

IB Diploma Programme and IB Career-related Programme

May 2021 examination schedule

Updated September 2020

Morning examinations must start after 0700 hours and finish by 1300 hours local time.
Afternoon examinations must start after 1200 hours and finish by 1800 hours local time.

An examination cannot be rescheduled without authorization from the Assessment Division, IB Global Centre, Cardiff.

Legend of Subject Groups:

	Interdisciplinary subjects		Sciences
	Studies in language and literature and Language acquisition		Mathematics
	Individuals and societies		The arts

**Please note that for Studies in language and literature
and Language acquisition, English, French and Spanish are scheduled
individually from all other languages.**

Examination Schedule

Thursday 29 April					
Morning session			Afternoon session		
	--- No exams ---			Language B HL paper 1	1h 30m
				Language B HL paper 2	
				- Reading comprehension	1h
				Language B SL paper 1	1h 15m
				Language B SL paper 2	
				- Reading comprehension	1h
				Language ab initio SL paper 1	45m
				Language ab initio SL paper 2	
				- Reading comprehension	1h
					* Except: English, French & Spanish

Friday 30 April					
Morning session			Afternoon session		
	--- No exams ---			Business management HL paper 1	1h 15m
				Business management SL paper 1	1h
				World religions SL paper 1	45m

Week 1

Monday 3 May			
Morning session		Afternoon session	
	Business management HL paper 2		Physics HL paper 1
	Business management SL paper 2		Physics HL paper 2
			Physics SL paper 1
	World religions SL paper 2		Physics SL paper 2
	1h 45m		1h
	1h 15m		2h 15m
	45m		45m
			1h 15m

Tuesday 4 May			
Morning session		Afternoon session	
	Sports, exercise & health science HL paper 1		History HL/SL paper 1
	Sports, exercise & health science HL paper 2		History HL/SL paper 2
	Sports, exercise & health science SL paper 1		
	Sports, exercise & health science SL paper 2		
	1h		1h
	2h 15m		45m
	45m		
	1h 15m		

Wednesday 5 May			
Morning session		Afternoon session	
	History HL paper 3		Language A Literature HL paper 1
			Language A Literature SL paper 1
			Language A Language & Literature HL paper 1
			Language A Language & Literature SL paper 1
	1h 45m		2h 15m
			1h 15m
			2h 15m
			1h 15m
			* Except: English, French & Spanish

Thursday 6 May			
Morning session		Afternoon session	
	Classical Greek HL paper 2		Mathematics: analysis and approaches HL paper 1
	Classical Greek SL paper 2		Mathematics: analysis and approaches SL paper 1
	2h		2h
	1h 30m		1h 30m
			Mathematics: applications and interpretation HL paper 1
			Mathematics: applications and interpretation SL paper 1
			2h
			1h 30m

Friday 7 May			
Morning session		Afternoon session	
	Mathematics: analysis and approaches HL paper 2		Economics HL paper 1
	Mathematics: analysis and approaches SL paper 2		Economics SL paper 1
	2h		1h 30m
	1h 30m		1h 30m
	Mathematics: applications and interpretation HL paper 2		
	Mathematics: applications and interpretation SL paper 2		
	2h		
	1h 30m		

Week 2

Monday 10 May					
Morning session			Afternoon session		
	Economics HL paper 2	45m		English A Literature HL paper 1	2h 15m
	Economics HL paper 3	1h		English A Literature SL paper 1	1h 15m
	Economics SL paper 2	45m		English A Language & Literature HL paper 1	2h 15m
				English A Language & Literature SL paper 1	1h 15m
				English B HL paper 1	1h 30m
				English B HL paper 2	
				- Reading comprehension	1h
				English B SL paper 1	1h 15m
				English B SL paper 2	
				- Reading comprehension	1h
			English ab initio SL paper 1	45m	
			English ab initio SL paper 2		
			- Reading comprehension	1h	
			Literature & performance SL paper 2	1h 30m	

Tuesday 11 May					
Morning session			Afternoon session		
	Mathematics: analysis and approaches HL paper 3	1h		Computer science HL paper 1 Computer science SL paper 1	2h 10m 1h 30m
	Mathematics: applications and interpretation HL paper 3	1h		Environmental systems & societies SL paper 1	1h

Wednesday 12 May					
Morning session			Afternoon session		
	Computer science HL paper 3	1h		Geography HL paper 1	45m
				Geography SL paper 1	45m
	Environmental systems & societies SL paper 2	2h		Philosophy HL paper 1	1h
				Philosophy SL paper 1	1h
			Social & cultural anthropology HL paper 1	2h	
			Social & cultural anthropology SL paper 1	1h	

Thursday 13 May				
Morning session			Afternoon session	
	Geography HL/SL paper 2	1h	Spanish A Literature HL paper 1	2h 15m
	Geography HL paper 3	1h	Spanish A Literature SL paper 1	1h 15m
			Spanish A Language & Literature HL paper 1	2h 15m
	Global politics HL paper 2	1h 45m	Spanish A Language & Literature SL paper 1	1h 15m
	Global politics SL paper 2	1h 45m		
			Spanish B HL paper 1	1h 30m
	Philosophy HL/SL paper 2	1h	Spanish B HL paper 2	
	Philosophy HL paper 3	1h 15m	- Reading comprehension	1h
			Spanish B SL paper 1	1h 15m
			Spanish B SL paper 2	
	Social & cultural anthropology HL paper 2	1h	- Reading comprehension	1h
	Social & cultural anthropology SL paper 2	45m	Spanish ab initio SL paper 1	45m
			Spanish ab initio SL paper 2	
			- Reading comprehension	1h

Friday 14 May			
Morning session		Afternoon session	
	Chemistry HL paper 1	1h	--- No exams ---
	Chemistry HL paper 2	2h 15m	
	Chemistry SL paper 1	45m	
	Chemistry SL paper 2	1h 15m	
	Design technology HL/SL paper 2	1h 30m	
	Design technology HL paper 3	1h 30m	

Week 3

Monday 17 May			
Morning session		Afternoon session	
	Latin HL paper 2	2h	School-based syllabus SL paper 1
	Latin SL paper 2	1h 30m	

Tuesday 18 May			
Morning session		Afternoon session	
SBS	School-based syllabus SL paper 2		Nature of science SL paper 1
			1h 30m

Wednesday 19 May			
Morning session		Afternoon session	
	Biology HL paper 1	1h	Psychology HL paper 1
	Biology HL paper 2	2h 15m	
	Biology SL paper 1	45m	Psychology SL paper 1
	Biology SL paper 2	1h 15m	
	Nature of science SL paper 2	1h	ITGS HL paper 1
			ITGS SL paper 1
			2h 15m
			1h 30m

Thursday 20 May			
Morning session		Afternoon session	
	Psychology HL paper 2	1h	French A Literature HL paper 1
	ITGS HL paper 3	1h 15m	
			French A Literature SL paper 1
			French A Language & Literature HL paper 1
			French A Language & Literature SL paper 1
			French B HL paper 1
			French B HL paper 2
			- Reading comprehension
			French B SL paper 1
			French B SL paper 2
			- Reading comprehension
			French ab initio SL paper 1
			French ab initio SL paper 2
			- Reading comprehension
			2h 15m
			1h 15m
			2h 15m
			1h 15m
			1h 30m
			1h
			1h 15m
			1h
			45m
			1h

Friday 21 May	
Morning session	Afternoon session
Keep available for examinations as contingency during the May 2021 session, awaiting instruction from IB	

Principles used in creating the IB Examination Schedule

1. It is not possible to take into account public, national or school holidays, or religious festivals because of the number of countries in which the IB Diploma Programme is offered.
2. Registration data has been used to ensure that the minimum number of candidates globally are impacted by subject timetable clashes.
3. Studies in language and literature and Language acquisition subjects are not scheduled on the same day so a candidate does not have to be examined in two different language subjects on the same day.
4. Where there are subjects with particular regional or cultural links we will endeavour to take these into account, for example Arabic literature/language examinations will not be scheduled on a Friday.
5. Almost all subjects are scheduled in an afternoon and morning pattern on consecutive days. This is to minimise the impact of absence on any given day, whilst maintaining continuity for candidates.
6. Subjects with the highest candidature are not scheduled consecutively and are spread as evenly as possible over 3 weeks to try and distribute the workload for candidates. Language examinations and science examinations are scheduled on each of the 3 weeks for the same reason.
7. Except for English, Spanish and French, Language A examinations are scheduled separately from Language B.
8. The examination period remains three weeks long. This is to maintain an acceptable balance between the number of conflicts in the schedule, the school overheads in running an examination schedule, the time available to teach, and the IB's responsibility to get the marking done on time to the required quality.

Rescheduling Policy

- Rescheduling of an exam for a candidate requires approval from IB.
- The criteria and the process for applying for a reschedule can be found in the Diploma Programme Assessment procedures (formerly Handbook of procedures)

2022 Examination Schedule

- The exam schedule in 2022 will start on Thursday 28 April 2022, and end on Friday 20 May 2022, subject to confirmation in 2021.