

IB Visual Arts (higher and standard level) Subject Brief (from the IB Curriculum Guide)

Aims of IB Visual Arts

The aims of the visual arts course at HL and SL are to enable students to:

- investigate past, present and emerging forms of visual arts and engage in producing, appreciating and evaluating these
- develop an understanding of visual arts from a local, national and international perspective
- build confidence in responding visually and creatively to personal and cultural experiences
- develop skills in, and sensitivity to, the creation of works that reflect active and individual involvement
- take responsibility for the direction of their learning through the acquisition of effective working practices

Objectives of IB Visual Arts

Having followed the visual arts course at HL or SL, students will be expected to:

1. respond to and analyze critically and contextually the function, meaning and artistic qualities of past, present and emerging art, using the specialist vocabulary of visual arts
2. develop and present independent ideas and practice, and explain the connections between these and the work of others
3. explore and develop ideas and techniques for studio work through integrated contextual study and first-hand observations
4. develop and maintain a close relationship between investigation and a purposeful, creative process in studio work
5. produce personally relevant works of art that reveal evidence of exploration of ideas that reflect cultural and historical awareness
6. develop and demonstrate technical competence and artistic qualities that challenge and extend personal boundaries

Syllabus Outline for IB Visual Arts Option A

The Diploma Program visual arts syllabus provides a framework that allows teachers to choose content and activities appropriate to both their students' interests and experience and their own. When constructing a course of study, the teacher must bear in mind the visual arts assessment criteria and the specific requirements for the assessment tasks explained in this guide.

Teachers should design their courses of study according to:

- the cultural background, personal needs and abilities of the students
- the nature of the school
- their own expertise.

Because these factors vary considerably, the precise syllabus content is not specified but is generated by the teacher and students. In accordance with the aims and assessment objectives listed in this guide, each school's course of study should reflect the distinctive international perspective of the Diploma Program in individual ways. This flexibility is one of the distinguishing characteristics of the visual arts course.

An **integrated** relationship between studio work and investigation work is essential throughout the course.

Option A (HL and SL)

Option A is designed for students who wish to concentrate on studio practice in visual arts. Students will produce investigation workbooks to support, inform, develop and refine studio work through sustained contextual, visual and critical investigation.

At both HL and SL, the investigation workbooks are integral to studio practice and should reflect the student's critical **visual and written** investigation.

Assessment Outline for IB Visual Arts (mandatory for all students)

Studio 60%

External assessment

The student prepares a **selection** of his or her studio work in the form of an exhibition. This is externally assessed by an examiner following a recorded interview with the student about the work.

Investigation 40%

Internal assessment

The student presents **selected pages** of his or her investigation workbooks that have been produced during the course. This selection is internally assessed by the teacher and externally moderated by the IBO at the end of the course.