

Wednesday, February 6, 2008

OU first to offer K-12 International Baccalaureate training

Oakland University is now the only university in the world to offer International Baccalaureate (IB) Level 1 program education for teachers spanning the entire K–12 curriculum, offered in conjunction with the IB Organization in Cardiff, Wales. The program was granted final approval in late December 2007, and the first group of students began coursework in January 2008.

Upon completion of OU's 20-credit program, participants will be eligible to apply for IB's Teacher Award Level 1 certificate at the Primary Years, Middle Years and Diploma Program levels. The IB certificate program credits may also be applied toward the 36-credit master's of education in educational studies.

"The IB award certificate is a phenomenal credential for a teacher to have on his or her resume. Participants will receive instruction in five different areas: philosophy and practices; global education; teaching, learning and curriculum; assessment; and reflective practice," said Lisa Reeves, executive director of professional development and education outreach in OU's School of Education and Human Services (SEHS). "As more schools become IB authorized, the demand for educators with IB training will definitely increase."

The International Baccalaureate Organization (IBO) sets standards and practices, and offers training to ensure that teachers are prepared to teach students using the IB philosophy. The IB comprises a teaching philosophy that connects education to the world with a focus on an international mindset.

"The perspective offered by the IB curriculum complements Oakland University's mission of preparing students for a global society," said Mary Otto, dean of Oakland's SEHS. "More IB prepared teachers will enable expansion of IB programs in Michigan, and in turn Michigan's K–12 students will be better prepared for the ever-increasing global mindedness of their world."

OU's program is designed to be convenient for teachers from across the nation. The cohort model operates with weekend sessions and online components, and includes an eight-day intensive experience in mid July.

"The program is flexible so that it will work for teachers who may not necessarily be living near Oakland University. With the way the IB curriculum is spreading in popularity nationwide, Oakland University wanted to make sure the program would be accessible to all teachers who want to prepare to teach IB classes," said Reeves.

For more information, visit the [International Baccalaureate](#) Web site.

SUMMARY

Oakland University is now the only university in the world to offer International Baccalaureate (IB) Level 1 program education for teachers spanning the entire K–12 curriculum, offered in conjunction with the IB Organization in Cardiff, Wales. The program was granted final approval in late December 2007, and the first group of students began coursework in January 2008.

Created by CareTech Administrator (webservices@caretechsolutions.com) on Wednesday, February 6, 2008
Modified by CareTech Administrator (webservices@caretechsolutions.com) on Wednesday, February 6, 2008
Article Start Date: Wednesday, February 6, 2008