

Dobbs Ferry High School MYP Assessment Policy

Mission Statement:

The Dobbs Ferry School District strives to develop independent, curious, and open-minded learners who think critically, work collaboratively, act ethically and are knowledgeable about the world around them.

Statement of the Assessment Philosophy

The Dobbs Ferry High School community of administrators, teachers, students and parents believes that effective assessment is to acknowledge what students know, understand and are able to do. Assessments should be both formative and summative, and reflect the authentic tasks. All students enrolled in classes are required to take the corresponding world/state/local assessment at the end of the course. As an IB World School, Dobbs Ferry High School stakeholders recognize the importance of criterion-related assessment as a way to measure and inform teaching and learning. Criterion-related assessment assesses students' work in relation to specific, identified criteria.

Principles That Underpin All Assessment Practices

Dobbs Ferry High School assesses students in order to:

- Enhance student learning
- Monitor and evaluate student progress towards meeting course and IB MYP standards
- Provide feedback to students, parents and stakeholders
- Gather evidence to support teacher reflection on teacher effectiveness
- Inform curriculum review and instruction

Formative and Summative Assessment Practices

All teachers and students engage in formative assessment activities throughout the school year to monitor student progress and support student improvement in every course. Summative assessments measure student knowledge and achievement both at the end of units and courses of study.

MYP units include at least one summative assessment graded with a criterion-specific MYP rubric. These rubrics, which are aligned with corresponding MYP objectives, assist teachers in assessing the concepts and skills necessary for success in each of the subject areas, while also clearly communicating the expectations of the assignment to students. Achievement levels are determined through the use of specific subject group rubrics, as set forth by IB.

Dobbs Ferry High School MYP Assessment Policy

Using these criterion specific rubrics to determine achievement levels is discussed during both department and grade level meetings.

Additional academic support is available for students whose performance data suggests that they are struggling. The goal is to ensure that our students are provided as many opportunities as possible to demonstrate their knowledge and experience success. We strive to identify struggling students early and implement intervention services and strategies. Teachers are available to meet with students individually and/or in small groups during “T-Periods” to address their academic needs. Homework provides an excellent opportunity for developing good study habits, providing for individual differences and abilities, and encouraging self-initiative on the part of the student.

Reporting Assessments

Parents are consistently informed about assessments and procedures for assessments. Some common practices in recording and reporting student achievement related to MYP criteria include:

- Back To School Night Evenings
- 9th Grade Parent Orientation
- IB Information Night
- Parent Teacher Conferences
- Teacher emails, phone calls and meetings
- Board of Education Meetings
- Teacher maintained Google Classrooms provide information about assessments
- Online Parent Portal provides 24 hour access to assessment grades
- At the midpoint of each marking period, each family receives an official electronic report of the students’ progress, that consists of teacher generated comments.
- At the end of each marking period, an official electronic report is posted which provides student academic performance data, attendance and punctuality data, and behavioral data. Comments aligned to the IB Learner Profile are also available for teachers to post on report cards.

Dobbs Ferry High School MYP Assessment Policy

Grade Calculation

After the first semester, a student's semester average is calculated by using the following formula: $[(2 \times \text{First Quarter Grade}) + (2 \times \text{Second Quarter Grade}) + (\text{Midterm Exam Grade})]$ divided by $[5]$

At the end of the year, a student's final average is calculated by using the following formula: $[(2 \times \text{Semester Average}) + (\text{Third Quarter Grade}) + (\text{Fourth Quarter Grade}) + (\text{Final Exam Grade})]$ divided by $[5]$

Grade Weighting

1.05 Scale: All IB SL courses (excluding English SL and Math Studies), Theory of Knowledge (TOK).

1.10 Scale: All IB HL courses and Advanced Placement World History

<u>Unweighted</u>			<u>Weighted</u>	
<u>Grade</u>	<u>Grade Range</u>	<u>GPA</u>	<u>Weighted GPA for SL Courses & TOK (1.05)</u>	<u>Weighted GPA for HL/AP Courses (1.10)</u>
A+	98-100	4.50	4.72	4.95

A	93-97	4.17	4.37	4.58
A-	90-92	3.84	4.03	4.22
B+	87-89	3.50	3.67	3.85
B	83-86	3.17	3.32	3.48
B-	80-82	2.84	2.98	3.12
C+	77-79	2.50	2.62	2.75
C	73-76	2.17	2.27	2.38
C-	70-72	1.84	1.93	2.02
D+	67-69	1.50	1.57	1.65

DFHS Assessment Policy Updated

November 2019

May 2017

Dobbs Ferry High School MYP Assessment Policy

D	65-66	1.17	1.22	1.28
F	Belo w 65	0.00	0.00	0.00

Homework

Homework is used as a tool for practicing and reinforcing the learning objectives from the respective day's lesson and as preparation for subsequent lessons. It is intended to be challenging for the student with feedback given in a timely fashion. Differentiated homework options based on the individual learning styles and readiness levels of each student are given. Homework provides an excellent opportunity for developing good study habits, providing for individual differences and abilities, and encouraging self-initiative on the part of the student.

Accountability and Review

- The school's assessment policy along with other IB policies is reviewed bi-annually by administrators, teachers, parents and students.
- Policies are included in the School's Handbook and The IB Handbook which are published on the school web site and mailed to families. Teachers review this policy with their students at the beginning of the school year.
- All new teachers to the district participate in New Teacher Training both prior to the beginning of the new school year and at intervals throughout the school year. All policies are explained and reviewed with new teachers. In addition, each new teacher is assigned a mentor who is an experienced teacher with knowledge of all school practices and requirements.

Resources

Dobbs Ferry High School Course Selection Book
 Dobbs Ferry High School IB Handbook
 Dobbs Ferry High School Student Handbook
 Dobbs Ferry High School Faculty Handbook
 Dobbs Ferry High School Special Needs Policy
 Dobbs Ferry High School Language Policy
 International Baccalaureate Organization *Academic honesty in the educational context 2014*
 International Baccalaureate Organization *Diploma Programme: From principles into Practice 2015*
 International Baccalaureate Organization *Guidelines for developing a school*

Dobbs Ferry High School MYP Assessment Policy
assessment policy in the diploma programme 2010