

Grade 9 IB Seminar 2017-18

IB 9831 Foundations of IB: *What skills do I need to achieve my goals?*



Purpose

- Through the use of Approaches to Learning (ATL) freshmen will explore the skills necessary to transition from middle school to high school, to self-advocate, to become better organized, to manage their time effectively, to differentiate their study techniques for each subject
- Freshmen will explore their own learning styles and how to use that information to enhance performance
- To have enrichment experiences that ground them in IB cornerstones of global contexts international mindedness, the Learner Profile, Action and Service and the Personal Project

Expectations

- Students will **inquire** when they don't understand expectations or assignments, asking questions, seeking resources and finding them. Students will be independent by looking for answers first, then seeking Ms. Harper for an answer.
- Students will be **knowledgeable** of appropriate school decorum – to arrive on time, where to sit, what their assignment is, where to turn it in, how to behave, where cell phones should be in seminar, and how to treat fellow students.
- Students will **think** about what is presented in seminar and apply it to their classes. What is taught in seminar is JRT IB policy and is applicable every day, every class.
- Students will **communicate** at appropriate times and in appropriate manners. No cell phones or laptops, unless otherwise indicated, are allowed. Student emails to Ms. Harper should have an appropriate tone. If a student has a problem, he/she will communicate with Ms. Harper and seek her help.
- Students will act in a **principled** manner in doing their assignments honestly and independently, in interacting with peers with respect, and during the seminar period by behaving with decorum.
- Students will exhibit an **open mind** by engaging authentically in seminar activities.
- Students will behave in a **caring** manner by being polite to Ms. Harper and their peers, by not talking while others are talking, raising your hand to be recognized, by not having your cell phone with you, and by engaging enthusiastically in seminar activities.
- Student will be **courageous** by calling out bad behavior (rudeness, bullying, cheating, for example) in their peers without being unkind. Students will volunteer in seminar.
- Students will seek **balance** in managing their school work and between school and recreation. When balance is out of kilter, students will seek help.
- Students will **reflect** on what an IB education means by participating in seminar activities.

Seminar course content

Introduction to IB

- Welcome—how do we IB?
- What is the MYP?
- Academic Honesty Policy
- Maintaining Good Standing
- Shadows

The core

- Creativity, Activity, Service (CAS) training and individual meetings
- ManageBac training
- Personal Project
 - Interest inventory and topic selection
 - Selecting a Global Context
 - The proposal
 - Guidelines on writing the report

Approaches to Learning

- Learning Styles with the librarians
- High school transition and study skills with the IB school counselor
- Preparation for high school semester exams with IB school counselor

Discussion

- Frontline documentary: *Generation Like*
- Lives that changed the world: *Documentary on Nelson Mandela*
- Visits from the IB Ethics Council

Grading policy

- Seminar is a pass/fail course. Students with a 65% and above will receive a P. Below 65% will receive an F.
- All work turned in on time and in the correct place (hard copy/online) will receive full credit; Late work will receive half credit.
- Time-sensitive forms must be returned according to the indicated deadlines. After the deadline, not only will students not receive full credit but it could result in additional consequences such as not being registered for exams, fees in accordance with IB.
- If a student is absent, he/she should check the IB Tucker website under the seminar tab for the assignment(s) and email/see Ms. Harper with questions. DO NOT WAIT UNTIL THE NEXT SEMINAR TO GET MAKEUP WORK. You may have an assignment due – and it will be late if you don't turn it in on time.
- All work that uses ideas or words not the student's own must be appropriately attributed with in text citations and a works cited page. MLA style guide is preferred.
- Some content from seminar will be assessed in other classes. Those assessments are grades in that class.

September 11	1	February 5	6
September 18	2	February 12* <i>In Library</i>	7
September 25	3	February 19—no school	X
		February 26	1
October 2	4		
October 9—no seminar	X	March 5	2
October 16* <i>In Library</i>	5 (eat A-lunch)	March 12	3
October 23	6	March 19	4
October 30—	7	March 26—no seminar	X
November 6—no seminar	X	April 2—no school	X
November 13	1	April 9	5 (eat A-lunch)
November 20—no seminar	X	April 16—no seminar	X
November 27	2	April 23	6
		April 30—no seminar	X
December 4	3		
December 11	4	May—no seminar	X
January 1—no school	X	June 4	7
January 8	5 (eat A-lunch)		
January 15—no school	X		
January 22—no seminar	X		
January 30—no school	X		

