THE INTERNATIONAL BACCALAUREATE DIPLOMA PROGRAMME AT ARIS

(ARIS IS A CANDIDATE SCHOOL FOR THE IBDP)
The Proposed International Baccalaureate Diploma Programme at ARIS

The Diploma Programme of the International Baccalaureate Organization (IBO) is a rigorous pre-university course of study that leads to examinations; it is designed for highly motivated secondary school students aged 16 to 19. The programme incorporates the best elements of national systems without being based on any one. The IB Diploma has become a symbol of academic integrity and intellectual promise.

The Curriculum

The Diploma Programme curriculum consists of six subject groups (HL=Higher Level, SL=Standard Level). Subjects include:

| Group 1: Studies in Language & Literature | Language A: Literature | First Language, including the techniques of literary criticism and forming independent literary judgements |
| Group 2: Language Acquisition            | Language A: Language & Literature | First Language, including critical literacy and the relationship between language and the social world |
|                                         | Language A: Language & Performance | A fusion of literary analysis and practical study of the role of performance in understanding literature (SL only) |
| Group 3: Individuals & Societies         | Language B                  | A foreign language course for students with previous experience of the language |
|                                         | Language ab initio          | A foreign language course for beginners (SL only) |
| Group 4: Sciences                        | History, Geography, Economics, Philosophy, Psychology, Business & Management, information Technology in a Global Society. |
| Group 5: Mathematics                     | Biology, Chemistry, Physics, Environmental Systems and Societies SL, Computer Science |
|                                         | Visual Arts, Music, Theatre Arts |
The Diploma Programme at Al-Rayan International School

In April 2014 Al-Rayan International School (ARIS) applied to introduce the Diploma Programme. It is in the process of seeking authorization and currently has Candidate Status.

For external applicants, a one year preliminary course may be available to prepare students for the rigorous demands of the Diploma Programme.

The Diploma Programme subjects planned are:

Group 1: English A Language & Literature, Language A Literature Self-taught (SL)

Group 2: Arabic B, English B, French B, French ab initio (SL)

Group 3: Geography, Economics, Environmental Systems & Societies (Transdisciplinary, SL)

Group 4: Biology, Chemistry, Physics, Environmental Systems & Societies (Transdisciplinary, SL)

Group 5: Mathematics HL and SL, Mathematical Studies (SL)

Group 6: Visual Arts

Core requirements: Theory of Knowledge / Extended Essay / Creativity, Action, Service.
Grading and Results

A candidate’s examination performance in individual subjects is graded according to the following scale:

5. Good  6. Very Good  7. Excellent  N. No Grade

Theory of Knowledge and the Extended Essay are graded according to this scale:

E. Elementary  D. Mediocre  C. Satisfactory
B. Good  A. Excellent  N. No Grade

The Diploma Programme candidate’s six subjects can thus yield 42 points. Three Further points are available for the combination of the Extended Essay and work in TOK. The maximum possible score is therefore 45 points.
Authorization and Recognition

Only schools officially authorized by the IBO may offer the Diploma Programme and present candidates for examination. There are approximately 4,000 participating schools in more than 140 countries.

The IBO has shown that students are well prepared for university work and the Diploma Programme has earned a reputation for rigorous assessment, giving IB Diploma holders access to the world’s leading universities.

The IBO Headquarters are in Geneva, Switzerland, with Regional Offices in The Hague, Bethesda, Buenos Aires, Vancouver and Singapore. The Curriculum and Assessment Centre, located in Cardiff, United Kingdom, oversees two examination sessions per year. The May session serves the majority of candidates, who are mostly from schools in the northern hemisphere; The November session caters for schools in the southern hemisphere. Over 5,000 examiners, under the supervision of Chief Examiners renowned in their fields, are involved in the assessment of student work.

Contact Regional Office for additional information:

IB AFRICA/EUROPE/MIDDLE EAST

Churchillplein 6
2517 JW Den Haag
Netherlands

Telephone: +31 (70) 3526000
E-mail: ibaem.schoolservices@ibo.org
The Diploma and Certificates

Diploma candidates are required to offer one subject from each of Groups 1 to 5. They may choose a subject from Group 6 or opt for a second subject in Groups 1 to 5 (restrictions apply). Three of the six subjects are taken at Higher Level (HL), and three at Standard Level (SL). Each examined subject is graded on a scale of 1 (minimum) to 7 (maximum). The award of the Diploma requires a minimum total of 24 points and the satisfactory completion of three additional requirements: the Extended Essay of some 4,000 words, which provides a first experience of preparing an independent research paper; a course entitled Theory of Knowledge (TOK), which is an interdisciplinary requirement intended to stimulate critical, epistemological reflection on knowledge and experience gained inside and outside the classroom; and the compulsory participation in CAS–Creativity, Action, Service.
Admission is selective, and external applicants will be required to sit entrance examinations before being accepted into the Programme. Applicants are only admitted if they are expected to be able to offer the full Diploma Programme. The first intake of students is anticipated to be at the end of August 2015, culminating in external examinations in May 2017.