. My Chinese is weak. Can I take Chinese B (in subject group 2) instead of Chinese A (in subject group 1)?

Ans:

It is a requirement by the IBO that students must take subject group 1 for their mother tongue or a language that they have been using and are proficient in it. Since our students are mainly Chinese and have been learning Chinese Language throughout their primary and junior secondary years, all IBDP students are required to take Chinese A: Language and Literatures (SL).

2. What are the differences between Chinese A in IBDP and Chinese Language in DSE?

Ans:

Besides the use of language, Chinese A (Language and Literature) in IBDP also focuses significantly on the literature components. Chinese A in IBDP does not only focus on the use of language, but also the understanding and appreciation of texts from various angles and levels.

Quoting from the Language A: Language and Literature Guide (First examination 2015):

“Language A: language and literature comprises four parts—two relate to the study of language and two to the study of literature.....

The language A: language and literature course aims to develop in students skills of textual analysis and the understanding that texts, both literary and non-literary, can be seen as autonomous yet simultaneously related to culturally determined reading practices.....

A wider aim of the course is the development of an understanding of “critical literacy” in students.”

節錄自 語言A：語言與文學指南（2015年首次考試）

“語言A：文學由4個部分構成 - 其中兩個與學習語言相關，另外兩個與學習文學相關。.....

語言A：語言與文學課程旨在培養學生掌握文本分析技能，並理解無論是文學作品還是非文學材料都可被視為是獨立存在的，但同時也受到文化所決定的閱讀習慣的影響。.....

本課程更寬泛的一項目的是培養學生對“批判性文化素養”的理解。 ”。

3. Would it be easier to get a good grade in Chinese A (IBDP) than Chinese Language in DSE?

Ans:

Any language in subject group 1 (Language A) is highly challenging. To get a good grade in Language A, one must have a pretty good and solid foundation in that language. One shouldn't think that it is much easier to get a good grade in Chinese A (IBDP) than Chinese Language in DSE.