



City High Middle School

DP Course Descriptions

SIMPLIFIED

MYP → DP Planning

IB Course Group	DP Courses Offered at City 2025-2026
Group 1*: Language A	Language A: Language and Literature
Group 2*: Language B	Mandarin Chinese Spanish French
Group 3: Individuals and Societies	History of the Americas Global Politics
Group 4: Sciences	Biology Chemistry Physics Environmental Systems and Societies
Group 5: Mathematics	Analysis and Approaches Applications and Interpretations
Group 6: Arts & Electives	Visual Art Music Film Psychology
*Non-selection groups. These courses are determined for students as the only course offered in the group or a continuation of past courses taken.	

GROUP 1 - Non-selection (only one course offered)

English: Language & Literature

Explore how language shapes the way we think and communicate. You'll read books, articles, plays, and media from around the world while learning to analyze stories, speeches, and real-world texts. This course helps you become a stronger reader, writer, and critical thinker.

GROUP 2 - Non-selection (continuation of current language course)

Chinese

Develop your ability to speak, read, and write in Chinese while learning about Chinese culture. You'll practice communication through real-life topics, conversations, and projects. Great for students who want to connect with one of the world's most widely spoken languages.

Spanish

Build your skills in speaking, reading, and writing Spanish while exploring cultures across the Spanish-speaking world. You'll learn to communicate in everyday situations and discuss global issues. A fun and practical way to expand your world and community through language.

French

Learn to communicate confidently in French while discovering the diverse cultures of the French-speaking world. You'll practice listening, reading, speaking, and writing through real topics and creative projects. Ideal for students who enjoy language and global connections.

GROUP 3 - Choose 1

History of the Americas

Explore the stories, struggles, and movements that have shaped North, Central, and South America. You'll study key events, people, and ideas from different time periods and perspectives. This course helps you understand how the past connects to today's world and your place in it.

Global Politics

Examine how power, people, and ideas shape the world we live in. You'll explore global issues like human rights, peace, and sustainability through discussion, research, and current events. Perfect for students interested in leadership, justice, or international affairs.

GROUP 4 - Choose 1

Biology

Learn how living things work and connect to each other. You'll study topics like cells, genetics, and ecosystems, and do hands-on experiments to explore how life functions. Perfect if you're curious about health, nature, or the environment.

Chemistry

Discover what everything is made of and how substances change when they react. You'll do experiments, solve problems, and connect chemistry to real life—from cooking to climate change. Great for students who like to ask “why” and “how.”

Physics

Explore how the world and universe work, from motion and energy to light and electricity. You'll use experiments and math to explain everyday phenomena. This course is for students who enjoy figuring out how things happen.

Environmental Systems & Societies (ESS) (Interdisciplinary, Grp.3)

Learn how people and the planet are connected. You'll study ecosystems, sustainability, and environmental challenges like pollution and climate change. Ideal for students who care about nature and want to make a difference.

GROUP 5 - Choose 1

Applications & Interpretations (AI)

See how math applies to real-world situations. You'll use data, technology, and modeling to solve problems in everyday life. Great for students who want to understand how math helps explain the world around us.

Analysis & Approaches (AA)

Dive into the logic and structure behind math. You'll focus on algebra, geometry, and calculus while learning to think critically and solve complex problems. Best for students who enjoy pure math and abstract thinking.

GROUP 6 - Choose 1

Visual Arts

Express yourself through drawing, painting, sculpture, or digital media. You'll experiment with ideas and materials, study art from different cultures, and build your own art portfolio. Perfect for creative thinkers and makers.

Film

Tell stories through film while learning how movies are made. You'll watch and analyze films from around the world, write scripts, and create your own short films. Great for students who love creativity, storytelling, and media.

Music

Create, perform, and explore music from around the world. You'll study how music expresses ideas and emotions, and develop your own style as a performer or composer. A good choice for anyone who loves making or understanding music.

Psychology (Elective, Grp. 3)

Find out what shapes the way people think, feel, and act. You'll learn about the brain, emotions, and behavior, and explore how culture and experience influence who we are. Perfect for students interested in people and the mind.