

GATEWAY

IB

LIFE

September 2013



**International
Baccalaureate
Diploma
Programme**

IB CALENDER

**HOW TO SURVIVE IN THE
IB & IB LIFE AND
EXPERIENCES**

COLLEGE INFORMATION



SEPTEMBER

2013



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SEPT. 2

(Eng L&L) Written Task Final
(Chem HL/SL) PSOW Final Report
(Bio HL/SL) PSOW Final Report
TOKL
공보문화원 일한문화교류 전시회

SEPT. 3

(Eng B) Mock Paper 1
(His HL/SL) Paper 1 Mock Test
금호아시아나 중국어 말하기 대회 예선
공보문화원 일한문화교류 일본어 연극

SEPT. 6

(His) Test
공익재단법인 <작문 콘테스트>

SEPT. 9

(TOK) Essay
(Japanese) Report (~9.13)
GVT 사진전

SEPT. 10

(Eng B) Interactive Oral

SEPT. 11

(Chem) Unit 5 Test
(Eng) Essay Test
건강검진

SEPT. 12

수학 경시대회

SEPT. 13

(ITGS HL/SL) Project
(Eng Lit) Written Component
전공어 시낭송 대회
금호아시아나 중국어 말하기 대회 본선

SEPT. 14

학교 홍보

SEPT. 15

공보문화원 일한문화교류 한일축제마당

SEPT. 17

(Econ HL/SL) Portfolio Part 3
(Film) Film Analysis Paper
귀가의 날

SEPT. 18

추석 연휴 (~9.20)

SEPT. 23

(Film HL/SL) Independent Study

SEPT. 24

(His HL/SL) Mock Paper 1
(Theatre) RI Draft

SEPT. 25

Social Studies Debate
공보문화원 일한문화교류 국제선면전
'한국전'

SEPT. 26

Essay Mock Test

SEPT. 27

중간고사 시험일정 발표
(B&M HL) Research Project

COLOR CODES

Purple = Pre DP
Blue = DP1
Red = DP2
Green = All Grades
Sky Blue = All Grades (outside activity)

BIRTHDAYS

Sept. 5 DP1 Erin Lee
Sept. 19 Pre DP Joann Lee
DP1 Sean Kim
Sept. 21 DP1 Thomas Kang
Sept. 24 DP1 Paul Hong



HOW TO SURVIVE IN THE IB



Colleges that Only Look at IB

It is possible to get into colleges in the United Kingdom, Europe, Canada, Australia, New Zealand, China, Japan, etc. with only your IB scores. With an IB score of over 40, it is possible to get into Oxford or Cambridge University. With a score of over 38, you might want to look into applying for famous colleges in Asia, such as the University of Hong Kong, the National University of Singapore (NUS), and the University of Tokyo. And though it varies from what you want to major in, you have a good chance at applying to many major colleges in Europe and Canada with an IB score of over 32. This indicates how challenging IB course is.

Getting into Colleges in the United States

It is impossible to get into colleges in the United States with only the IB. However, you could say that IB students are at an advantage since the IB receives extra merit. Taking the SAT is a must, and high IB scores are also necessary. It is also imperative to take AP exams in subjects related to your major or area of interest. Since most colleges in the United States give students credit depending on their AP subjects and scores, it is not only essential but also helpful for students to take AP courses. In order to get into top universities such as Harvard or Stanford, students are required to receive IB score of over 40. And with a score of over 38, prestigious Ivy League colleges are also in your range.



Getting into Colleges in Korea

Depending on your unique circumstances, you should look into participating in various activities related to the area of your interest and your IB score. Make sure to meet the requirements of the specific university. Students from international schools can apply to Korean colleges with just their IB scores. On the other hand, all upperclassmen tell us that high school academic reports are most important for students like us who attend national high schools.

How to Score High on the IB

Most IB students have probably already heard this multiple times, but there is something you must remember. The beginning of the DP2 year is the busiest time of your IB life. Managing your schedule and studying in advance is imperative. Solving sample questions from past IB tests are also necessary. Make yourself familiar to IB grading standards! When the school provides you with the rubrics of IB tests and assessments, read and analyze them carefully. Also, remember to prepare in advance for the TOK and EE, mandatory but challenging parts of the IB program. Since critical thinking, creativity, and selecting the best topic is crucial for the IB, make sure to collect and read a lot of

books that could be helpful to develop these abilities.

Do We Really Need the AP?

The AP is widely recognized as an area of evaluation for students applying for the international or global departments of Korean universities. The AP is also an extremely important component of applications for Ivy League colleges. The greatest advantage of the AP is that you can still get a high score even with a short period of preparation. The rate of candidates applying to major Korean colleges with AP score is continuously increasing. Colleges with holistic evaluation systems and the prestigious university that will soon move in to the SongDo global campus regards College Board, the superintendent of the AP, as a reliable source of evaluation. Applicants to Ivy League schools typically take 4 to 5 AP tests, and students attending the international program in Korean foreign languages high schools normally prepare for 3 or more tests. It is much better to prepare well for AP exams related to your major or field of interest, rather than to just take tests that you can easily pass. It may indeed be difficult for IB students to prepare for AP exams while partaking in an already challenging and rigorous curriculum. Thus, it is very important to focus on your priorities.

What Kind of Extra-Curricular Activities Are There?

There are many types of extra-curricular activities that are waiting to be found! It's important that you find those that are relevant to your interests and career. Don't just follow what your friends are doing, but find activities that make you unique.

Colleges often tell us that they look for well-rounded students. But in truth, it is as important and maybe even better to be a well-lopsided student. To be well-lopsided means that you should be able to show that you have concentrated in one specific area. You should be able to show that you were committed and showed perseverance in a specific activity or area. For instance, if you started off as a mere member of the band but became the chair at the end of your four years of being in the band, you would be showing commitment, endurance, and continued interest - features that college admissions officers look for. So remember to be well-lopsided!

Sean Lee gome7777@gmail.com

IB LIFE AND EXPERIENCES



Interview with
Gwen Baek
of the first IB class



What do you think is the biggest advantage of the IB program?

First of all, the IB program taught me responsibility. Though I knew that finishing assignments by the due date was a must, it becomes very difficult when undergoing the rigorous IB program. The amount of responsibility and commitment you must have increases when you have four to five assignments due on the same day and when you have to balance between extracurricular activities and academics. Also, because I made the choice to do the IB program, I must take responsibility for my studies and activities. In these ways, I was able to acquire responsibility by taking commitment for the activities I was in charge of and always keeping academic integrity. Secondly, the IB program gives students passion and courage. When I looked back at all the tests and notes I took for the IB, I earned the confidence that I could accomplish anything. Though the last two years were very difficult

for me, I can proudly say that I did my best during those two years. Because I completed the IB program, I am sure that studying abroad in the States will not be a problem.

Does the IB program help for college? If so, how?

The IB program gives you responsibility and courage. These traits help you not only in college, but also in the real world. And though it varies from each university, in the case of UC Berkeley, you don't have to take a reading and composition class if you receive either a six or a seven in English HL. Such reading and composition classes are requisites for graduation and are difficult courses to receive a high GPA in. Other than this, you can start off with 20 credits out of the total amount of credits you need for graduation. In such ways, there are many benefits you can earn in various colleges by completing the IB program.

Do you have your own IB study tip?

History: I studied history based on my class notes, textbooks, and handouts. Although memorization is a must, you must understand the overall flow of events in order to successfully answer the entire question of the IB test.

English: I made a small study group and wrote a paper 1 and 2 every week. We set aside two to three hours each week to give each other advice and feedback. We took turns each week – one person making a list of literary terms, another student organizing how to write a successful IB paper, etc. – and shared such materials with each other. You can earn a lot if you share such materials and study with each other.

Math: It is important in math to solve a lot of problems and keep a notebook of problems you missed.

Bio: In all honesty, I just memorized everything for Biology.

Korean: I followed the teachings of Ms. Baek. Do not sleep in class! I tried to get the most out of presenting in Korean class for my personal growth. I set themes for myself and tried a lot of new things. I remember when I tried to present without looking at my script and to try talking logically. I used to be so nervous that I couldn't present without a script, but through challenging myself in Korean class, I can now talk in front of large audiences.

Last year's IB class had an exceptionally good college admission record. What do you think is the reason behind such success?

Our IB class was very precise in time management and self-planning. We had a great time when we hung out, but concentrated on our studies when the time came. When we studies, we were very prudent in our time management. For example, we would wake up early, eat breakfast quickly, and spend the rest of the time before morning announcements studying. Then, we would study during lunch time and SA time. During dinner, we would eat fast and study some more. At night, when self-study time ended at 11:30, we would study until the dorm closed at 11:50. After going into the dorm, we would study until two or three in the morning. If we only studied like this, we would have burned out, but we were able to continue on because we relaxed during the weekend. We would hang out with friends, watch movies, eat tasty things, and relax at home. All in all, I think because all of us did our best, we were able to achieve a good college admittance record.

There are a lot of current GAFL students who want to study economics in the future. What activities and studies do you recommend for them?

A lot of Asian students who apply for studying economics often have very similar spec. Therefore, it's important for you to participate in many activities related to economics and business from an early stage. Enter in a lot of competitions, and if you're really passionate, try starting a business! The most important thing is to stay unique while participating in such business, marketing, accounting, and economics-related activities. For example, it's great to try focusing on a small, unique part in the wide field of economics and business. Also, a good GPA is a must.

Do you have anything you want to say to the Pre-DP and DP1 students?

I know that a lot of you are at a difficult stage right now. But always remember that this will all go by, just as rain stops and the skies clear. Take heart, and remember to take care of your activities, not just your academics. For the students who want to attend colleges in the United States, it's especially important that you diligently participate in a variety of activities. I can guarantee that you will struggle if you suddenly try to build up your spec right before college apps are due. It's important that you select your approach towards college admissions, and develop according to that path. One more thing: It seems to me the IB students at our school don't really communicate between the different classes. If you come across a difficulty while studying the IB, don't just struggle with it by yourself or with your friends, but

ask your upperclassmen! Because they've been through what you're going through right now, your upperclassmen will be able to provide you with a lot of help.

How did you prepare for college admissions? What do you think is the most important thing in college admissions?

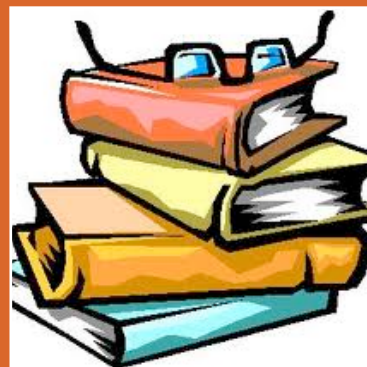
I recommend that you don't get nervous because of admissions, but prepare step by step!

Finally, what was the IB program to you?

For me, the IB program was a new beginning!

Hye-Min Yi hyi03plumpkin@gmail.com

DREAM ON



The College Times



Harvard University

Introduction

Harvard University has consistently ranked either 1st place or 2nd place out of all the universities in the United States. Harvard boasts approximately \$31 billion in donations and has the most financial aid available. The result: high-quality teaching faculty, high-quality research, the best residence facilities, and the biggest library in the world. It doesn't end there. Harvard University provides full financial aid for students from low-income families. However, the university is located in an area where it's difficult to see the sun often, so don't expect good weather.

Harvard placed first in the 2012 United States University Ranking by the US News and second in the Top 400 Colleges Worldwide by THE Ranking. Harvard University is located in Cambridge, Massachusetts. Harvard has the lowest acceptance rate in the world. In 2012, 10.9% of the freshmen were international students.

Harvard University

Cambridge, MA 02138
(617) 495-1000

College Admissions Office

86 Brattle Street
Cambridge, MA 02138
Phone: (617) 495-1551
Fax: (617) 495-8821
E-mail: college@fas.harvard.edu

Required documents for college admission

- Application
- High school academic record
- Harvard Supplement (Personal information, Majors, Extracurricular activities, Supplementary essay)
- Secondary School Report
- Mid-Year School Report
- Final School Report
- International Supplement
- SAT/ACT with Writing
- 2 SAT Subject Tests
- (TOEFL/IELTS)
- Common App Essay
- 2 recommendation letters
- Proof of Financial Funding
- Interview
- (Supplementary Materials/Portfolios)

Requirements for college admission

Required Subjects in High School:

- 4 years of English, including intensive writing courses
- 4 years of math
- 4 years of science (either biology, chemistry, or physics; one of which is advanced)
- 3 years of history, including United States and European history
- 4 years of foreign language

*SAT Subject Tests, AP exams, etc. must prove the student's proficiency in the above subjects.

Major Distribution:

Humanities 19.2%, Social Sciences 24.8%, Bio Sciences 23.4%, Physical Sciences 9.5%, Engineering & Computer Sciences 14.3%, Math 7.6%, Undecided 1.1%

Scholarship: Harvard University practices need-blind financial aid system. Thus, international students who apply for financial aid do not need to worry about having that affect their application in general. Harvard does not have merit-based scholarships as it is difficult to differentiate between already proficient students. Many students receive merit-based scholarships from outside organizations.

GENERAL FACTS		ENTRANCE INFORMATION	
Website	www.harvard.edu	Admissions Rate	Most Selective
Harvard University	Medium-sized 4 year private university	Average SAT Scores of Accepted Students	CR: 760/Math: 770/W: 760
Students : Professors	7:1	Average ACT Scores of Accepted Students	Com: 34/Eng:34/ Math:34
Percentage of students that make it up sophomore year	97%	Early Action Deadline	November 1st (SCEA)
Percentage of students who graduate within six years	97%	Regular Decision Deadline	January 1st
Number of undergraduates	6,676	GPA	approximately 91% received over 3.75
Number of freshmen	1,657	Tuition + Residence Fees	\$39,849 + \$12,801
Number of graduate students	3,874	Candidates/Admitted/Freshmen	34,950 / 2,188 / 1,661

College Evaluation

	D	D+	C-	C	C+	B-	B	B+	A-	A	A+
Academy											
Sports											
Food											
Dormitory											
Facilities											
Local Environment											
Outside-school Accommodation											
Parking											
Transportation											
Weather											

University of California, Berkeley

Introduction

UC Berkeley is renowned as the best public university in America. Berkeley boasts a beautiful campus located in the San Francisco Bay area. It also holds great programs in humanities, science, and engineering of the highest quality. Berkeley placed 21st in the 2012 University Ranking in the United States by the US News and 10th in the Top 400 Universities Worldwide by THE Ranking. In 2012, 11% of the freshmen were international students.

While most state universities admit students based on their grades, UC Berkeley looks at not only grades, but also the essays, extra-curricular activities, leadership, contribution to the community, and talents. As a state university, UC Berkeley has a diverse community where highly intelligent students can work and compete together. Located close to San Francisco, Berkeley is close to beautiful nature spots such as parks and the coast. On the negative side, the environment outside of the school is of low quality, and is infamous for its stressful academic life. Plus, it rains very often.

University of California, Berkeley

Berkeley, CA 94720

(510) 642-6000

College Admissions Office

110 Sproul Hall, #5800

Berkeley, CA 94720-5800

Phone: (510) 642-6000

Required documents for college admission

- Application (www.universityofcalifornia.edu/admissions/international/index.html)
- High school academic record
- SAT/ACT with Writing
- (SAT Subject Tests)
- TOEFL/IELTS (TOEFL: 80~, IELTS: 7~)
- Essay

(a) Describe the world you come from - for example, your family, community or school – and tell us how your world has shaped your dreams and aspirations.

(b) Tell us about a personal quality, talent, accomplishment, contribution or experience that is important to you. What about this quality or accomplishment makes you proud and how does it relate to the person you are?

•Proof of Financial Funding

- (NIF: Non-immigrant Information Form – A document that proves the student can pay their bills for a year)

Requirements for college admission

Required High School Courses

- ♦ History/social science: 2 years
- ♦ English: 4 years
- ♦ Mathematics: 3 years
- ♦ Laboratory science: 2 years
- ♦ Language other than English: 2 years
- ♦ Visual and performing arts: 1 year
- ♦ College-preparatory elective: 1 year

*A grade of C or below is not accepted. Students studying abroad must have a GPA of over 3.4.

*UC Berkeley does not require SAT Subject Tests, but specific programs or majors may require them.

*SAT Subject Tests may replace a-g subjects.

Honors Program Honors programs exist for every college. Chosen during the semester.

Scholarships Berkeley does not provide financial aid to international students.

Admission Requirements Academic GPA, Application Essay, Rigor of secondary school record, State Residency, Character/Personal Qualities, Extracurricular Activities, Standardized Test Scores, Talent/Ability, Volunteer Work, Work Experience

Reference www.universityofcalifornia.edu/admissions/freshman/how-applications-reviewed/index.html

Erin Lee gromi00@naver.com

GENERAL FACTS		ENTRANCE INFORMATION	
Website	www.berkeley.edu	Admissions Rate	Most Selective
UC Berkeley	Large 4-year state university	Average SAT Scores of Accepted Students	CR: 720/Math: 740/W: 720
Students : Professors	15:1 (as of 2009)	Average ACT Scores of Accepted Students	Com: 34/Eng:34/ Math:34
Percentage of students that make it up sophomore year	97%	Early Action Deadline	N/A
Percentage of students who graduate within six years	90%	Regular Decision Deadline	November 30th
Number of undergraduates	25,885	GPA	approximately 78% received above 3.75
Number of freshmen	4,443	Tuition + Residence Fees	\$35,713 + \$14,990
Number of graduate students	10,257	Candidates/Admitted/ Freshmen	52,786 / 11,440 / 4,443

“Our greatest weakness lies in giving up. The most certain way to succeed is always to try just one more time.” –Thomas A. Edison

College Evaluation

	D	D+	C-	C	C+	B-	B	B+	A-	A	A+
Academy											
Sports											
Food											
Dormitory											
Facilities											
Local Environment											
Outside-school Accommodation											
Parking											
Transportation											
Weather											



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