The International School of Boston (ISB), founded in 1962, offers a distinctive bilingual education rooted in the best of French, American, and international academic traditions. The School’s mission is to shape lifelong learners who can speak and think in multiple languages and who can apply their knowledge anywhere in the world.

In support of this mission, ISB is committed to:

- Inspiring a love of learning, self-confidence, and pride in cultural identity;
- Creating a collaborative and interactive learning environment;
- Promoting humanistic values and global citizenship;
- Complementing academic excellence with activities and opportunities for community service;
- Integrating technology to enhance the learning experience;
- Maintaining a dedicated staff who focus upon and meet the needs of students as individuals;
- Creating a strong community by involving parents as partners in the School and their student’s education.

Students graduate with an American high school diploma, as well as either the French Baccalaureate or International Baccalaureate (IB) diploma. ISB is the only secondary school in New England to offer this opportunity.
STUDENT BODY

ISB consists of a population of American and international students. This composition makes for an excellent education in cosmopolitanism, openness, flexibility, and teamwork. ISB students are actively multicultural, some speaking languages at home that are additional to their academic curriculum. Many students hold dual citizenship among numerous nations. While ISB is a day school, some international students live with host families.

593 students  
Pre-K to 12th grade

Upper School Students: 141  
Upper School Faculty: 31 FTE  
Student-faculty ratio: 5 to 1  
26 nationalities  
France: 47%  
United States of America: 33%  
Other nationalities: 20%

ISB GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS:

English/French (1st Language) 4 years  
2nd Language 3 years  
Mathematics 3 years  
Social Studies 4 years  
Sciences 3 years  
Arts 1 year  
Electives 2 years  
Physical Education 1 year  
Information Technology 1 year  
Community Service 20 hrs/year min.

DESCRIPTION OF UPPER SCHOOL & BACCALAUREATE PROGRAMS

The Upper School students follow a schedule that starts at 8:00am and ends anywhere between 3:30 and 5:30pm, according to course selection. Students in 9th and 10th grades follow a program tailored to prepare them for the requirements of either the French Baccalaureate or the IB diploma. In 11th grade, students determine which baccalaureate program they will pursue.

The academic programs at ISB are time-intensive; therefore the number and range of extra-curricular activities is limited. ISB offers the following:

**Varsity:** Boys’ Soccer, Boys’ Basketball, Girls’ Varsity Basketball; Co-ed Fencing

**Clubs:** Circuit Training; Cross Country Running; Yoga; Tennis; Table Tennis; Volleyball; Archery; Fencing; Sailing; Ice Skating; Swimming; Rugby; Indoor Rock Climbing; Student Council; Model United Nations; Printemps des Poètes; Climate Change; Amnesty International; Student Magazine; Art Blog; Theater (Offered in French or English)

*Students are encouraged to create clubs or contribute to the school based on their talents and interests.*

True to ISB’s philosophy of integrating global studies into the curriculum, since 2007 students have the opportunity to participate in study abroad/exchange programs in Argentina, Austria, China, Iceland, The Netherlands, and/or Spain. Students may also join a school-sponsored trip abroad with a community service component. Previous locations included: Vietnam, China, Peru, New Orleans, the American West.

ISB partners with the following institutions:

- Babson University, to provide an elective, intensive seminar in entrepreneurial studies focusing on leadership
- Harvard Graduate School of Education, as a participant in the Research Schools International project

FRENCH BACCALAUREATE

Diploma Requirements for each track of the French Baccalaureate (students choose one track only):

**SCIENCES (S)**

- English: 5 hrs  
- Spanish or German: 3 hrs  
- History/Geography: 2 hrs  
- Mathematics: 6 or 8 hrs  
- Earth and Life Science: 4 or 6 hrs  
- Physics and Chemistry: 5 or 7 hrs  
- Philosophy: 3 hrs  
- Physical Education: 2 hrs  
- Electives (Latin, Greek, Theater): 3 hrs

**ECONOMICS (ES)**

- English: 5 hrs  
- Spanish or German: 3 hrs  
- History/Geography: 4 hrs  
- Mathematics: 6 hrs  
- Economics: 6 hrs  
- Philosophy: 4 hrs  
- Physical Education: 2 hrs  
- Electives (Latin, Greek, Theater): 3 hrs

**LITERATURE (L)**

- French: 4 hrs  
- English: 5 hrs  
- Spanish or German: 3 hrs  
- History/Geography: 4 hrs  
- Mathematics: 4 hrs  
- Philosophy: 8 hrs  
- Physical Education: 2 hrs  
- Electives (Latin, Greek, Theater): 3 hrs

*Mandatory Extended Research Project (TPE) in 11th grade for all sections.*

The major portion of the French Baccalaureate exams takes place over a two-week period at the end of May and early June in the senior year, involving 17–32 hours of testing, both written and oral. Students must achieve an overall score of 10/20.
FRENCH BACCALAUREATE, INTERNATIONAL OPTION (OIB)

The OIB American option (Option Internationale du Baccalauréat), a variation of the French Baccalaureate, takes into consideration the international dimension of education. It is the most demanding curriculum in the French Baccalauréate program and is offered only to students who master English both orally and in written expression. The literature and history/geography examinations carry significant weight in the calculation of the overall Baccalaureate score. The OIB option requires five 50-minute periods per week in both 11th and 12th grades for literature and History/Geography. Students are selected for this program by committee review based on overall academic prowess.

INTERNATIONAL BACCALAUREATE (IB)

The International School of Boston was the first school in Boston to become a member of the International Baccalaureate Organization and to offer the IB Diploma Program, a high school curriculum available in English, French, and Spanish. Taught in English at ISB, the IB is recognized worldwide and is highly valued for its depth and rigor. The aim of the IB program is to develop “internationally-minded people who, recognizing their common humanity and shared guardianship of the planet, help to create a better and more peaceful world.” At ISB, 75% of IB students receive the Bilingual IB Diploma, by taking literature courses in two different languages. This specialized diploma is achieved by only 20% of IB students worldwide.

IB Diploma Requirements for 11th and 12th grades:

- Three Higher Level (HL) courses (five 50-minute periods/week) and three Standard Level (SL) courses (three 50-minute periods/week) covering six groups;
- Theory of Knowledge (TOK) course (two 50-minute periods/week);
- Extended Essay, a 4000-word essay drawing on one of the six disciplines making up the IB program;
- Creativity, Action, Service (CAS), an extra-curricular requirement over two years, including the central element of student reflection.

ISB IB Course Offerings:

GROUP 1:
- English A Literature SL/HL
- English A Language and Literature SL/HL
- French A Language and Literature SL/HL
- German A Language and Literature SL
- Chinese A Language and Literature SL/HL

To meet the needs of international students with first languages other than those listed, ISB, in accordance with IB regulations, offers IB Language A Literature SL school-supported, self-taught courses in Russian, Spanish, and German, and Arabic.

GROUP 2:
- English B SL/HL
- French B SL/HL
- French ab initio
- Spanish B SL/HL
- Spanish ab initio
- German B SL/HL
- German ab initio

GROUP 3:
- History SL/HL
- Economics SL/HL

GROUP 4:
- Biology SL/HL
- Chemistry SL/HL
- Physics SL/HL

GROUP 5:
- Mathematics HL
- Mathematics
- Math Studies SL

GROUP 6:
- Visual Arts SL/HL
- Theater Arts SL
- Environmental Systems and Societies (also satisfies Group 3 requirements)

The IB examinations take place over a three-week period in May of the senior year, involving 22-30 hours of testing. Students receive a score of 0-7 per course and may receive bonus points for their Extended Essay and assessments in Theory of Knowledge for a maximum of 45 points. The world average score is 29. ISB’s average is 34.

EXAMINATION RESULTS

FRENCH BACCALAUREATE:
Since 2005, the attainment of the French Baccalaureate diploma at ISB has been 100%.
All French Baccalaureate students of the Class of 2016 achieved Honors, with 65% receiving a score at the Mention Tres Bien level, 25% receiving Mention Bien, and 10% receiving Mention Assez Bien.

INTERNATIONAL BACCALAUREATE:
To receive an IB diploma, a student must receive 24 out of 45 points; the world-wide average score is between 29 and 30, and the worldwide percentage of students achieving the diploma is 79%. From the first ISB graduating class in 2006 forward, 97% of the students in the full IB diploma program have attained the IB diploma with an average score of 34.
The Class of 2016 averaged a score of 34, with 18% receiving a score above 40; a score of 42 is achieved by only .5% worldwide.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Country</th>
<th>Institutions</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| **France** | **GRANDES ÉCOLES ET ÉCOLES Spécialisées:**
  - École d'Architecture de Strasbourg
  - École Supérieure de Gestion
  - ESSEC
  - ESCA Paris
  - BCPST
  - INSA Toulouse
  - IDEC
  - ESSEC Business School Paris
  - École des Hautes Études en Sciences Sociales (EHESS)
  - ENS Paris-Saclay
  - École des Mines de Paris
  - École Polytechnique
  - Télécom ParisTech
  - INSEAD
  - École Normale Supérieure (ENS)
  - École Polytechnique Fédérale de Lausanne
  - ENSAE
  |
| **United Kingdom** | **Aston University**
  - Brunel University
  - Cambridge University
  - Cardiff University
  - Coventry University
  - East Anglia University
  - East London University
  - Edinburgh University
  - European Business School, London
  - Glasgow University
  - Greenwich University
  - Imperial College London
  - Keele University
  - King’s College London
  - Kingston University
  - Leeds University
  - London Metropolitan University
  - London South Bank University
  - Manchester Metropolitan University
  - Newcastle University
  - Nottingham University
  - Oxford University
  - Plymouth University
  - Queen Mary University of London
  - Royal Holloway University
  - St Andrews University
  - Sheffield University
  - Warwick University
  - West London University
  - Westminster University
| **Canada** | **Bishop’s University**
  - Carleton University
  - Concordia University
  - Laval University
  - École Polytechnique de Montréal
  - HEC Montréal
  - Queen’s University
  - Université de Montréal
  - Université de Sherbrooke
  - Université du Québec à Chicoutimi
  - Université du Québec à Montréal
  - Université du Québec à Trois-Rivières
  - Université de Rimouski
  - University of Ottawa
  - University of Toronto
  - University of Toronto-St. George
  | **Other** | **Universidade Católica Portuguesa**
  - University of Hong Kong
  - University of St Andrews
  - University of Technology Sydney
  - University of Wollongong
  - University of Zhejiang
  - Vrije Universiteit Brussel
  - Eindhoven University of Technology
  - Université de Genève
  - HEC Lausanne
  - IE University
  - James Cook University
  - Universidade NOve de Lisboa
  - École Polytechnique Fédérale de Lausanne
  - University of St Gallen
  - Västerås College of Art & Design - Hong Kong