



## The Vientiane College Diploma - Module Overview

### **DIPDD108 Discussions & Debates**

#### **Overview of the module**

In this module, you will learn to develop confidence in discussing and expressing your opinions about a variety of issues by learning how to analyse topics, identify stakeholders, and examine issues through different lenses. You will then use these skills to participate in both formal and informal debates in which you will construct arguments and counterarguments. Spoken English language skills will focus specifically on techniques for participating in academic discussions and presenting logical and well-supported arguments.

#### **Key questions explored in the course**

- What is an exploratory discussion?
- How can I construct and use questions in order to deepen my understanding of a topic?
- How can I use a variety of perspectives to understand complex issues?
- What is the best way to build an effective argument?
- How can I identify and respond to logical fallacies?

#### **Skills**

This module will help you improve your English language skills with a special emphasis on:

- communicating ideas clearly and accurately
- using pronunciation, intonation, projection, and timing when expressing ideas
- gaining greater grammatical control over your spoken English
- using language to explore and to persuade

#### **Performance Tasks**

Throughout this module you will:

- watch videos and read articles about a variety of issues
- engage in small-group discussions exploring texts and issues
- participate in formal and informal debates

