

INDIVIDUALS AND SOCIETIES

European History

IB Course Content

Two-year course sequence offered at the High Level only. The courses first explore political, economic, social and intellectual currents in the development of Europe from 1500-1990. Particular emphasis is given to the history of Europe since the Enlightenment Age. The nature of 20th century conflict is then examined, with focus on the Cold War and the creation of contemporary Europe. There is a heavy emphasis on writing and analyzing sources, and critically evaluating historical material.

IB Course Assessments

Students undertake a historical investigation (20% of final grade)

Internally assessed by teacher (and externally moderated by IBO for grading consistency).

IB Examination

The 3 separate final exams, externally assessed, are worth in total 80% of the final grade:

Paper 1: (1 hour) Students select one of 3 presented 20th century world history subjects, and must answer 4 questions on that subject.

Paper 2: (1½ hours) Six 20th century world history topics are presented, along with 5 questions on each. Two of the questions must be answered, each chosen from a different topic.

Paper 3: (2 ½ hours) Student must answer 3 questions, chosen from a list of 25 questions presented.

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Psychology

IB Course Content

One-year course offered at the Standard Level. According to IBO, psychology is the systematic study of behavior and experience. Standard Level IB Psychology involves the study of three different perspectives on psychology (Learning, Cognitive and Biological), and one approach chosen by the instructor. Students study the development and cultural contexts of each of the four approaches while developing an in-depth understanding of the assumptions, theories and applications relevant to each area. Additionally, students study quantitative research methodology, ethics and gender considerations relevant to the major theories and studies from the four approaches. Primary areas of focus include remembering and forgetting, aggression and social factors that influence individual behavior.

IB Course Assessments

Students prepare a 1500 word type-written report that describes and evaluates the partial replication of a scientifically reported laboratory experiment. (20% of weighted final IB grade)

This report is internally assessed by the instructor and externally moderated by IBO.

IB Examination

This final exam is given over two days each May and externally assessed by IBO.

Day One/Paper 1: (Three Perspectives--2 hours) Three compulsory short-answer questions, and one choice of three extended-response questions. (50% of weighted final IB grade)

Day Two/Paper 2: (Fourth Approach Option--1 hour) Students select one question to answer from 21 presented. (30% of weighted final IB grade)

Philosophy

IB Course Content

One-year course offered at the Standard Level, or two-years at the High Level. This course includes the study of selected works of world philosophy focusing on topics of "What it is to be human," the principles of creativity and ethics. Students will be expected to understand and apply philosophical principles. The course explores 2 philosophical texts in depth, including Plato's *Republic*. The other text varies from year to year.

IB Course Assessments

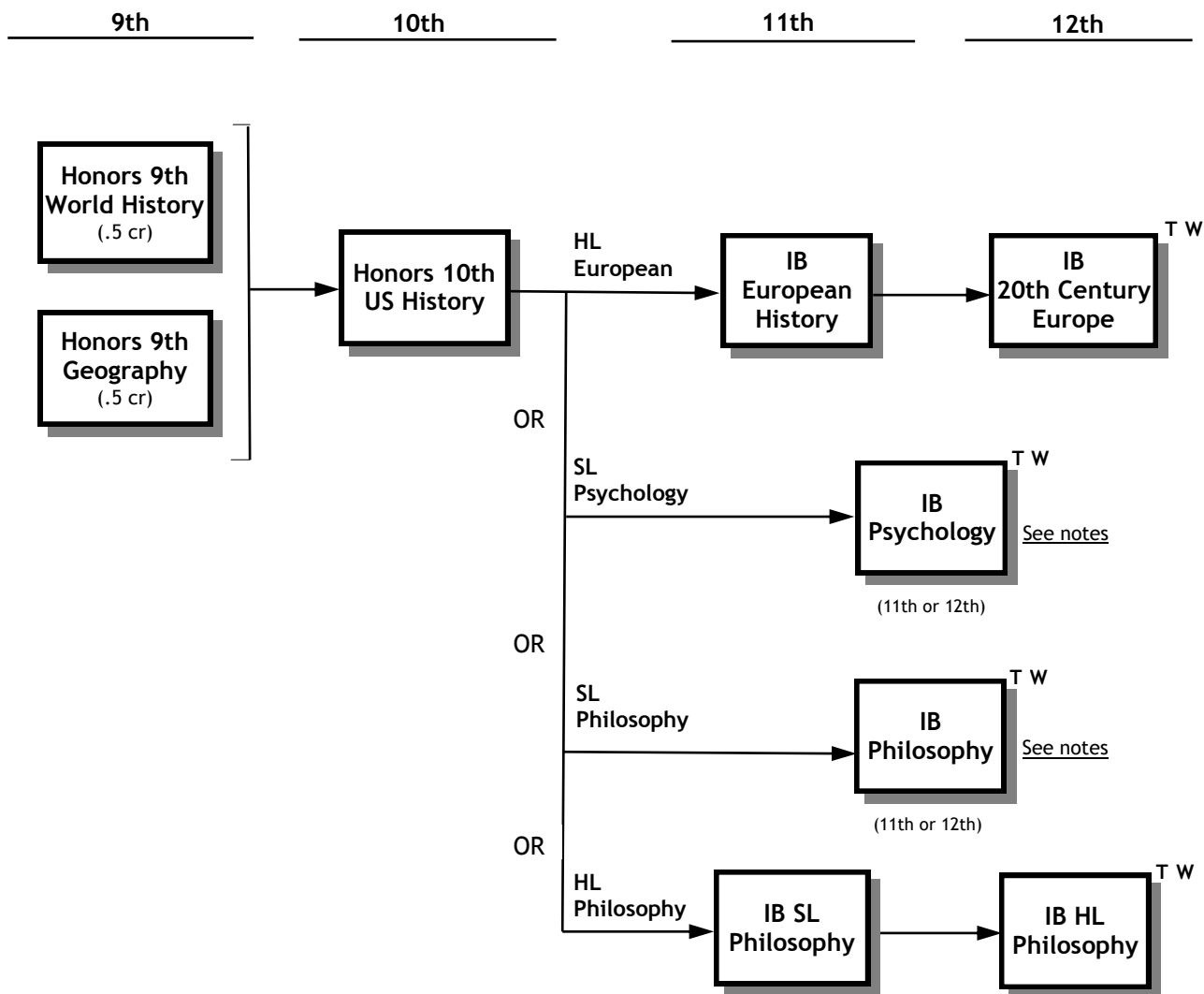
The internal assessment comprises 20% (HL), 30% (SL) of the grade. It is based on an exercise not to exceed 2000 words. The exercise consists of a philosophical examination of "non-philosophical" material. The instructor assesses these and samples are sent to IB for moderation.

IB Examination

External Assessment comprises 70% - 80% of a student's total score. It consists of a series of essays (three for HL), papers written during two 2-hour sessions over two days. One paper will be written on the theme of what it is to be human. The second paper will be on a prescribed text. An external moderator grades these. For High Level students, the external assessment requires an additional paper focusing on a second philosophical text as well as an analysis of a previously unseen philosophical passage.

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The social studies curriculum offers 3 options:
 European Studies at the High Level,
 Psychology at the Standard Level,
 or Philosophy at both the High and Standard Levels.
Refer to notes below for important information.



Notes: All courses are 1.0 credit (full-year) unless otherwise specified.
 Year references at top show only typical years that courses are taken; this may vary by student.
 "W" refers to weighted courses. "T" refers to the course after which the IB test is given.

Special Note:

DCHS graduation requirements include 4 credits of social studies, with specific content requirements. The HL European option satisfies all the DCHS requirements, and no additional social studies courses would have to be taken. However the SL options alone do not. The Psychology and Philosophy courses only satisfy the social studies "elective" requirement. If these options are chosen to satisfy the IB Social Studies curriculum, students will need to take additional social studies courses for .5 credits each of world history, US history and economics. However, Psychology/Philosophy may be chosen to satisfy the IB 6th Subject elective.