

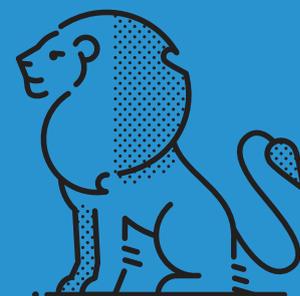
# ISD

**INTERNATIONAL  
SCHOOL OF  
DÜSSELDORF**

**SINCE 1968**

**Senior School  
Grades 11–12**

**A world-class  
education, for  
whatever your  
child may do**





## Welcome to the ISD Senior School

### Re-imagining education in a fast-moving world

Historically, standardised education prepared students to become productive workers for an industrialised society. Today, we live in exponentially changing times where diversity and creativity are highly valued. We cannot predict what the future holds for our students, but we expect that they will live in a very different world; a world that is digitally connected, where all knowledge is available within seconds. Schools must re-evaluate what they do to ensure they remain relevant to the needs of all students. Our goal at ISD is to inspire our students to become self-directed learners, creative thinkers, and compassionate global citizens, who can flourish in a dynamic world.

On the following pages, you will find examples of how our 11th and 12th grade students explore their passions and interests and prepare for their journeys beyond ISD. They represent only a small sample of our diverse student body and the opportunities for individualisation at ISD, but we hope they will begin to show you the ISD difference. We look forward to welcoming you and your family to our community.

### Frank Tschan

Director



## Laura The right combination

"Music is my passion, my hobby, it's what I do to be calm. Psychology is what I want to pursue in the future. When we moved to Germany, I looked at all the schools and only ISD offered the combination of these two IB courses. ISD also has small classes, great teachers and music facilities that are just amazing."



### Laura's IB Programme:

Psychology (HL)  
Biology (HL)  
English Literature (HL)

Mathematics (SL)  
Music (SL)  
Spanish Literature (SL self taught)

## Maxi Time for technology

"ISD has always supported my interest in technology. Teachers let me help with the stage systems at the International Fest when I was only in fifth grade. I wanted to understand how everything worked. Now, ISD Sound and Lights is a big interest for me, and I take IB theatre because it allows me to do all of the technical things I like."



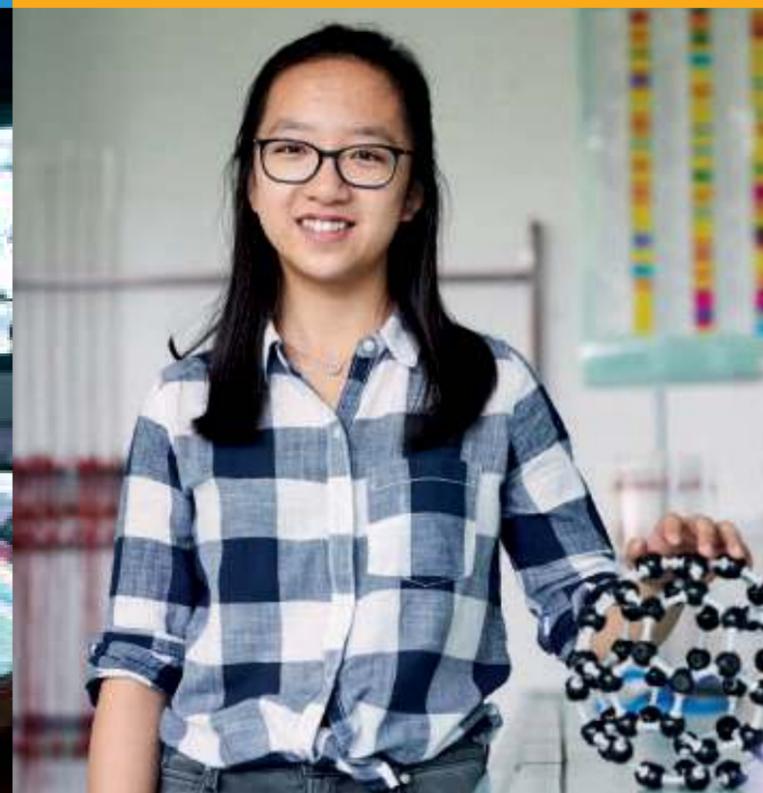
### Maxi's IB Programme:

Theatre (HL)  
English Language & Literature (HL)  
Physics (HL)

Mathematics (SL)  
German Language & Literature (SL)  
Economics (SL)

## Jinghan Opportunity to explore

"What I'm interested in changes over time, and I like that I have choices. In grade 10, I really liked taking science classes and the science teachers were excellent, so I decided to take two IB science classes. Then, I found I also liked psychology very much, and I was able to change from SL to HL even after school started."



### Jinghan's IB Programme:

Chemistry (HL)  
Psychology (HL)  
Mathematics (HL)

Physics (SL)  
English Language & Literature (SL)  
German Ab Initio (SL)

## Tim Future goals

"My main goal is to be a football player. I play professionally in the Youth Bundesliga, and ISD supports me with time management and my schedule for practices and travel. The counsellors have helped me find scholarships to play and study in the US, which would be a great opportunity. I'm definitely looking forward to the next year to see what's going to happen."



### Tim's IB Programme:

Theatre (HL)  
Spanish B (HL)  
German Language & Literature A (HL)

Mathematics (SL)  
Economics (SL)  
Biology (SL)

## Nick By the numbers

"I like analytical classes best. In higher level DP math, we've had a nice community of teachers and students, and it's been good challenging ourselves and each other. There's a lot of overlap with physics, and we all work closely together. I'm thinking of studying math or physics at university, and I've liked exploring different directions."



### Nick's IB Programme:

Physics (HL)  
Mathematics (HL)  
Economics (HL)

Music Creating (SL)  
English Language & Literature (SL)  
German (SL)

## Katy Making resolutions

"One particular activity at ISD really inspired me, The Hague International Model United Nations (THIMUN). It's a massive learning experience. Every resolution that is passed in THIMUN is passed on to the actual UN. You really do feel like you make a difference. Being in the human rights committee deeply inspired me. I want to study politics and international relations and be a human rights lawyer."



### Katy's IB Programme:

English Language & Literature (HL)  
History (HL)  
Art (HL)

Mathematics (SL)  
Biology (SL)  
French Ab Intio (SL)

## Takumi Global business

"I'm from Japan and Thailand, and I came to ISD in ninth grade from the Japanese school. I like all of the choices I have here. I took IB Economics and I started to get an interest in it, now it's my favorite class. I would like to study International Business in Thailand, and then go on to more university in the US."



### Takumi's IB Programme:

Japanese Literature (HL)  
English Language & Literature (HL)  
Chemistry (HL)

Economics (SL)  
Mathematics (SL)  
Physics (SL)

## Georgia Form and function

"I was always into art and math and physics, and I was able to study all of them in the DP. Normally, maybe those three don't go together, but I'm going to study Civil Engineering and eventually I want to become a structural engineer. I would like to restore old buildings, still bringing my art side into it."



### Georgia's IB Programme:

Art (HL)  
Mathematics (HL)  
Physics (HL)

English Language & Literature (SL)  
Economics (SL)  
Spanish B (SL)

## What to expect in the diploma years at ISD

ISD students in grades 11 and 12 follow the International Baccalaureate Programme, leading to the IB Diploma and allowing application to universities throughout the world. In addition to developing students' skills and knowledge in traditional academic subjects, the DP promotes physical, emotional and ethical development. As an alternative to the full diploma programme, students may choose to enrol in separate DP courses, resulting in receipt of individual subject certificates. Provided a combination of DP courses required by the German education ministry has been successfully completed, German students may have their IB Diploma recognised as an equivalent to the Abitur, which will then allow them to apply to German universities as well. Regardless of the direction our students want to take after school, we provide the choice, support and careful guidance they need to help them realise their aspirations.



Colin Campbell  
Principal

### Why are non-standardised approaches to teaching and learning favoured at ISD?

The most compelling reason is that our students are non-standardised! We serve students from all over the globe, from many education systems, and from diverse cultural and ethnic backgrounds. We celebrate differences and view them as opportunities to learn. It would simply not make sense for us to standardise our approaches to teaching and learning. Children

learn in different ways and are engaged by different environmental factors so it makes educational sense to vary our techniques and approaches.

Certainly the academic programme in grades 11 and 12 is not standardised; because of the freedom of choice we offer in subjects and levels, almost every student in each grade is following a unique programme. We want to expose students to a variety of experiences and ways of learning because we believe that that is how we will help them to find their own personal path through life.

### What are the objectives of collaborative teaching and learning?

The goal of co-teaching is to use the shared expertise of teams of teachers to create innovative, inclusive and flexible learning programmes that identify and address the individual needs of all students. Education is a social endeavour



involving the exchange and elaboration of ideas and understanding - it requires social interaction. We firmly believe that by working together, we can achieve more than we can alone, as everyone benefits from sharing inquiries, experiences, and providing constructive feedback. Education is about liberating the mind and requires exposure to and appreciation of different perspectives. Collaborative teaching is not yet a major feature in grades 11 and 12 but two of the core features of the IB programme - theory of knowledge and CAS (creativity, action, service) - promote collaboration. The former through opportunities to work with others for common goals and the latter through analysis of the features of knowledge that transcend academic disciplines.

### What is meant by "self-directed learning" and how can students benefit from this approach?

Self-directed learning is really about autonomy and choice and places the individual learner at the centre of the learning process. All children begin life as self-directed learners and they seem to be at their most engaged and productive when they choose the direction of their learning and follow their interests. Since 1978, when we introduced the IB diploma into our curriculum, we have developed the whole programme to provide students with a variety of pathways to achieve their goals. Students can construct unique courses of study to satisfy the requirements of the IB diploma or the ISD diploma - or both.



The last couple of decades have seen unprecedented reductions in the control of information which means that self-directed learning is now the norm rather than anything remarkable.

### How does flexible use of time and space help students to gain more from their learning?

Tight schedules, fixed walls, and furniture that is difficult to move place limits on teaching and learning activities, whereas variety and freedom of movement promote engagement and concentration. If we want students and teachers to work collaboratively and teach and learn in different ways we need learning spaces that can be quickly adapted to changing needs.

Our graduates are moving out into a world in which time and space are being used more flexibly so it simply makes sense to bring that flexibility into school as well.

# The IB Diploma Programme

## An assessed programme for students aged 16 to 19

The DP was established in 1968 to provide students with a balanced education, facilitate geographic and cultural mobility and to promote international understanding. The DP aims to develop students who have excellent breadth and depth of knowledge – students who flourish physically, intellectually, emotionally and ethically.

The DP curriculum is made up of six subject groups and the DP core, comprising theory of knowledge (TOK), creativity, activity, service (CAS) and the extended essay. Through the DP core, students reflect on the nature of knowledge, complete independent research and undertake a project that often involves community service.

The DP focuses on rigorous academic study, within a broad and balanced curriculum, which can prepare students well for university, community service and employment. The DP is respected by leading universities across the globe.

Source: [www.ibo.org](http://www.ibo.org)



“At ISD, we value inclusivity, and we want to give every student who wants to engage in the Diploma Programme the chance to learn, grow, mature, and achieve ambitious goals.”

Clinton Olson  
IB Diploma Programme Coordinator

# We are ISD

## Grades 11–12



### Credentials Conferred

- International Baccalaureate Diploma (may be taken as German Abitur equivalent)
- ISD Diploma

### Facilities

#### Science & Technology

- Design Technology Centre with two iMac Labs, fully equipped workshop, design and ideation flexible learning space, green screen recording room
- Dedicated physics and chemistry laboratory classrooms
- Biology laboratory classroom with greenhouse

#### Visual and Performing Arts

- Dahms Theatre – 300+ seats
- Black box performance space
- Spacious visual arts studios
- Music production and practice spaces

#### Sports & Community Center

- Two full basketball court gymnasiums, Olympic gymnastics system, surround sound system, spectator tribune
- Functional fitness centre
- Fitness studio
- Community meeting spaces

### Libraries

- McWilliam Library – innovative and flexible learning space
- Learning Resource Centre – dedicated space for 11-12 grade students

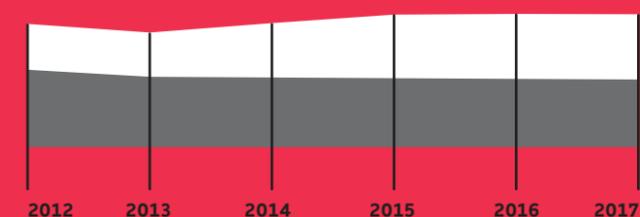
### Special Services

- Onsite health services
- Personal counselling and mentoring for all students
- Individualised learning support
- Outstanding career and university planning service
- Testing for university admissions: PSAT, SAT, ACT

### Extracurricular Programmes

- Student Council
- International Honour Society
- Service organisations e.g. Project Tanzania, Habitat for Humanity
- Speech and Debate
- Model United Nations
- Competitive sporting organisations
- Choirs
- Bands and string ensembles

ISD's average IB points are consistently above world average



● ISD Average Points ● World Average Points



We inspire our students to be confident, creative and critical thinkers. We work together to challenge and support our students to be successful and responsible in an evolving world. We are an international community of learners.

**International School  
of Düsseldorf e.V.**

Niederrheinstraße 336  
40489 Düsseldorf, Germany  
info@isdedu.de  
T +49 (0) 211 94 06-6  
www.isdedu.de

Accreditation:  
Council of International Schools  
International Baccalaureate Organization  
New England Association of Schools & Colleges  
State of North Rhine-Westphalia,  
Department of Education

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