



Information Regarding International Baccalaureate (IB) History Courses to Assist Institutions in Determining IB History Course Equivalencies

Introduction

This document provides additional information and guidance concerning the creation of equivalencies for the IB History test, one of the 33 IB tests included in the SC TRAC Advanced Placement (AP) and IB Tests Activity which institutions undertook recently.

Background

Prior to commencing the AP/IB Equivalency Activity statewide, CHE received from IB North America a list of all IB courses that had been taught in South Carolina from 2008-2010. Only those IB courses which had been taught in the state during this period were included as part of the equivalency activity. CHE and AcademyOne then initiated the process whereby each institution would indicate course equivalencies and credit awards for AP and IB tests within SC TRAC.

Most IB test titles are self-explanatory and institutions were able to equate their own courses to the tests successfully. However, during the AP/IB definition exercise, it was discovered that IB History is not as straightforward as other tests due to a large number of variations in IB History course titles.

Guidance

In response to questions AcademyOne received from several institutions, CHE contacted IB North America to gain information about IB History tests. One of the most important points gleaned from IB North America is that overwhelmingly, IB students take a History course that is related to where they live geographically. For example, in the US, History of the Americas is the most prevalent IB History course taken.

For the purpose of equating IB History courses, institutions have options within the SC TRAC system. The choice as to how to equate IB History is within the purview of each institution:

- **Option 1**: Equate IB History to an American History course or courses.



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- **Option 2:** Equate IB History to a “wild card” course (for example, History 1XX). The institution can then use the “Notes” field associated with the equivalency to communicate a specific message that the institution wishes to convey (for example, “Specific history course equivalency will be determined when IB History test topic is submitted.”)
- **Option 3:** Create any number of IB History course equivalencies for any of the IB History courses (e.g., History of Africa; History of the Americas; History of Asia and Oceania; and History of Europe and the Middle East).

For institutions that have not yet processed the IB History test in SC TRAC using the Course Equivalency Management Center (CEMC) tool, please use the information provided in this document to complete the IB History test equivalency.

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