

Secondary School at GAA

Secondary School Staff

Principal: Katherine Banner

Vice Principals: Derek Lea and Peter Thorpe

IBDP Director: Paddy Lyons

Curriculum Coordinator: Jen Parker

School Counselors: Katie Leishear and Phil Abraham

Our Schedule

- Students take 8 courses, which rotate on a block schedule.
- 4 classes every day for 80 minutes
- 4 quarters, 2 semesters

Credits and Transcripts

-All students in grades 9-12 will have an official transcript. This is what will accompany them if they change schools and will be sent to universities to which they apply.

-All classes taken in secondary school will equate to a credit when each class is passed. For example, if a student takes 8 classes and passes all of them, they will receive 8 credits. A class must be passed for a credit to be received.

-Students do not receive class for HS level courses taken in middle school

Graduation Pathways at GAA

- International Baccalaureate (IB) Diploma
- American Diploma with IB Certificates
- American Diploma

HS Graduation Requirements and Credits

4 credits English

3 credits Math

3 credits Science

3 credits World Language (recommended in same language)

3 credits Social Science

1 credit Art

1 credit PE

7 other/elective

Finding the fit....

-It's important for a student to add rigor into their schedule, but take on more than they can take to be successful.

-Most Rigorous/Competitive: Full IBDP

Is this right for your child???

American Diploma

- Honors level classes from 7th - 10th in English and Math
- Structured pathways for all classes
- Designed to be a college preparatory curriculum

American Diploma with IB Certificates

- Adds more rigor to a student's schedule

- It's possible for Group 1 and 3 students to take certificate classes for the rigor and not sit the final exam in order to achieve ADEC equivalency

IBDP Requirements

- 6 core subjects (3 HL, 3 SL)
 - Language A, Language B (WL), Math, Social Science, Science and either 1 art or 1 from social science or science
- Must have a minimum of 24 points, you can not earn a 2 in a HL class
- CAS, EE and TOK - are essential and you can NOT fail any without failing the diploma
- No more than two grade 2's and no more than three grade 3's
- A total of 12 points minimum HL/total of 9 points for the SL

Key Considerations for Choosing Courses...

- Where a student wants to study
- What a student wants to study
- ADEC equivalency??? Students must take ADEC approved courses if they are seeking equivalency
 - Successfully complete five of the following ADEC approved courses each year in addition to Arabic and Islamic in grades 10, 11, & 12:
 - English, Mathematics, Physics, Chemistry, Biology, Geology, Health & Nutrition Sciences, Economics, History, Geography (incl. World Studies), Psychology, Business, Sociology, French, Arts & Design: Yearbook, and Computer Science.

These offerings may vary from year to year.

ADEC Equivalency Requirements

IB Diploma	American Diploma
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• The school must be accredit by IB organization.• To take Arabic and Islamic subjects in G 10, 11 and 12.• To pass the unified exams for Arabic and Islamic at the end of G 12.• To pass G 12 and meet all requirements to succeed and receive the diploma.• To pass at least six subjects (3 in standard level and 3 in high level) and have a total of at least 24 points (excluding Arabic and Islamic).• The school must abide by the rules and regulations of the IB organization to qualify the student to obtain the final degree.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• To take Arabic and Islamic subjects in G 10, 11 and 12.• To pass the unified exams for Arabic and Islamic at the end of G 12.• To pass G 10, 11 and 12 with at least 5 subjects each year chosen by the student from the 21 subjects list (attached), noting that the minimum end for each subject must be at least 60% (excluding the Arabic and Islamic).• To pass TOEFL in English Language with at least 500 points in the written exam, and 173 in the computerized exam.• To pass SAT in Math with at least 400 points.

ADEC Approved Courses

-English Language

- English Literature

-Economy

-Mathematics

- Genetics

-French

-Physics

History

-Business Administration -

-Chemistry

- Geography

-Accounting

-Biology

- Psychology

- Computer

Post-Secondary Considerations

- American HS Diploma Students must take the SAT (recommended for IB students)
- Many European Universities will require HS graduates with American Diploma to take a foundation year before direct entry into a University
- Canadian and American universities will often give college credit for IB HL classes above a certain score
- Most competitive college candidates are students who successfully challenge themselves
- Different Majors/Faculties have specific requirements (Engineering in UK often requires Math HL. Engineering in Canada requires Chem)

What are Universities Looking For....

- A well rounded student with a focus
- Students who are involved in their school community and community at large
- Rigor in courses related to their choice of study
- A steady incline in grades (GPA, strong grade 11 year, Predicted Grades)
- Volunteer Experience/Internships in related field (very important for applications in the UK)

University Trends for GAA students

- Not enough data for trends, only 2 graduating classes
- UK, Netherlands, United States, and Canada: Most Popular Choices
- Business, Medicine, Engineering and Psychology are most popular major choices

Questions??