



Art and Design

Art and Design The International Baccalaureate Course

The Visual Arts course consists of two linked compulsory parts with many activities integrating work in the studio with workbook research. Throughout the course the cultural background and needs of the student are taken into account.

In common to each course are **core elements**, which include the:

- Introduction to art concepts, criticism and analysis
- Acquisition of studio technical and media skills
- Relation of Art to sociocultural and historical contexts
- Ways of extending research into practical work
- Individual and collaborative exploration

The difference in the expectations at Higher Level and Standard Level is indicated by the difference in recommended total teaching times (HL 240 hours; SL 150 hours) and the difference in emphasis on Studio Work and Research Workbooks by the balance between the time allocated to Part A and Part B (HL 70:30; SLB 30:70)

Higher Level (2 compulsory parts) 240 hours

This is designed for the specialist visual arts student, with creative and imaginative abilities, who may pursue the visual arts at university or college level.

Part A Studio Work 168 hours
Practical exploration and artistic production

Part B Research Workbooks (RWB's) 72 hours
Independent critical research and analysis, visual and written, in more than one culture

Standard Level (2 compulsory parts) 150 hours

Option A (SLA)

This is designed for the visual arts student with creative and imaginative abilities.

Part A Studio Work 105 hours
Practical exploration and artistic production

Part B Research Workbooks (RWB's) 45 hours
Independent critical research and analysis, visual and written in more than one culture

Part A: Studio Work

Students will be introduced to art concepts and techniques through practical work in the studio. To support students' abilities to express themselves meaningfully importance at both Higher Level and Standard Level will be placed on:

- The **aesthetic qualities** of visual arts
- The relationships between **form** and **meaning** in visual arts
- The **social** and **cultural functions** of visual arts
- Personal research

At the end of the course, both Higher Level and Standard Level candidates should have integrated an understanding of conceptual content, knowledge of form, and technical skill in some finished works of quality.

Choice of Media and Techniques

Teachers will discuss the choice of media and techniques with students, and will help them discover their individual strengths. Students should be made aware that the Studio Work Assessment Criteria reward the pursuit of projects in a variety of media, the development of original ideas, the discovery of creative solutions and the acquisition of technical skills. However, they should also be reminded that work of quality which shows a maturity of artistic understanding at the end of the course is preferable to work which shows a superficial acquaintance with a large number of techniques.

Part B: Research Workbooks (HL, SLA and SLB)

The relative significance of the Research Workbooks (RWB's) depends on whether the student has chosen Higher Level, Standard Level Option A or Standard Level Option B. The purpose of the RWB's is, in all instances, to encourage personal research and discovery which function interactively with work in the studio. The workbooks should incorporate:

- Analytical research
- Discovery
- Interpretation
- Media experiments

Function

The workbooks should contain visual and written information, including the student's own original works such as sketches and diagrams, and should function as working journals. They should reflect the student's personal interests and may be a wide-ranging personal investigation into many fields. There should be a balance between analytical research and open-ended inquiry, illustrating the creative process of the student.

Assessment Outline

Higher Level (HL)

External Assessment

Part A Studio Work
Exhibition and interview

Internal Assessment

Part B Research Workbooks

This is internally assessed by the teacher and externally moderated by the IBO at the end of the course.

Standard Level Option A (SLA)

External Assessment

Part A Studio Work
Exhibition and interview

Internal Assessment

Part B Research Workbooks

This is assessed internally by the teacher and externally moderated by the IBO at the end of the course.

Standard Level Option B (SLB)

External Assessment

Part B Research Workbooks
Research workbooks and interview

Internal Assessment

Part A Studio Work

This is internally assessed by the teacher and externally moderated by the IBO at the end of the course.