

**SUBJECT CHOICES OFFERED IN JIRS FOR IB DIPLOMA STUDENTS:**

Jain International Residential School offers the following subjects which lead to examinations at the end of the two-year course of study. The subjects given below are currently chosen and/or offered in JIRS. The final decision on subject choices will rest with the school management.

Group 1: Studies in Language and Literature (First Language)**English A - Language and Literature HL or SL**

The **Language and Literature** course provides students with the opportunity to study language, texts and culture, and to develop their analytical skills. In the course students develop and refine their language skills, learning how to compare and contrast how language is used in different texts, and how language and style affect the presentation of theme and topic.

Literature will also be part of this course of study. They explore what aspects of a literary text are specific to an associated culture and what aspects cut across cultural and linguistic boundaries. This enriches the students' international awareness and develops in them the attitudes of tolerance, empathy and a genuine respect for perspectives different from their own.

English A - Literature HL or SL

The course is built on the assumption that literature is concerned with our conceptions, interpretations and experiences of the world. The study of literature can therefore be seen as an exploration of the way it represents the complex pursuits, anxieties, joys and fears to which human beings are exposed to the daily business of living. It enables an exploration of one of the more enduring fields of human creativity and provides opportunities for encouraging independent, original, critical and clear thinking. It also promotes respect for the imagination and a perceptive approach to the understanding and interpretation of literary works.



Language A: literature is a flexible course that allows teachers to choose works from prescribed lists of authors and to construct a course that suits the particular needs and interests of their students. It is divided into four parts, each with a particular focus.

- **Part 1:** Works in translation
- **Part 2:** Detailed study
- **Part 3:** Literary genres
- **Part 4:** Options (in which works are freely chosen)

Group2: Language Acquisition (Second Languages)

Hindi B SL, French *ab initio* SL.

Second language studies develops students' power of expression, provides them with a resource for the study of other subjects, and bring them into contact with ways of thought which may differ from their own.

Several options in Group 2 accommodate students with a very high level of fluency (HL) , second language learners with some previous experience in the language (SL) and complete beginners with no previous experience (*ab initio*). Further information can be gained through meetings with the IB Coordinator and language teachers.

Group 3: Individuals and Societies

Business Management/Economics/Information Technology in a Global Society-(HL or SL), Environmental Systems and Societies [SL]/Psychology

An essential characteristic of the disciplines in Group 3 is that their subject matter is contestable and that their study requires students to tolerate some uncertainty. Studies of local institutions and global perspectives foster an appreciation of change and continuity as well as similarity and difference. Students evaluate the major theories, concepts and research findings of the respective disciplines and learn each discipline's methodology.



Group 4: Sciences

Physics, Chemistry, Biology, Computer Science (HL or SL) & Environmental Systems and Societies [SL]

Group 4 subjects, Physics, Chemistry, and Biology, promote an understanding of the concepts, principles, and applications of the respective disciplines, together with an appreciation of the methodology of the experimental sciences in general. Students develop practical laboratory skills as well as the ability to work collaboratively through participating in an interdisciplinary group project.

Computer Science HL/SL: For students admitted for May 2014 examination session, Computer Science is offered under Group 4. Computer science involves solving problems using computers. Therefore a full understanding of logical problem solving is required as well as a detailed knowledge of how computers operate. Successful computerized systems result from: a clear understanding of the problem to be solved; appropriate use of hardware based on a detailed knowledge of its capabilities and limitations; efficient use of algorithms and data structures; thorough and logical design; careful testing and integration of all these components.

The computer science standard level (SL) course focuses on software development, fundamentals of computer systems and the relationship between computing systems and society. The higher level (HL) course encompasses all these elements but is extended to include: computer mathematics and logic; advanced data structures and algorithms; further system fundamentals; and file.

Students are expected to acquire mastery of the specified aspects of Java.

Group 5: Mathematics

Mathematics HL, Mathematics SL and Math Studies SL

All Diploma candidates are required to take a mathematics course. Each course helps to deepen a student's understanding of mathematics as a discipline and to promote confidence and facility in the use of mathematical language. Students are guided to choose the level of math which suits their abilities and university requirements.

Math HL: is designed for students with competence and a strong background in mathematics. Some students will choose to study the subject because they have a genuine



interest in mathematics and enjoy meeting its challenges and problems. Others elect the higher-level course to prepare for additional mathematics studies at a University or because they need mathematics for related subjects such as physics, engineering, and technology.

Math SL: is designed to provide a background of mathematical thought and a reasonable level of technical ability for those not wishing to take mathematics at the higher level. It is intended to provide a sound mathematical basis for those students planning to pursue further studies in fields such as chemistry, economics, geography and business administration. It is a demanding course containing a variety of mathematical topics.

Math Studies SL: is designed to provide a realistic option for students with varied backgrounds and abilities who are not likely to require mathematics beyond the Diploma Programme. Students develop the skills needed to cope with the mathematical demands of a technological society; they also apply mathematics to real-life situations.

Group Six: The Arts

Visual Art (HL or SL): The processes of designing and making art require a high level of cognitive activity that is both intellectual and affective. Engagement in the arts promotes a sense of identity and makes a unique contribution to the lifelong learning of each student. Study of visual arts provides students with the opportunity to develop a critical and intensely personal view of themselves in relation to the world.

The Diploma Programme visual arts course enables students to engage in both practical exploration and artistic production, and in independent contextual, visual and critical investigation. The course is designed to enable students to study visual arts in higher education and also welcomes those students who seek life enrichment through visual arts.

The Core Requirements

Extended Essay (EE)

The Extended Essay offers students the opportunity to investigate a topic of individual interest in the subject of their choice and write a research paper of up to 4,000 words. The purpose of the EE is to acquaint students with the independent research and writing skills expected at the university level.



Theory of Knowledge (ToK)

ToK is an interdisciplinary course designed to provide coherence to the entire Diploma Programme by exploring the nature of “knowledge” gained across various subjects. Students are asked to critically reflect on what accounts for certainty: When can we say we “know” something? And what would be our justifications for saying so? ToK also connects the student’s academic experiences at school to the world outside of the classroom by asking them to find relevance and meaning in their own education. Like swimming or riding a bicycle, ToK is hard to describe in words, but fun to do! Expressed through Presentations, Role play, Skits, Open house, Group discussions within the given parameters or topics of their choice.

Creativity, Action, Service (CAS)

CAS plays an essential role in the development of a true IB Diploma graduate as it fosters students’ awareness and appreciation of life outside the academic arena. Through CAS, students have the opportunity to discover, develop and demonstrate all 10 characteristics of the IB’s Learner Profile. Students will be encouraged to be Thinkers, Inquirers, Knowledgeable, Open-minded, Risk-takers, Communicators, Principled, Balanced, Caring and Reflective. Through a variety of personally designed projects (Clay Modelling, Pottery Making, Glass Painting, Visit to the old age home, Adopt a school for under privileged and blind children, mountaineering, expeditions in the Himalayas, Coastal exploration and learning new sport) students will interact with members of their class, school, local community and possibly the world beyond.