Portledge School values your commitment to academics and we are enthusiastic about your potential in this rigorous and challenging program. Please be aware that successful completion of the Diploma Program is contingent upon several factors. Successful students are highly proficient at managing their time and advocating for themselves as some of the assessments are independent in nature. Below, you will find the prerequisites for the individual courses. Please be aware that in some instances advanced work in a subject may need to be completed prior to being able to proceed.

**Mathematics:**

- Math Studies SL - Completion of Alg. 2. 1 Year: Last exam year: 2020
- Applications and Interpretations SL/HL: Algebra 2 with a grade of B or higher. (2 Year course, first exam 2021, or 1 Year SL course in 2020-21)
- Approaches and Analysis HL: Algebra 2A with a grade of B+ or higher. (2 Year Course)

**Language A:**

*(English Literature)* 2 Year Course HL

- Sophomores currently in the advanced course must have an average of B or higher.
- Sophomores currently in the regular section must have an average of A- or higher and a recommendation from the teacher.

**Language B:**

*(Spanish, French or Mandarin)* 2 Year Course - SL/HL Testing Options

- Level 3/3A of the language in the 10th grade.  
  *If a student is currently below this level, a placement test will be provided to ensure that the student can find success in the IB course.*

**Individuals and Societies HL:**

*History of the Americas (Jr. Yr.) and World History (Sr. Yr.)*

- Sophomores currently in the advanced course must have an average of B or higher.
- Sophomores currently in the regular section must have an average of A- or higher and a recommendation from the teacher.

**Science**

*IB Environmental Systems Studies SL (1 year)*

- Students have earned an average grade of B or higher in both chemistry and biology. This course is only offered at the SL level and will be completed in one year.
SCIENCE

IB Physics (2-year course SL/HL options for testing)

• Students should have a strong understanding of Algebra. Completion of Alg. 2 with a grade of B or higher is strongly suggested.

THE ARTS

IB Music (2 Year Course - SL/HL Testing Options)

• Students should have a strong appreciation of and desire to excel in the study of music, including performance and theory. Students must be proficient in at least one instrument.
• Permission from the IB music teacher is required.

IB Theater (2 Year Course - SL/HL Testing Options)

• Students should have a strong appreciation for and desire to explore all aspects of theater.

IB Visual Arts (2 Year Course - SL/HL Testing options)

• Students will build a portfolio that reflects the three main aspects of art practice: theoretical practice, artmaking practice, and curatorial practice. Permission from the teacher is necessary.

IB Film (1 Year course - SL)

• No prerequisites; however, students should be aware that much of the work focuses on the analysis of film as well as creating an original short film.

CORE CURRICULUM:

No prerequisites are required; however, successful completion of these courses are necessary to fulfill the requirements of the diploma.

• Theory of Knowledge: TOK - a presentation and paper are required to complete during this course. The paper is graded externally by the IB and a passing score is necessary to earn the diploma.
• Extended Essay - Working with a supervisor, the student will be responsible for writing a research paper of about 4,000 words (and a reflection of no more than 500 words). Students meet formally three times with their supervisor throughout the process.
• Creativity, Activity, and Service - Students reflect on the aspects of their lives that fall under these terms, while also attempting new experiences. It is the responsibility of the student to log their process and to complete a project that reflects their passions. Progress and completion are confirmed by the CAS coordinator and moderated by the IB.