



Philosophy IB

Level 3 = This is a 1 A level course

Philosophy is a systematic critical inquiry into profound, fascinating and challenging questions such as: What is it to be human?, Do we have free will? and What do we mean when we say something is right or wrong?

These abstract questions arise out of our everyday experiences, and philosophical tools such as critical and systematic thinking, careful analysis, and construction of arguments provide the means of addressing such questions. The practice of philosophy deepens and clarifies our understanding of these questions, as well as our ability to formulate possible responses.

The emphasis of the Diploma Programme philosophy course is on “doing philosophy”, that is, on actively engaging students in philosophical activity. The course is focused on stimulating students’ intellectual curiosity and encouraging them to examine both their own perspectives and those of others. Students are challenged to develop their own philosophical voice and to grow into independent thinkers, in addition to engaging with some of the world’s most interesting and influential thinkers. The course also develops highly transferable skills such as the ability to formulate arguments clearly, to make reasoned judgments and to evaluate highly complex and multifaceted issues.

Course Details

Students are required to study one text from the “IB list of prescribed philosophical texts”, which includes texts from authors as diverse as Plato, Lao Tzu, and Martha Nussbaum.

Core Unit:

The core theme “Being human” is compulsory for all students.

Optional Units:

SL students are required to study one theme from the following list.

HL students are required to study two themes from the following list.

Aesthetics, Epistemology, Ethics, Philosophy and contemporary society, Philosophy of religion, Philosophy of science, Political philosophy.

Internal Assessment

SL and HL students are required to produce a philosophical analysis of a non-philosophical stimulus such as a poem, film scene, or painting.

When?

Start date: September.

Duration: 2 years.

Delivery: Part of a full-time programme.

Availability: Current and continuing.

Who can do it?

Age range: 16 – 19

SEN target: None.

Entry Requirements: By interview.

Career Information:

Barrister, Civil Service, Health service manager, Local government officer, Marketing executive, Newspaper journalist, Paralegal and Psychotherapist

More information?

Contact Mr May at the Academy.