

## Course Overviews DP, UWC Thailand 2018-2019

All units taught in grades 11 and 12 are continuously being developed and improved to best meet the needs of the students at UWCT. Therefore, the following overview is only a reflection of current plans for the course. Some changes to these course overviews may occur as a result of planning done throughout the academic year.

Grade	Time Frame	Unit number and title	Approaches To learning skills taught / learnt / developed in this unit	Content (topics / knowledge/ subject specific skills)	Connections to TOK	Summative assessment
11	2 weeks	1: Knowledge Issues + Real-Life Situations	Thinking Skills Communication skills Social skills Self-management skills Research skills	Introducing ToK - concepts, methods, vocabulary and beginning questions, for example: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• What are the connections between ToK and real-life?</li> <li>• To what extent is what I know accurate / reliable?</li> <li>• What is a knowledge claim? What is a knowledge question?</li> <li>• What do we mean by 'shared' and 'personal' knowledge?</li> </ul>	---	Written Knowledge Extraction Activity
11	6 weeks	2: The Arts	Thinking Skills Communication skills Social skills Self-management skills Research skills	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The nature of 'art'</li> <li>• Artistic intention and audience reception</li> <li>• Artistic 'quality' / standards / judgments</li> <li>• The purposes of art: communication / education / imitation</li> <li>• The processes of art: methodology / reason / imagination</li> <li>• Understandings of art: beauty / truth / discovery</li> </ul>	---	Exhibition Piece
11	7 weeks	3: Natural Sciences	Thinking Skills Communication skills Social skills Self-management skills Research skills	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The nature of science and pseudo-science</li> <li>• The scientific method and its implications for knowledge</li> <li>• Inductive and deductive reasoning</li> <li>• Checkpoint thinkers: Copernicus, Newton, Popper (falsification), Kuhn (paradigms)</li> <li>• Science and society: truth / values / communication</li> <li>• Experimentation / validity / reliability</li> </ul>	---	Mini-essay
11	6 weeks	4: Human Sciences	Thinking Skills	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The nature of human sciences and</li> </ul>	---	Mini-

			<p>Communication skills Social skills Self-management skills Research skills</p>	<p>how they create / classify / communicate knowledge</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Questions and questioning in human sciences</li> <li>• Methodologies: prediction / observation / experimentation / measurement / trends and Laws / bias / fallacies</li> <li>• Checkpoint perspectives and findings: Milgram (punishment), Zimbardo (Stanford Prison Experiment), Verstehen position</li> <li>• Ethical research in human sciences</li> <li>• Understandings and problems in human sciences</li> </ul>		Presentation
11	6 weeks	5: Ethics	<p>Thinking Skills Communication skills Social skills Self-management skills Research skills</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The nature of ethics and morality</li> <li>• Moral reasoning: principles / facts / consistency / relativism / absolutism / cultural imperialism / self-interest theory</li> <li>• Selfishness and selflessness, punishment and reward</li> <li>• Rights, responsibilities and obligations</li> <li>• Theories of ethics: religious ethics / duty ethics / Kantian ethics / utilitarianism</li> <li>• Checkpoint 'case studies': Sinbad the Sailor, Ameneh Bahrami</li> </ul>	---	Mini-Essay
11	6 weeks	6: The IB Presentation	<p>Thinking Skills Communication skills Social skills Self-management skills Research skills</p>	<p>Drawing together course strands in preparation for the first required IB assessment: the presentation. Unit will cover:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Shared unpacking of model real-life situations, knowledge questions, past presentations and assessment criteria</li> <li>• How to 'construct' the presentation: planning: generating and researching ideas, extracting knowledge questions, composition: form, organisation, the ToK diagram, claims and counterclaims, perspectives, synthesis</li> <li>• Reflection on course learning and feedforward for next year</li> </ul>	---	<p>Group Practise PPD Course Presentation</p>
12	9 weeks	7: History	<p>Thinking Skills Communication skills Social skills Self-management skills</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• What is history? What is historiography?</li> <li>• The processes of history: evidence / significance / interpretation / narrative</li> </ul>	---	Practise Essay

			Research skills	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Why we study history</li> <li>• How can we 'know' the past? - methods / problems / potential</li> <li>• Theories of history: the 'great person' / economic determinism / chance</li> <li>• Historical perspectives in practice</li> </ul>		
12	6 weeks	8: Religious Knowledge Systems	Thinking Skills Communication skills Social skills Self-management skills Research skills	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Religious distinctions: theism / pantheism / atheism</li> <li>• The nature and paradoxes of God: omnipotence / omniscience / omniamorousness</li> <li>• The argument from experience / the argument from design / the cosmological argument</li> <li>• Reason versus faith / science versus religion</li> <li>• Pascal's wager, rationality and irrationality</li> <li>• Religious pluralism and 'modern' religions</li> </ul>	---	
12	6 weeks	9: The IB Essay	Thinking Skills Communication skills Social skills Self-management skills Research skills	Drawing together course strands in preparation for the submission of the IB DP essay. Unit will cover: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Shared unpacking and investigation of the IB Prescribed Essay Titles, model essays and assessment criteria</li> <li>• How to 'write' an essay: planning: brainstorming / gathering ideas, composition: structure, style, arguments, claims and counterclaims, evidence and examples, depth and breadth, sources and citations</li> <li>• Course review and reflection</li> </ul>	---	Course Essay