

Theory of Knowledge IBDP

11th Grade Intl. [4 periods per week]

Mr. John Lamphear

Course Description

Fundamental to the TOK course is the question, “how do we know what we know?” Through addressing this question and investigating the nature of knowledge in general, TOK helps us to develop our own reflective thinking on what we have already learned, to understand how that knowledge was accrued, and to use this understanding to help us keep learning. As stated in the IB General Guide, the goal of TOK is, “to stimulate critical reflection upon the knowledge and the experience of students both in and outside the classroom.”

Students will need to think, ask questions, and investigate issues with depth and rigor to be successful in this course. TOK necessitates that students critically investigate how knowledge is developed, shaped, applied, or rejected across curricula, and use this understanding to gain deeper insight into topical issues in the world today. Therefore, beyond being a scholarly topic, TOK is a way to understand the world in which we are living and the issues with which we are all concerned and affected by.

Timeline

1. Knowledge and the Knower - August/September
2. Knowledge and Technology -October
3. Knowledge and Language - November
4. Knowledge and Mathematics - December/January
5. Knowledge and Natural Science - February
6. Knowledge and Human Science & History - March/April
7. TOK Exhibitions (IA) - May/June