

**IB DP Visual Arts**  
**COURSE DESCRIPTION 2023/2024**  
**Year 1 and 2**

**The Course**

The IBDP Visual Arts course at Gymnázium, Šrobárova 1, Košice is designed at SL with four lessons per week. The course is aimed at students who wish to study visual arts in higher education or those seeking personal and lifelong enrichment through visual arts.

The IBDP Visual Arts course is designed around three main aspects of art practice: theoretical practice, art-making practice and curatorial practice. The theoretical practice is based on using investigative strategies, critical thinking, comparative analysis and reflection. The art-making practice enables students to explore and experiment in a variety of artistic techniques, and thus produce a considered body of work. Within the curatorial practice students will develop their ability to formulate their own artistic intentions, and learn to select and present their own work effectively.

Thus the very nature of the course significantly contributes towards the development of the learner profile. It encourages students to challenge not only their academic and critical skills but also creative and cultural boundaries of each student. Together we will strive to become knowledgeable, principled, open-minded, inquirers, thinkers and communicators.

**Aims and objectives**

The IBDP Visual Arts course enables students to:

- enjoy lifelong engagement with the arts
- become informed, reflective and critical practitioners in the arts
- understand the dynamic and changing nature of the arts
- explore and value the diversity of the arts across time, place and cultures
- express ideas with confidence and competence
- develop perceptual and analytical skills.
- make artwork that is influenced by personal and cultural contexts
- become informed and critical observers and makers of visual culture and media
- develop skills, techniques and processes in order to communicate concepts and ideas.

Students are expected to understand the knowledge of specified content (describe artwork from differing contexts, identify the ideas, techniques, media, forms and processes, and present their work and use appropriate language). They will be able to analyse and express concepts and ideas through visual artforms. They will be able to apply knowledge and understanding of skills, techniques, media, forms and processes related to artmaking, and create their own body of work.

## **Assessment**

### **External assessment**

The external assessment consists of two parts: Part 1 – Comparative study (20% of the final exam), Part 2 – Process portfolio (40% of the final exam).

The comparative study is an independent critical and contextual investigation of artworks from differing cultural contexts. Three different artworks by at least two different artists are to be compared in a presentation (both both visual and written) over 10-15 screens.

For the process portfolio students are required to carefully select materials, documenting their experimentation, exploration, manipulation and refinement of a variety of visual arts activities. The presentation consists of 9-18 screens and must demonstrate at least three different art-making forms.

### **Internal assessment**

Part 3 – Exhibition (40% of the final exam) requires a selection of resolved artworks, a coherent body of work, which shows evidence of technical skills. The exhibition is supported by a curatorial rationale (max. 400 words). Students submit 4-7 artworks with exhibition texts.

Summative and formative assessment is delivered throughout the course to evaluate both students' progress as well as give them feedback on their strengths and weaknesses. The final grade includes 50% of class grade (individual tasks of summative and formative assessment are measured) and 50% of mocks grade (mock finals).

There are no requirements to do the course, however, previous art skills are an advantage.

*“The arts teach children to make good judgments about qualitative relationships. Unlike much of the curriculum in which correct answers and rules prevail, in the arts, it is judgment rather than rules that prevail.” Elliot Eisner, NAEA*

### **Resources:**

McReynolds, H.: Visual Arts for the IB Diploma, CUP, 2017

Visual Arts guide, available at: [https://resources.ibo.org/data/d\\_6\\_visar\\_gui\\_1702\\_1\\_e.pdf](https://resources.ibo.org/data/d_6_visar_gui_1702_1_e.pdf)

Eisner, E.: 10 Lessons the Arts Teach, available at:

[https://resources.ibo.org/data/d\\_6\\_visar\\_gui\\_1702\\_1\\_e.pdf](https://resources.ibo.org/data/d_6_visar_gui_1702_1_e.pdf)