

**Cobourg Collegiate Institute's
Grade 9 and 10 IB Preparatory Years Programme**



IB Mission Statement

The International Baccalaureate Organization (IBO) 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 IBO works with schools, governments and international organizations to develop challenging programmes of international education and rigorous assessment.

The IBO encourages students across the world to become active, compassionate and lifelong learners who understand that other people, with their differences, can also be right.

Cobourg Collegiate Institute's Mission Statement

We are engaging classes that develop globally-minded citizens.

We are innovative thinkers in a digital age.

We are an inclusive space offering diverse learning opportunities.

We are a fully composite programming in a state-of-the-art facility.

We are creative, critical and resilient lifelong learners.

We are confident, independent leaders with a positive sense of self and belonging.

We are respect, excellence and community.

What is the Preparatory Years Programme?

Students accepted into IB in grade 9 enter the Preparatory Years Programme which is a school based, specialized program designed to ensure a smooth transition into the IB Diploma Program in Grades 11 and 12.

The Grade 9 Preparatory Year

In Grade 9 students participate in monthly workshops that emphasize the development of the skills and confidence necessary for success in the IB Diploma Programme. Each month focuses on a separate attribute of the IB Learner Profile. The focus of the Grade 9 portion of the programme is on developing the whole student mindset, and encouraging skills that are transferrable to all courses and aspects of student life.

Key Features of the Grade 9 Programme:

- De-streamed courses
- Monthly workshops
- Skill development
 - Time management
 - Collaboration
 - Inquiry
 - Research
 - Critical Thinking
 - Communication
- Promotion of the IB Learner Profile
- International-Mindedness
- Inter-disciplinary Thinking
- Community Leadership and Involvement

Monthly Workshop Themes (Based on the IB Learner Profile)

Semester 1

September	October	November	December	January
Balanced	Communicators	Thinkers	Caring	Risk-Takers

Semester 2

February	March	April	May	June
Open-minded	Principled	Inquirers	Knowledgeable	Reflective

Promotion of the IB Learner Profile Characteristics

The IB Learner Profile

The aim of all IB programmes is to develop internationally minded young people who, recognizing their common humanity and shared guardianship of the planet, help create a better and more peaceful world. The Learner Profile is spiritual core of the IB philosophy:

Inquirers: IB learners develop their natural curiosity. They acquire the skills necessary to conduct inquiry and research, and show independence in learning. They actively enjoy learning and this love of learning will be sustained throughout their lives.

Knowledgeable: They explore concepts and issues that have local and global significance. In doing so, they acquire in-depth knowledge and develop understanding across a broad and balanced range of disciplines.

Thinkers: They exercise initiative in applying thinking skills critically and creatively to recognize and approach complex problems and make reasoned, ethical decisions.

Communicators: They understand and express ideas and information confidently and creatively in more than one language and in a variety of modes of communication. They work effectively and willingly in collaboration with others.

Principled: They act with integrity and honesty, with a strong sense of fairness and justice. They have respect for the dignity of the individual, groups and communities. They take responsibility for their own actions and the consequences that accompany them. This includes a strong commitment to academic honesty and no tolerance for plagiarism.

Open-minded: They understand and appreciate their own cultures and personal histories, and are open to the perspectives, values and traditions of other individuals and communities. They seek and evaluate a range of points, and grow from the experience.

Caring: They show empathy, compassion and respect towards the needs and feelings of others. They have a personal commitment to service, and act to make a positive difference in the lives of others.

Risk-takers: They approach unfamiliar situations and uncertainty with courage and forethought, and have the independence of spirit to explore new roles, ideas and strategies. They are brave and articulate in defending their beliefs.

Balanced: They understand the importance of intellectual, physical and emotional balance to achieve personal well-being for themselves and others.

Reflective: They give thoughtful consideration to their own learning and experience. They are able to assess and understand their strengths and limitations in order to support their learning and personal development.

The Grade 10 Preparatory Year

In Grade 10 students are introduced to an enhanced curriculum (English, Math, Science, French and Humanities) that fosters critical thinking, and a strong sense of internationalism. Backward planning and scaffolding are regular practices aimed at offering consistent, clear support as students prepare for the IB Diploma Programme in grade 11 and 12. Projects and assessments count for their OSSD, but are enhanced by cultivating the rigorous thinking, writing, research and communication skills that are key components of the full diploma programme. The Grade 10 courses also continue to develop the concepts of International-mindedness and interdisciplinary thinking that are key qualities which make IB unique.

Key Features of the Grade 10 Preparatory Year

- Enhanced Curriculum
 - Going further on concepts, more in-depth (this may or may not be assessed for marks)
 - Bonus material (introduce a different concept, that is not being assessed)
 - Different approach the concept
 - Research skills
 - International perspective
- Promotion of the characteristics of the IB learner profile
- International-mindedness
- Cross-curricular thinking

Grading in Grade 10:

Students are evaluated at the standards of an academic class, and as such their mark reflects what they would achieve in a Grade 10 academic streamed class.

Enhanced Curriculum

Students should be able to articulate what makes this course different than an academic course. However, they should also know that they are not being marked any differently than an academic course.

English Prep (Group 1 - HL)

In addition to the Grade 10 Academic Curriculum, the Preparatory classes will also focus on the following skills.

Reading

- pushing reading skills and improving reading selections
- depth/length of selections

Writing

- continue improving writing skills

Orals

- lots of practice speaking/ presenting
- continue developing oral skills

Analysis

- identifying stylistic and structural devices and authorial intent in the choices made (such as irony, metaphor, simile, symbolism, sentence style and length, use of paragraphs, stanzas, chapters, breaks on the page)
- introduction to literary theories (post-colonial, racial, labour, feminist etc.)

Forms

- knowing the conventions of each form of writing (how are poetry, prose, and plays similar and different?)

General

- continue working on citation skills (MLA, intext)
- incorporate learner portfolios into grade 10 classes
- connect texts to global issues (this may be through an assignment)
- introduce IB rubrics/ IB assessment practices
 - familiarize with language, assessment criteria
- Introduction of the examination styles specific to the IB
- Introduce the 4 quadrants tool of analysis

French Prep (Group 2 -SL)

In addition to the Grade 10 Academic Curriculum, the Preparatory classes will also focus on the following skills.

Listening

-listening to recordings, and being able to answer questions

Speaking

-expressing opinions in French

-individual interviews

-lots of orals / talking

-gradually working towards the removal of notes during orals (very gradual)

Reading

-work on improving reading skills in French

Writing

-good writing skills without the aid of the computer (this can be gradual progression)

General:

-Keep re-enforcing DELF activities

-Lots of repetition, keep re-enforcing/improving the (Listen, speaking, reading, and writing) skills

-Aim for independence from computer aids

-Introduction to the French Diaspora (e.g., Caribbean, French Africa, Louisiana, Canada)

TOK Connections

History/ Humanities Prep (Group 3 - HL)

In addition to the Grade 10 Academic Curriculum, the Preparatory classes will also focus on the following skills/ traits.

Events

- more detail and specifics surrounding events
- global perspectives of historical events
- a bit more analysis of events
- ethical consequences of events/ multiple perspectives (TOK connections)

Research

- some more research activities
- proper citing of sources, lots of practice
 - gradually increase expectations
 - more than just "google" and "Wikipedia"
- use of primary sources (start if possible)
- research skills lesson with our school Librarian

Collaboration

- lots of collaboration/ working together
- lots of sharing of ideas
- discussions from multiple perspectives
- international-mindedness, multiple perspectives of a certain event in history
- Presentations (group or individual)

TOK Connections

Science Prep (Group 4 – HL and SL): Skills Focus

In addition to the Grade 10 Academic Curriculum, the Preparatory classes will also focus on the following skills.

Tests

- imbed multiple choice questions
- gradually increase the level of difficulty
- work on multiple choice strategies for tests

Labs

- a bit more emphasis on the scientific method
- a bit more open-ended, chances for further exploration

General

- some focus on inquiry
- research skills
- citing sources in science
- global-mindedness – issues
 - discussions on ethics around issues (e.g., Ecology, Climate) (TOK connections)
- a bit more in-depth on topics
- TOK Connections

Biology

Bonus material: plant biology systems

Chemistry

Bonus material: connect acids and bases to compounds

Optics

Bonus material: a bit more mathematics

working: with the Sine button...interdisciplinary (mathematics connection)

Mathematics Prep (Group 5 - SL) (2 Courses)

Semester 1: MPM2D

In addition to the Grade 10 Academic Curriculum, the Preparatory classes will also focus on the following skills: (Sorted by topic)

Linear Systems

- lots of word problems
- fractions within equations

Algebra

- strong algebra skills
- challenging factoring questions, questions that involve more than one type of factoring
- Bonus: simplifying rational expressions, operations with rational expressions, stating restrictions

Quadratics

- determinant
- lots of word problems (creating own equations to solve the problem)
- Bonus: simplifying SURDS (radicals, and operations with radicals)

Trigonometry

- multi-step questions
- Solving the barn assignment (large multi-step question)
- Bonus: ambiguous case (time permitting)

Coordinate Geometry

- Have students create a portfolio (see portfolio assignment)
 - a little more independent
 - works on their writing of math, explaining steps and thinking

Additional Bonus: Time permitting

- Introduce concept of a function, and function notation

Ongoing Focus

- Mathematical Communication
 - organized
 - proper technique/mathematical form
 - writing formulas
 - “let” statements and “therefore” statements
 - explaining thinking and thought process
- developing comfort with working with fractions
- leaving answers as exact, or correct to 3 significant figures
- Exploring problems from different perspectives (TOK Connections)
- Multi-step problems

- Using new concepts to solve unfamiliar problems
- Discussions on the nature of mathematics as an Area of Knowledge (TOK connections)
- Familiarizing themselves with the usage of Graphing Calculators

SEMESTER 2: MCR3U using the IB Textbook.

Topics include:

- Function Notation
- Exponential Functions and equations
- Sequences and series
- Compound Interest
- Right angle and non-right-angle Trigonometry
- Trigonometric Functions
- Exact values and unit circle
- Quadratic Functions and equations
- Binomial Expansion

Bonus: Introduction to solving equations using logarithms

Additional emphasis

- Strong algebra techniques
- Problem solving skills. Applying tools to unfamiliar situations
- Introduce questions where they need to a) prove or b) show that...
- Introduction to IB style questioning and assessing methods
- emphasis on graphing calculator usage (necessary for IB courses)
- simplifying SURDS
- continued TOK connections to nature of mathematics as an area of knowledge