

## **GROUP 3: INDIVIDUALS AND SOCIETIES (ALSO KNOWN AS HUMANITIES)**

### *Integrated Humanities*

The MYP individuals and societies subject group incorporates disciplines traditionally studied under humanities and social sciences. This subject group encourages learners to respect and understand the world around them and equips them with the necessary skills to inquire into historical, geographical, political, social, economic, and cultural factors that affect individuals, societies and environments.

The study of individuals and societies helps students to appreciate critically the diversity of human culture, attitudes and beliefs. Courses in this subject group are important for helping students to recognize that both content and methodology can be debatable and controversial, and for practicing the tolerance of uncertainty.

The IB's approach to this subject area includes a strong focus on inquiry and investigation. Students collect, describe and analyze data; test hypotheses; and learn how to interpret increasingly complex information, including original source material. This focus on real-world examples, research and analysis is an essential aspect of the subject group.

The aims of the teaching and learning of MYP Individuals and Societies are to encourage and enable the student to:

- appreciate the range of human and environmental commonalities and diversities
- understand the interactions and interdependence of individuals, societies and environments in different contexts
- understand how both environmental and human systems operate and evolve over time
- identify and develop a concern for human and environmental well-being
- act upon opportunities to be a responsible global citizen
- develop effective inquiry skills to achieve conceptual understanding in humanities

### *Main Objectives*

#### **A) Knowing and understanding**

Students develop factual and conceptual knowledge about individuals and societies. In order to reach the aims of individuals and societies, students should be able to:

- use terminology in context
- demonstrate knowledge and understanding of subject-specific content and concepts through descriptions, explanations and examples

#### **B) Investigating**

In order to reach the aims of individuals and societies, students should be able to:

- formulate a clear and focused research question and justify its relevance
- formulate and follow an action plan to investigate a research question
- use research methods to collect and record relevant information
- evaluate the process and results of the investigation

#### **C) Communicating**

In order to reach the aims of individuals and societies, students should be able to:

- communicate information and ideas using an appropriate style for the audience and purpose
- structure information and ideas in a way that is appropriate to the specified format
- document sources of information using a recognized convention

## **D) Thinking critically**

In order to reach the aims of individuals and societies, students should be able to:

- discuss concepts, issues, models, visual representation and theories
- synthesize information to make valid arguments
- analyze and evaluate a range of sources/data in terms of origin and purpose, examining values and limitations
- interpret different perspectives and their implications