

IB Theory of Knowledge

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Course Codes	IBTOK1 and IBTOK2
General Description	<p>The Theory of Knowledge IB course asks students to reflect on the nature of knowledge and how we know what we claim to know.</p> <p>This course examines the origins and validity of various ways of knowing. The content includes the various subject areas of a student’s education as well as personal beliefs acquired in and out of school. The goal of this course is to encourage reflection on what a student claims to know and what is professed as knowledge by others.</p> <p>Theory of Knowledge is a critical thinking course with a philosophical basis of interpreting how we obtain, share, and process knowledge through language, perception, reason, faith, memory, imagination intuition, and emotion, and apply those ways of knowing to the areas of knowledge: mathematics, arts, sciences (natural and human), history, ethics, and religion. Students are asked to examine <u>how</u> they know, not what they know.</p> <p>Through inquiry based learning, students develop critical thinking skills and also an understanding and appreciation for the different lenses through which we filter our ways of knowing and the areas of knowledge. The primary aim is for students to become lifelong critical thinkers and lifelong learners, capable of looking at questions, subjects, topics, and ideas from multiple perspectives. This course helps students discover their views on different knowledge issues and encourages them to share, listen, and learn from and with their classmates. Through the course of each semester, The student’s thinking and understanding of knowledge is shaped throughout the course.</p> <p>TOK is at the core of the International Baccalaureate (IB) Diploma Programme (DP), and is mandatory for all students.</p>
Assessment Component	<p>The assessment model in Theory of Knowledge (TOK) has two components: an essay and a presentation. Both parts are to be completed within the 100 hours designated for the course.</p> <p>Both the essay and the presentation are assessed using global impression marking. The essay contributes 67% of the final mark; and the presentation contributes 33% of the final mark.</p>

<p>Assessment Part 1</p>	<p>Essay on a prescribed title:</p> <p>Each student will complete one essay on a title chosen from a list of six titles prescribed by the IB for each examination session. The prescribed titles will be issued on the OCC in the September prior to submission for May session schools, and in March prior to submission for November session schools.</p> <p>The maximum length for the essay is 1,600 words.</p> <p>All essays are externally assessed by the IB</p> <p>Marks available: 10</p>
<p>Assessment Part 2</p>	<p>The presentation:</p> <p>One presentation to the class by an individual or a group (a maximum of three persons in a group). Approximately 10 minutes per student is allowed for the presentation.</p> <p>One written presentation planning document (TK/PDD) for each student.</p> <p>The teacher must use the IB assessment descriptors to arrive at a mark for the presentation based on the student’s presentation plan (on the TK/PDD) and his/her observation of the presentation itself. The teacher must record his/her observations of the presentation.</p> <p>Marks available: 10</p>
<p>Total course hours</p>	<p>100 (to be completed over two years)</p>
<p>1. Dombrowski, E., Rotenberg, L., Bick, M. <i>Theory of Knowledge Course Companion</i>. 2013. 2. A selection of various primary sources.</p>	
<p>Activities/Projects</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Class discussion 2. Knowledge experiments 3. Structured Debates 4. Analysis of primary sources including news articles, artwork, and various forms of media.
<p>Featured units/ lessons</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Understanding Theory of Knowledge 2. Ways of Knowing 3. Areas of Knowledge 4. Support for Assessment

