

IB Extended Essay Timeline

Northwestern High School, Rock Hill, SC

Note: for specific due dates, go to <http://ibsmartest.edublogs.org>

FEBRUARY - MAY

During the second semester of the Junior year (and preferably before), Diploma Students must complete the following tasks related to the Extended Essay:

1. Select the Subject for your essay. By subject, we mean the category into which your research project will most logically fall. This is important because individual Subjects require unique criteria for your essay to meet. There are six approved DP categories, or IB subject groups:
 - Group 1: Studies in Language and Literature
 - Group 2: Language Acquisition
 - Group 3: Individuals and Societies
 - Group 4: Sciences
 - Group 5: Mathematics
 - Group 6: The Arts

Each Group will have sub-categories within it. For example: Group 3 includes such disciplines as History, Geography, Philosophy, Psychology, and more. See the [EE Guide](#) for detailed information. Note: we will review the Subject categories in detail in class.

2. Select your Extended Essay Supervisor. Your Supervisor must serve on the school faculty (though exceptions can be made by request to the EE Coordinator, and may be approved as appropriate); if your Supervisor is not an IB instructor, he/she should conference with the EE Coordinator about the Supervisor's role before agreeing to work with you. Your Supervisor will serve as your advisor throughout the research and writing of the Essay. Note: *You* are responsible to arrange discussions with your Supervisor, and not vice-versa.
3. Submit your 1st written reflection (150-175 words; see the *RPPF*), documenting your initial meeting with your Supervisor. Usually, this meeting will involve shaping your research question and putting together a program of directed reading and research for the summer.
4. Submit a preliminary Research Question and Selected Bibliography. Don't worry if you are still uncertain about the direction your Essay will take; as you read and explore sources, your focus may change, perhaps a lot. The goal of this task is to ensure you have a positive direction for your Essay before we dismiss for the summer.

SUMMER BREAK

As a DP student, you will be issued an access card for Dacus Library at Winthrop University. This will allow you to access the library's physical holdings and online databases for your research. (Note: per Dacus Library policy, as a high school student you may not check out books, but you may copy and/or scan printed material for e-mailing, and you can only access the databases from within the library.) There may be meetings scheduled for the class to visit the library as a group with the EE Coordinator, though these meetings are not mandatory.

The goal of your work over the summer should be, *at the minimum*, to conduct research, remain in communication with your Supervisor, refine your Research Question, assemble your Bibliography, and make extensive notes in preparation for the writing of your Essay in your Senior year.

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SEPTEMBER

Upon returning to school in August, the EE Coordinator will review everything you have done so far and assign appropriate credit for your work. During September, you will complete the following tasks:

1. Submit a written Introduction to your Essay and Detailed Outline to your Supervisor for review.
At this point your Research Question should be finalized, and you will have a good sense of how your argument will be organized. This writing sample and outline will help your Supervisor to guide you in terms of the structure of your Essay, your use of sources, the appropriateness of the content in terms of the Subject category, and your possible conclusions.
2. Submit your 2nd reflection (150-175 words) based on the formal meeting with your Supervisor described above. Here, you should focus on the research process: where you started, if/how your direction changed along the way, issues you must address, and your expectations for the finished Essay.

Note: It is entirely possible that you have written more than an Introduction by this time, which is fine. In fact, you are encouraged to do so. There are no penalties for working ahead!

OCTOBER - NOVEMBER

This period should be devoted to writing the Essay. A complete draft of the Essay should be submitted to your Supervisor no later than the end of November.

DECEMBER

Prior to Winter Break, you should meet with your Supervisor to discuss your complete draft and to consider revisions.

JANUARY

After Winter Break, you will write your final reflection for the Planning & Progress form (150-175 words) and submit your Essay for final assessment. *No revisions may be made after this time.* A final 20-30 minute meeting with your Supervisor must be scheduled to discuss your experience in researching and writing the Essay over the past year. This meeting, called the *Viva Voce*, will help your Supervisor to add his/her own reflections on your work to the RPPF. Note that the RPPF is part of the Extended Essay process and will be considered, along with your Essay, in determining your score for the project.