

- What is an IB teacher?
- The IB continuum: Student, teacher and school outcomes

You can learn more [online](#) about research in the IB or by contacting research@ibo.org.

IBCC is authorized in 39 IB World Schools

Thirty-nine IB schools worldwide welcomed the IBCC into their classrooms in 2012—including schools that originally piloted the certificate. The IBCC provides an educational framework for students who wish to prepare either for a career pathway or for higher education. The IBCC includes the completion of career-related study, a selection of two or more Diploma Programme courses and a unique IBCC core, composed of an [approaches to learning](#) (ATL) course, a reflective project, language development and community service. It is currently offered in schools where the DP is offered.

To see a list of schools in your region that have added the IBCC to their offerings, go to [page 10](#) for AEM, [page 15](#) for AP and [page 19](#) for IBA.

New research explores the benefits of the Extended Essay

Researchers at the University of Virginia (U.Va), in the US, recently released the results of a [study](#) examining the research experience of former IB Diploma Programme (DP) students, their perceptions of the value of the DP's Extended Essay (EE) and correlations between EE grades and university GPA.

A survey was conducted with former IB students and a comparison group of former Advanced Placement (AP) students studying at U.Va. The survey sample was 66% female and ethnically diverse and had strong academic achievement and very high degree aspirations. Twenty-one of the former IB students participated in focus groups and individual interviews.

Key findings included:

- Former IB students felt strongly that the EE prepared them to conduct research.
- When compared with former AP students, IB students were significantly more likely to indicate they:
 - felt prepared for college-level coursework involving research;
 - had executed a research project at U.Va.;
 - were proud of their research;
 - intended to conduct future research; and
 - found their research skills to be important to future success.
- Interviewees indicated the EE strengthened skills such as gathering and evaluating evidence, writing and time management. They also reported reduced anxiety about writing.
- A statistically significant relationship existed between EE scores and first-semester and final-semester college GPAs, after controlling for background characteristics.

The research was completed by Karen Kurotsuchi Inkelas, Amy K. Swan, Joshua Pretlow and Jill N. Jones of the Center for Advanced Study of Teaching and Learning in Higher Education at the U Va. Founded in 1819 by Thomas Jefferson, U Va. is ranked second-best

public (25th overall) university in the US, according to *US News and World Report*. Undergraduate admissions are highly competitive, with 94% of first-year students ranked in the top 10% of their high school class.

Five universities join the IB educator certification network

Since May 2012, five universities have joined the growing network of universities that offer IB teaching certification. In partnership with its university network, the IB offers **two certification options** for IB educators and other graduate students who wish to pursue teaching careers in IB World Schools:

The IB certificate in teaching and learning offers students the opportunity to examine the principles and practices associated with one of three IB programmes (Primary Years, Middle Years and Diploma Programmes). The courses that lead to this certificate shape pre-service, new and experienced educators into reflective practitioners and teacher-researchers.

The IB advanced certificate in teaching and learning research offers education students the opportunity to supplement their IB experience with rigorous, systematic investigative work to further their knowledge and experience. Participants delve deeper into curriculum development, pedagogy and assessment by exploring relevant literature and their own IB practices.

Educators can earn either certificate by completing a recognized undergraduate or graduate course of study or by compiling a professional portfolio incorporating critical self-reflection.

[Read more about universities offering the Educators' Certificates in IBA.](#)

[Read more about universities offering the Educators' Certificates in AEM.](#)

IB Primary Years Programme defines success

To kick off the IB's review of the **Primary Years Programme** (PYP), a team of researchers from Lehigh University, Pennsylvania, in the US, recently launched a study of how International Baccalaureate World Schools identify "success" in the PYP.

The researchers conducted focus groups worldwide during 2012, following up with more than 500 questionnaires and case study interviews to reveal how schools define success in the PYP and the effect of each school's unique community.

Changes coming to the IB Middle Years Programme, combined with an increase in demand for the PYP by an increasingly diverse range of schools, suggested the need for an in-depth evaluation. The review will examine the fundamental principles and practices of the 15-year-old programme to ensure that the curriculum framework remains relevant and appropriate. The PYP is offered in more than 900 IB World Schools in 97 countries. The IB would like as many PYP educators as possible to get

