

California Association of IB World Schools
Information for IB Diploma Schools
University of California A-G Course Guide 2018-2019

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- IB Program Course list: <https://hs-articulation.ucop.edu/agcourselist#/list/details/4486/>
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Courses from California high schools and online schools used to satisfy the "a-g" subject admission requirements must be approved by UC and appear on the institution's "a-g" course list. To satisfy the "a-g" subject requirements, the course must appear on the school's course list for the year the student took the course.

UC standards require that the courses are to be academically challenging, involving substantial reading, writing, problems and laboratory work (as appropriate), and show serious attention to analytical thinking, factual content and developing students' oral and listening skills.

Important Tasks for IB Schools

- IB DP and MYP Coordinators are strongly encouraged to read and become familiar with the most current UC A-G Guide, and with the A-G requirements for UC admission. Work closely with your school and/or district staff on your school's A-G Course Management Portal (CMP). This will be of great benefit to your students in the UC/CSU application and admission process.
- Add approved IB Diploma Program courses to your school's course lists [see below].
- Submit new IB Diploma courses for "a-g" approval through CAWS, and follow the deadlines/due dates. Work with CAWS in advance to develop and submit any new IB Program courses your school will offer that are NOT on the IB Program course list. All new courses must be submitted through IB Americas/CAWS for approval on the IB Program course list.
- Add or revise existing school courses if needed through your school's Course Management Portal. School courses will not be approved if the course title or curriculum includes IB.
- Keep track of submissions, under-review and reviewed courses.
- Check your course list for accuracy. Add/remove courses on an annual basis so there is an accurate profile of your school's academic and IB offerings.

Adding IB Diploma Courses to your school's A-G list.

Authorized IB Diploma Program Schools can add IB Program “a-g” approved courses to their own school’s “a-g” course list without having to prepare a full “a-g” course submission to UC. UC grants *program status* to select organizations, including IB, offering standardized high school curriculum. Such approved “a-g” courses are referred to as *program courses*. Each organization with program status has an established “a-g” course list composed of the program courses that have earned “a-g” approval. Program course lists serve as an easy way for any California high school to refer to a program’s “a-g” courses and identify the particular course(s) the school intends to offer to its students. High schools then add a program’s “a-g” course to their own school’s “a-g” course list without having to prepare a full “a-g” course submission to UC for review. IB Program Course list: <https://hs-articulation.ucop.edu/agcourselist#/list/details/4486/>

In some cases, satisfactory scores on SAT Subject, AP or IB exams can also be used to satisfy the “a-g” requirements.

FAQ: What if our school wants to offer an IB course that is not on the UC IB Program course list?

Please contact CAWS if your school wants to offer a new IB course that is not on the UC IB Program course list. Individual schools cannot add new IB Program courses on their own; they must be submitted as program courses through the IB Program course portal. It is strongly recommended that new course proposals be submitted by the Phase 1 application deadline (February 1, 2019-May 31, 2019). New courses initially submitted during Phase 1 may have up to 2 opportunities to resubmit. The UC A-G guide for honors courses should be closely followed if courses are to be approved. Address the criteria for the subject and use the required submission format. Course proposals that just submit the IB course guide have little chance of approval. Teachers from different IB schools are encouraged to work collaboratively on their course proposals, and CAWS can help facilitate this. **CAWS offers stipends to teachers who develop and complete new IB course proposals.**

FAQ: Many IB program courses do not receive “honors” designation from UC. Why is this and what can be done about it?

There is a lengthy review process by individual UC campuses and departments for honors designation. Many of the IB courses were submitted and reviewed many years ago when the IB Program was not very well known in California. With the updated UC A-G guide and a better review process, there is a new opportunity to resubmit IB courses for honors designation. Five IB SL courses were recently granted honors weight when a revised course proposal was submitted by CAWS. **CAWS is seeking teachers who would like to work on course resubmissions, and is offering stipends to teachers. Please contact CAWS if you are interested.**

Also note that there are a limited number of honors courses that count toward the UC GPA. The number of UC-designated honors courses receiving the additional grade points is limited to eight semesters or four years. The rigor of a student's schedule (which includes IB courses) is another factor in admission decisions. Beyond the GPA, schools are urged to emphasize the documented benefits of IB in preparation for college success, including on-time graduation, when communicating with students, parents and the community about the advantages of the IB Program.

FAQ: Our school offers an SL course over two years. However, just one-year SL courses are on the IB Program A-G list.

There is currently no recognition for two-year SL courses with UC. From a survey of IB schools, most schools now do one of the following:

1. For SL1, use a regular approved school course name and number. For example, a school may use English 3 P for the first year of its IB English SL course. For SL 2, use the IB SL approved course title such as English IB SL. It is similar to schools that offer AP over two years. For example, students may take Biology P for one year, and then AP Biology for year 2.
2. The other option is to enroll all students in HL1 and HL2 courses, and then some students will test at SL instead of HL.

FAQ: Our school offers an IB approved school-based syllabus course.

School-based syllabus courses can be submitted to UC for approval through IB Americas/CAWS using the same process as other IB courses.

FAQ: Our school offers ab initio language. Why aren't those classes on the IB A-G list?

IB ab initio courses are not included on the IB Program A-G list. University advocacy by IB Americas and CAWS aims to increase recognition of IB courses as college-level courses deserving of honors weight, and academic credit. This does not apply to ab initio courses which serve a different purpose within the Diploma Program. There is concern that including ab initio would add confusion to IB course offerings, and thus disadvantage our students and program in terms of college admission and recognition. IB Language B HL and SL courses meet honors criteria, and are especially well accepted at UCs. Schools are advised to use regular school course names and numbers for ab initio courses; for example, Mandarin 1 and Mandarin 2. In addition, students can be enrolled in an IB course, such as Spanish IB SL, and still take the ab initio exam if that is their level of language competence and is what their diploma plan recommends.

FAQ: What about MYP courses?

There is currently no A-G Program list for grade 9-10 courses in the Middle Years Program. IB Americas and CAWS are exploring this option as a service to schools. Schools interested in having a list should contact CAWS.

FAQ: What are other ways to support my students in college admissions/recognition?

Use your school profile, student transcripts, student essays and letters of recommendation to highlight key aspects of IB Programs that are of value to colleges. Track and publicize data on your students' college and career readiness, and college retention/success. Schools are also encouraged to build local relationships with your UC, CSU and Community College campuses.