

# 立命館宇治中学校・高等学校

## The IB Diploma Programme at Ritsumeikan Uji 立命館宇治高等学校における国際バカロレアディプロマ・プログラム (IBDP)

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In April of 2010, Ritsumeikan Uji Junior and Senior High School officially began offering International Baccalaureate Diploma Programme (IBDP) classes to our second year students. Ritsumeikan Uji was certified as an IB World School authorized to offer the Diploma Program in August 2009, and is the first Japanese school (non-international school) in Kansai and only the third in Japan to qualify to offer the IBDP curriculum. The first IBDP group will study the IBDP curriculum throughout 2010 and 2011 and take IBDP examinations in November 2011.

Our IB program has gotten off to a strong start this April as students have committed to their high level options and begun classes. They have also been introduced to the CAS program. Next month they will have their Extended Essay “mini-camp” during which they will begin thinking about this major 18-month project.

### The IB Curriculum

IBDP students at Ritsumeikan Uji have a lot of choices when it comes to their subjects. IBDP students are required to take three subjects at higher level (HL), in addition to three at Standard Level (SL). In addition, students study Theory of Knowledge (TOK), a challenging and exciting class in critical thinking and epistemology, write a 4000 word thesis called the Extended Essay, and design their own set of extracurricular activities under our Creativity Action and Service (CAS) program. This year, about half of our IBDP students are taking two sciences at HL, and several students are taking Math HL in addition to two sciences. This makes for an intensive school week, but students are secure in the knowledge that they are getting top quality, highly focused instruction in their areas of

interest. Other IBDP students are taking a variety of interesting subjects, including Visual Arts, Chinese History, and Business and Management.

### IB Philosophy in Action: The IB Learner Profile

All IB World Schools strive to build the IB Learner Profile into their curriculum and into their school routines and philosophy. The IB Learner Profile is a set of ten characteristics of the IB learner, and taken together they represent the kind of student that Ritsumeikan

?	Inquirers
理	Principled
○	Reflective
●	Communicators
∞	Open-minded
⚡	Risk-takers
📖	Knowledgeable
🧠	Thinkers
⚖	Balanced
❤	Caring

Uji's IB program seeks to nurture and to build. To make the learner profile easy to remember, we have even developed original icons to represent each piece of the profile!

This April the senior IBDP students helped organize a “special learner profile morning” for the incoming first year students. The senior students all chose a learner profile attribute and, paired with a teacher, prepared a skit to teach younger students about how the learner profile fits into their everyday life.

### Creativity, Action, and Service (CAS)

For our CAS program for IBDP students and our pre-CAS program for first year (pre-IBDP) students, Ritsumeikan Uji has developed field trip and service activities around Kansai, including theater activities in the vibrant metropolis of Osaka, and exploration of our home city of Uji. Here, students explore the world heritage sites of Byodo-in Temple and Uji-gami Shrine. In upcoming months, IBDP students take responsibility for designing and implementing their own CAS activities.

### Student Conferences and Looking Ahead

This summer, IBDP students will be among those students specially selected from our school to attend a variety of international student conferences around Asia and beyond. In order to qualify to attend, students will write an essay and sit an interview, and those selected will be able to learn from their peers, participate in university level research at top quality facilities. Attending an international conference will help students to build relationships and networks across cultures, and open doors that will help them in university and beyond.



IB教員



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