

ACADEMIC PROGRAM



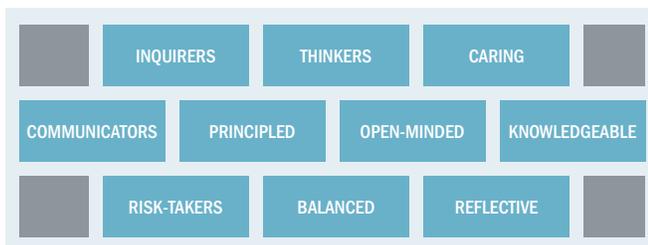
Upper Canada College’s academic program aims to develop inquiring, knowledgeable and caring boys who will help to create a better and more peaceful world. We are proud of our International Baccalaureate (IB) World School status, distinguished by the IB’s superior international education standards and rigorous assessment.



The IB continuum of international education for 3 to 19 year olds is unique because of its academic and personal rigour. It challenges students to excel in their studies and in their personal growth. It aims to inspire a quest for learning throughout life that is marked by enthusiasm and empathy. It aspires to help schools develop well-rounded students with character who respond to challenges with optimism and an open mind, are confident in their own identities, make ethical decisions, join with others in celebrating our common humanity and are prepared to apply what they learn in real-world, complex and unpredictable situations.

IB Learner Profile

The IB learner profile represents 10 attributes valued by IB World Schools. We believe these attributes, and others like them, can help individuals and groups become responsible members of local, national and global communities.



Quality assurance and professional development at an IB World School

Any school or group of schools wishing to offer one or more IB programs as an IB World School must first be authorized by the International Baccalaureate Organization (IBO). The requirements are the same for all schools, and the procedure is designed to ensure that schools are well prepared to implement the program successfully. All IB World Schools are required to participate in an ongoing process of review and development, using the same program standards and practices.

As part of its ongoing commitment to the development of a highly skilled global learning community, the IBO provides a wide range of high-quality professional development opportunities to help new, experienced and expert school leaders and educators understand, support, and successfully deliver IB programs reflecting IB standards and practices.

The IB at Upper Canada College

The IB program at UCC is enhanced by years of research and discovery in boys education. The program is organized into four divisions: Primary, Middle, Intermediate and Senior. The Primary and Middle Division programs are offered through the Preparatory School, and the Intermediate and Senior Division programs are offered through the Upper School.

PREPARATORY SCHOOL

Primary Division (SK-5)

The IB Primary Years Programme (PYP) at UCC is designed for students aged 5 to 11. It focuses on the development of the whole child as an inquirer, both in the classroom and in the world outside. It is a framework guided by six transdisciplinary themes of global significance, explored through six subject areas. In addition, all Primary students learn French starting in SK.

Core Subject Areas

- Language
- Social Studies
- Mathematics
- Arts
- Science
- Personal, Social and Physical Education

Transdisciplinary Themes

- How we organize ourselves
- Who we are
- Where we are in place and time
- How we express ourselves
- How the world works
- Sharing the planet

Each theme is addressed each year by all students. These themes help teachers to develop a programme of inquiry and investigation into important ideas identified by UCC and requiring a high level of involvement on the part of the students. Students are challenged to employ knowledge and subject skills as well as transdisciplinary skills such as self-management, communication and critical thinking. These inquiries are substantial, in-depth and usually last for several weeks.

The Exhibition

The Exhibition is an important part of the PYP for all students. In the final year of the programme, students undertake a collaborative, transdisciplinary inquiry process that involves them in identifying, investigating and offering solutions to real-life issues or problems. As the culminating experience of the PYP, the Exhibition offers students an exciting opportunity to demonstrate independence and responsibility for their own learning.

Middle Division (6-7)

Our Middle Division curriculum follows naturally from the Primary Division program. It meets the social and emotional needs of our students and enables them to become responsible, independent, curious and creative thinkers and learners. It ensures that our boys

are actively engaged in a rich spectrum of academic, artistic, athletic and service activities in a supportive environment that encourages risk-taking and fosters their sense of achievement and self-esteem.

Core Subjects

- English
- French
- History/Geography
- Mathematics
- Science
- Visual Art
- Drama
- Music
- Physical Education
- Health and Life Skills
- Information and Communications Technology (ICT)

One-To-One Laptops

While students will have had access to their own laptop starting in Grade 4, they are permitted to take them home daily starting in Grade 6. This allows them to integrate technology in all learning, supports research and exploration and helps develop creativity and critical thinking.

French

There are three levels of French instruction - Core Basic, Core Advanced and Extended. Most students will follow the Core French program at either the Basic or the Advanced level. Some students will be recommended for the Extended French program on the basis of a strong background and demonstrated fluency and skills.

Arts

Starting in grade 6, drama and instrumental music are part of our core curriculum. Many boys also enjoy being involved our fall play and winter musical, as well as being members of the choir, the concert and jazz bands and wind ensemble.

Athletics

Physical education in the Middle Years is integrated more fully into school life beyond phys ed classes. All boys are involved in the athletic intramural program or represent UCC on our U12 and U13 teams (26 in total), which compete in the Canadian Independent School Athletics Association leagues and U13 soccer and basketball Canadian Association of Independent Schools national tournaments.

Character

Organized programs such as Colour House activities; being assembly leaders, morning greeters, Blue Army cadets and/or Prep ambassadors; and co-curricular activities like eco-ambassadors, eco-warriors and debating provide ample opportunities for building character.

UPPER SCHOOL

Overview

In their first three years at the Upper School, students are enrolled in courses based on the curriculum expectations of the Ontario Ministry of Education. In their last two years, all students are enrolled in the IB's Diploma Programme while concurrently finishing the requirements for their Ontario Secondary School Diploma (OSSD). Upon successful completion of the Upper School academic program, a student is awarded both the IB Diploma and the OSSD.

Intermediate Division (Y1, Y2)

The Intermediate Division includes students in Year 1 and Year 2. The Intermediate Division offers a rich co-curricular program including athletic teams, musical groups, theatrical productions, digital film, school publications and a number of school clubs. Students in the Intermediate Division are expected to participate fully in this program to grow as individuals and to contribute to life at the College. During these critical years, boys are prepared for the rigours of high school and, in particular, prepared for success in the Senior Division and the curriculum of the IB Diploma Programme.

In Year 1, students complete a program of 10 courses:

- English
- French
- Mathematics
- Science
- Geography
- Physical Education
- Art, Music, Film and Civics (the latter 4 are half courses).

In Year 2, students complete a program of 8 courses:

- English
- Science
- Contemporary Canada
- Mathematics
- Physical Education
- Second Language (choice of French, Latin, Spanish or Mandarin)
- Arts (a choice of Visual Arts, Music or Dramatic Arts)
- Elective (a choice of Computer Science, General Learning Strategies or Geography, or an additional second language or arts subject)

Senior Division (FY, IB1, IB2)

The Senior Division includes students from three grades: Foundation Year or FY, IB1 and IB2. The Foundation Year academic program comprises a combination of IB prerequisites, electives, and a compulsory course in Physical Education, making up a total course load of eight subjects.

In FY, students complete a program of 8 courses:

- English
- French, Mandarin, Latin or Spanish
- Physical Geography, American History or World History
- Biology, Chemistry, or Physics
- Mathematics
- Healthy Active Living Education
- 2 Electives (choice of Dramatic Arts, Music, Visual Arts, Writer's Craft, Information and Communication Technology, Computer Science, General Learning Strategies, or an additional language, arts or science course)

NORVAL OUTDOOR SCHOOL

All students from Senior Kindergarten through Foundation Year attend outdoor and environmental education programming at Norval. The school, situated on more than 400 acres a short drive north of Toronto, has accommodation for 24 students plus staff, dining and lounge areas and a classroom. During the fall and spring terms, students camp out on the property in tents or cabins. Operation of the facility is sensitive to the environment and consistent with the educational goals of UCC's academic program.

The Prep program at Norval introduces students to a variety of activities and perspectives to help them further their connection to the natural world. Upper program components include overnight camping, expedition cooking, moving-water canoeing, rappelling, ropes course activities, landscape art, a field science crayfish study and a service project.



In IB1 and IB2, students complete the IB Diploma Programme

Students choose 6 subjects, one each from discipline groups 1–5 and one from group 6 or an additional subject from groups 1–5. Three subjects are taken at Higher Level (HL) and three at Standard Level (SL). Within our regular timetable, the following subjects are available:

Group 1 HL and SL English Literature, HL and SL English Language and Literature, HL French Language and Literature, SL Mandarin Language and Literature

Group 2 HL and SL French, HL and SL Mandarin, SL Latin, SL Spanish, SL Spanish ab initio

Group 3 HL and SL Economics, HL and SL Geography, HL History Americas, HL History Europe, HL Philosophy, SL Environmental Systems and Societies

Group 4 HL and SL Biology, HL and SL Chemistry, SL Environmental Systems and Societies (also Group 3), SL Sports, Exercise and Health Science, HL and SL Physics, SL Environmental Systems and Societies

Group 5 HL Mathematics, SL Mathematics, SL Mathematical Studies

Group 6 HL and SL Film, HL and SL Music, HL Theatre, HL and SL Visual Arts

Alternative Group 1 or Group 2 courses are taught outside the regular timetable and available at an additional cost (eg. German, Italian, Japanese, etc.)

Additional Requirements:

Creativity, Action and Service (CAS) involves students in a range of activities alongside their academic studies throughout the program. Creativity encourages students to engage in the arts and creative thinking. Action seeks to develop a healthy lifestyle through physical activity. Service with the community offers a vehicle for a new learning with academic value.

Theory of Knowledge develops a coherent approach to learning that unifies the academic disciplines. In this course on critical thinking, students inquire into the nature of knowing and deepen their understanding of knowledge as a human construction.

The Extended Essay asks students to engage in independent research through an in-depth study of a question relating to one of the DP subjects they are studying.

GRADUATION

The IB Diploma Programme's academic rigour and emphasis on critical thinking, as well as its development of higher-level writing and research skills, prepares students for more than just university work. It prepares them for a lifetime of professional achievement. As a result, graduates often benefit from enhanced recognition when the time comes to apply to post-secondary institutions. Our IB scores are two to five points higher than the world average. Consistently, 100% of our graduates receive university offers, and many go on to receive scholarships and attend universities of their choosing around the world.

Four-Year Summary of Overall IB Results at UCC

	2015	2014	2013	2012
Average Subject Grade (UCC)	5.4	5.4	5.4	5.3
Average Diploma Points (UCC)	1.7	1.2	1.2	1.4
Average Point Total (UCC)	34	34	33	33
Average Point Total (World)	NA	30	30	30
Full Diploma Awarded (UCC)	96%	98%	99%	97%
Full Diploma Awarded (World)	NA	79%	79%	79%
Overall Pass Rate in Individual Subjects (UCC)	100%	100%	100%	100%
Grades of 5,6, 7 (UCC)	78%	81%	80%	77%
Students Scoring 40 Points or Higher (UCC)	15%	12%	10%	12%
Students Scoring 40 Points or Higher (World)	NA	9%	7%	7%

THE IB AT UCC VIDEOS



It's easy enough to extol the virtues of UCC and the IB program, pointing to impressive stats and distinguished grads, but don't just listen to us. In a series of introductory videos, we asked students, parents, faculty and university administrators to tell us in their own words what the IB program means to them. You can find them at www.ucc.on.ca/ib.

Contact Information:

For more information about the IB program, visit www.ibo.org