

I didn't know how much the IB programme helped me until I my first year of University. While other students struggled with research and writing essays, I completed my assignments ahead of time. I acquired time-management, organizational, and practical skills that have allowed me to excel in my university years.

*Angelica C.*

The IB programme is very challenging, there's no denying it. In fact it is harder than first year of university taking a full 5 courses per term! Not only can taking the IB programme save you money and time at university but it also acquaints you to such rigor early on in your career so it won't be a total shock come university time. The IB programme also introduces you to new ideas and broadens your view through its CAS requirement, especially if you choose a place where you'd interact with people.

Essentially, the IB is a choice between short term, stress-free and an enjoyable high school experience and a much more stressful burden that you'll carry on your back until you get to university where you'll find that all the invested effort is finally paying off. As with all the other IB graduates, I chose the latter.

In terms of the teachers who taught me in IB, they are wonderful and you'd remember them as saints. There is a mixture, just as you will find in university. Kelvin is a special school as it provides a few IB courses that other schools in the city don't offer; so if you're doing IB, it might as well be at Kelvin!

*Omar E.*

IB is an excellent way to prepare for university! Not only is the course content in the HL courses equivalent to the first year university courses, but you also get to partake in a multidisciplinary approach to learning. Unlike university where you will choose a major and your courses will be targeted to that, in IB you get to sample multiple areas of study. As a science student now, I really appreciate that I took English, French and History through IB as I learned skills that I use to this day. Although it is sometimes hard to appreciate when you are in the program, the IB programme really does help you widen your perspective and you become more knowledgeable about the world. It also eases transition into university, since in some ways, first year of university is at the same level, if not less, of a workload.

The IB programme is challenging and it will really push you to your limits if you choose to complete the diploma, that being said, you will get from it as much as you put in. At the U of M, it is possible for you to transfer all your courses into university credits and get grades that would be equivalent to those in university, with a 7 being an A+, a 6 being an A, and so on. This is especially helpful for courses such as English, that are much more difficult to achieve the same letter grade. If you choose not to transfer your IB grades, then you still get benefits of already being exposed to the material in a different way, which can really make a difference.

Aside from university credits, IB also builds your work ethic and time management skills so you are mentally prepared for the large amount of work required in university. It really does give you a solid foundation that you could build on. It also gives you valuable skills in writing both essays and lab reports, the ability to build a logical argument and conduct an experiment, and the skills of thinking critically and solving complex problems.

*Nada E.*

Kelvin's IB programme was a formative part of my academic training. In its rigorous curriculum and diversity of course-offerings, it allows students the chance to explore a variety of subjects at a high-level. Now, as an English major at the University of Toronto, I can really see the importance of my IB education in developing my critical thinking ability, writing skills, and enthusiasm for learning. Also, the fact that I was able to transfer two of my IB credits to University meant that I am ultimately able to pursue a diverse degree, with a major in English and a double minor in Physiology and Classical Civilizations. Without my IB credits, I would have struggled with fulfilling all the prerequisites for a degree incorporating both arts and sciences.

All of my IB teachers were fantastic, enthusiastic about the material they taught, and always available for additional assistance, or to discuss in further detail the content they were teaching. I am so grateful for the dedication the teachers in IB show to the program, because it really defines the program, and without their hard work, it would not be at all the same.

*Hannah L.*