



HIGH SCHOOL PROFILE 2025

VISION & MISSION

GEMS American Academy is a diverse and caring international learning community offering a rigorous, relevant and holistic education. We develop global citizens who have the confidence and conviction to pursue their dreams and impact the world.

ACCREDITATION AND MEMBERSHIPS

- New England Association of Schools and Colleges (NEASC)
- The Council of International Schools (CIS)
- Abu Dhabi Department for Education and Knowledge (ADEK)
- UAE Ministry of Education (MOE)
- College Board Advanced Placement (AP)
- International Baccalaureate Diploma Programme (IBDP)



دائرة التعليم والمعرفة
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION
AND KNOWLEDGE



UNITED ARAB EMIRATES
MINISTRY OF EDUCATION

ADMINISTRATION AND COUNSELORS

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NATIONALITIES

175

GRADUATES

33

IB DIPLOMA
STUDENTS

85

STUDENTS
TOOK AT LEAST
ONE IB COURSE

50

LANGUAGES
SPOKEN

GAA CURRICULUM
IS RATED
OUTSTANDING

BY ABU DHABI
DEPARTMENT OF
EDUCATION AND
KNOWLEDGE (ADEK)

75%

OF GAA FACULTY
HAVE ADVANCED
DEGREES

GAA
FACULTY MEMBERS
REPRESENT

22

NATIONALITIES

This map represents the largest percentage of nationalities of
GAA High School (Grades 9-12).

4%
CANADA

11%
UNITED STATES

5%
OTHERS

3%
LATIN AMERICA

11%
EUROPE

13%
MIDDLE EAST

41%
UAE

10%
ASIA

2%
AUSTRALIA &
NEW ZEALAND



COLLEGE AND UNIVERSITY DESTINATIONS FOR THE CLASSES OF 2021-2025

This is GAA'S 10th graduating class, 2025 acceptances are in **BOLD**.

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

Arizona State University Campus Immersion
Boyce College
 California State University-Bakersfield
Charles R. Drew University of Medicine and Science
 Christopher Newport University
 Cornell University
 DePaul University
 Drexel University
 Eastern Florida State College
Florida Agricultural and Mechanical University
 Florida Institute of Technology
 Folsom College
 George Mason University
George Washington University
 James Madison University
Loyola University Chicago
Michigan State University
Ohio State University - Main Campus
 Old Dominion University
Pikes Peak State College
San Diego State University
 Savannah College of Art and Design
Skyline College
 Suffolk University
Temple University
Texas Tech University
 The Pennsylvania State University
University of Arizona
University of California - Berkeley
University of California - Riverside
 University of California-Santa Barbara
 University of Central Florida
 University of Colorado Boulder
University of Irvine (University of California, Irvine)
 University of Mary Washington
 University of Pittsburgh-Pittsburgh Campus
 University of San Diego
University of Southern California
 Virginia Commonwealth University
 Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University

CANADA

Bishop's University
 Brock University
 Carleton University
Concordia University
 Dalhousie University
 McMaster University
 Queen's University
 Toronto Metropolitan University
 University of Alberta
University of British Columbia (UBC)
 University of Guelph
University of Ottawa
University of Toronto
 University of Victoria
 University of Waterloo
 York University

UNITED KINGDOM

Abertay University
 ARU London
 Bournemouth University
 Bristol, University of the West of England
 Cardiff University
 City of London College
 Durham University
 INTO Manchester
 King's College London, University of London
 London Metropolitan University
 London School of Economics, University of London
 Manchester Metropolitan University
 Middlesex University
Northumbria University, Newcastle
 ONCAMPUS Loughborough University

Oxford Brookes University

Queen Mary University of London
 Regent's University London
 Royal Holloway, University of London
 SOAS University of London
 Swansea University
 University for the Creative Arts
 University of Aberdeen
University of Birmingham
 University of Bradford
 University of Bristol
University of Central Lancashire
 University of Essex
 University of Exeter
 University of Glasgow
 University of Guelph
 University of Huddersfield
University of Leeds
 University of Lethbridge
University of Liverpool
University of Manchester
 University of Nottingham
 University of Reading
University of Southampton
University of St. Andrews
 University of Suffolk
 University of Surrey
 University of Sussex
University of Warwick
 University of Westminster, London

EUROPEAN UNION

Constructor University, Germany
EM Normandie, France
 Erasmus University Rotterdam, Netherlands
 ESCP Business School, France
 EU Business School, Spain
 European University of Valencia, Spain
Hanze University of Applied Sciences, Netherlands
 Howest University of Applied Sciences, Belgium
 Humanitas, Italy
 IADE, Portugal
IE University, Spain
Istituto Marangoni, Italy
Leiden University, Netherlands
Maastricht University, Netherlands
 Medical University of Warsaw, Poland
Medicampus Europea, Spain
 Saint Louis University Madrid, Spain
The Hague University of Applied Sciences, Netherlands
 Tilburg University, Netherlands
 Trinity College Dublin, Ireland
 TU Eindhoven, Netherlands
UniCamillus, Italy
Universidad Catolica de Murcia, Spain
Universidad Europea de Madrid, Spain
 Università Cattolica del Sacro Cuore, Italy
University CEU Cardenal Herrera, Spain
 University of Amsterdam, Netherlands
University of Galway, Ireland
 University of Groningen, Netherlands,
University of Mannheim, Germany
 Vrije Universiteit Amsterdam, Netherlands

UNITED ARAB EMIRATES

Abu Dhabi University
Air Arabia Academy
Air Force Boot Camp
 American University in Dubai
American University of Sharjah
 Canadian University Dubai
 Curtin University Dubai
 Emirates Flight training academy
Fatima College of Health Sciences
GBS DUBAI
Gulf Medical University

Heriot-Watt University Dubai

Higher College of Technology
Khalifa University
 Mohammed Bin Rashid University of Medicine and Health Sciences
NYU - Abu Dhabi
Rochester Institute of Technology - Dubai
 SAE
Sharjah Performing Arts Academy
Sorbonne University Abu Dhabi
 United Arab Emirates University
 University of Birmingham Dubai
University of Wollongong in Dubai
Zayed University

MIDDLE EAST / AFRICA

American University of Beirut, Lebanon
 German University in Cairo, Egypt
Lebanese American University, Lebanon
RCSI-Bahrain
The American University in Cairo, Egypt
The American University of Bahrain
 The British University in Egypt
 University of Pretoria

AUSTRALIA

Macquarie University
Monash University
 The Australian National University
University of Canberra
University of Melbourne
University of New South Wales (UNSW)
University of Sydney
 University of Technology, Sydney
University of Western Australia

ASIA PACIFIC

Cebu Doctors University, Philippines
 Kyung Hee University, South Korea
 Nanyang Technological University (NTU), Singapore
 Sophia University, Japan
Taylor's University, Malaysia
Tecnologico de Monterrey, Mexico
 Yonsei University - Underwood International College, South Korea
 UCSU University, Malaysia
University of Southampton, Malaysia
Universiti Teknologi Petronas (UTP), Malaysia
University of Tsukuba, Japan
 Waseda University, Japan

2025 POST-GRADUATE DESTINATIONS

USA	10%
Canada	3%
UK	6%
Europe	9%
UAE	9%
Asia	4%
Middle East	4%
Australia	4%
Military Service	21%

79%

OF GAA GRADUATES
ENTER HIGHER
EDUCATION

**this represents only scholars going directly to universities or who have declared destination. Most Emirati male graduates will report directly to National Service.*

COURSE OFFERINGS

ENGLISH

English Language Learning 9 - 12
English 9 & Honors 9
English 10 & Honors 10
English 11
English 12
Creative Writing
Public Speaking
Journalism

MATH

Integrated Math I
Integrated Math II & Honors
Integrated Math III & Honors
PreCalculus
Statistics & Probability

HUMANITIES

Social Studies
World Studies
Economics
Psychology
Global Politics
Geography

RELIGION

Islamic Studies
Moral Education*
(*not credit bearing)

SCIENCES

Biology
Chemistry
Computer Science
Physics
Physiology & Sport Science
Environmental Studies

WORLD LANGUAGES

French 1, 2 & 3
Spanish 1, 2 & 3
Native Arabic 9 - 12
Non-Native Arabic 9 - 12
Non-Native Arabic A & B

PHYSICAL EDUCATION

PE 9
Weight Training & Fitness

ARTS

Visual Arts I & II
Band I, II & III
Film Studies
Theater I & II
Digital Music I
Exploratory Theater
Design Technology
Visual Arts & Technical Theater

IBDP

English Language & Literature SL/HL
English Language & Culture SL/HL
French Ab Initio
French B SL/HL
Spanish Ab Initio
Spanish B SL/HL
Arabic B SL/HL
Self-Taught Language B
Business & Management SL/HL
Economics SL/HL
Psychology SL/HL
Biology SL/HL
Chemistry SL/HL
Physics SL/HL
Computer Science SL/HL
Physiology & Sports Sciences SL/HL
Math AA SL/HL
Math AI SL/HL
Visual Arts SL/HL

AP COURSES

Language and Composition
Literature and Composition
Macro Economics
Physics 1
Biology
Chemistry
Computer Science Principles
PreCalculus
Calculus A B

GRADING AT GAA

Beginning with the 2025-26 academic year, GAA standardized its grading scale from a 4.3 to a 4.0 maximum GPA to align with common U.S. grading conventions and Abu Dhabi Department of Education and Knowledge (ADEK)

%	A-F	IB		AP	GPA	
Aligned with ADEK		1 - 7		1 - 5	0 - 4.0	
Grade Scales	Letter	SL	HL		GPA Scale	IB SL/HL Addition AP Addition
97 - 100	A+	7	7	5	4.0	Additional 0.50 HL Additional 0.25 SL Additional 0.25 AP Additional 0.15 Honors
93 - 96	A	7	7	5	4.0	
90 - 92	A-	6	6	4	3.7	
87 - 89	B+	6	6	4	3.3	
83 - 86	B	5	5	4	3.0	
80 - 82	B-	5	5	3	2.7	
75 - 79	C+	4	4	3	2.3	
73 - 74	C	4	4	3	2.0	
70 - 72	C-	3	3	2	1.7	
67 - 69	D+	3	3	2	1.3	
65 - 66	D	2	2	2	1.0	
60 - 64	D-	2	2	1	0.5	
< 60	F	1	1	1	0	

EDUCATIONAL APPROACH

GEMS American Academy offers an enriched U.S. college preparatory curriculum leading to the awarding of an American curriculum High School Diploma, with options to take Advanced Placement (AP) or International Baccalaureate (IB) Diploma courses, or the full IB Diploma Programme.

English is the language of instruction, and all students are required to study a language in addition to English, for a minimum of three credits.

Rigorous academic offerings are complemented by a broad array of electives in the arts, sciences and humanities. Courses meet approximately 200 minutes a week.

Due to their rigor, AP and IB DP SL courses receive an additional GPA 0.25 weighting, IB DP HL courses receive an additional 0.50 weighting, and Honors courses receive an additional 0.15 weighting.

SCHEDULE

GEMS American Academy High School employs a block schedule. There are 5 periods per day, with each period being 70 minutes long. The school year is comprised of two semesters, divided into 2 quarters per semester to equal 4 quarters.

GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS

Students may enroll in up to eight courses each year. Students must earn a **minimum** of 25 credits by meeting an itemized sequence of courses in order to graduate. Students taking more advanced coursework may avail of a study hall in lieu of an 8th course (grades 11&12).

SUBJECT	CREDIT
English	4
Math	4
Science	4
Humanities	3
World Languages	3
Arts	1
PE	1
Electives	5
TOTAL	25

AP RESULTS

In our first year of offering Advanced Placement (AP), GAA students have achieved following results, with the Principles of Computer Science mean score showing attainment above national and global averages:

3+

ACHIEVED BY 57% OF TOTAL AP STUDENTS

3+

ON 70% OF PRECALCULUS EXAM

24%

OF SENIORS TOOK AT LEAST 1 AP EXAM

22%

OF JUNIORS TOOK AT LEAST 1 AP EXAM

CO-CURRICULAR OFFERINGS

GEMS American Academy offers both non-competitive and competitive sporting opportunities for high school students. Additionally, we also offer a wide range of academic and creative pursuits to enrich the school experience: athletics, school government, class organizations and special interest clubs are hands-on opportunities, available for all students to learn leadership skills and cultivate social engagement.

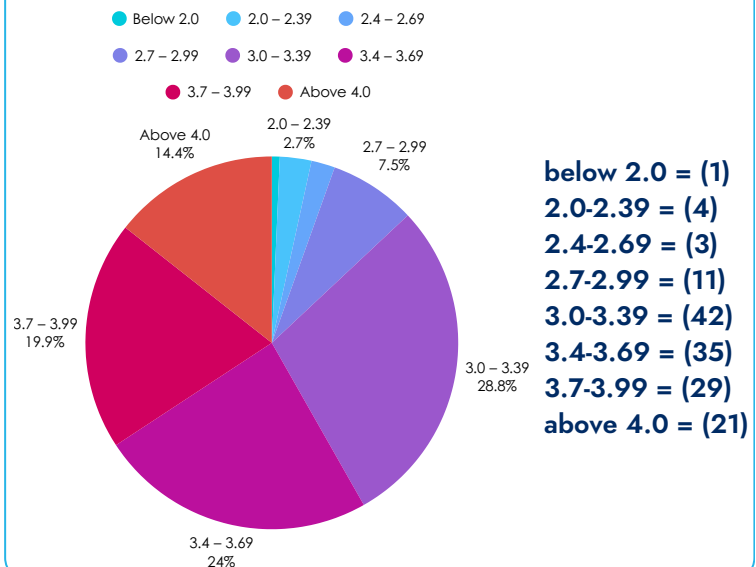
LAUDE SYSTEM

GAA uses an honors recognition system called the Laude System. This distinction is awarded to graduates who have received the highest levels of academic excellence as required by the school. We are pleased to be able to honor all of our students who work to attain the highest levels of academic achievement at GAA. Students must have completed 2 consecutive years of High School at GAA to be eligible for this distinction. The designation is made at the end of the 1st semester of a student's senior year.

Distinctions for the GAA Laude System are:

- **Summa Cum Laude (with highest honor)** 4.14 - 4.46
- **Magna Cum Laude (with great honor)** 4.02 - 4.13
- **Cum Laude (with honor)** 3.92 - 4.01

CLASS OF 2025 GPA STATISTICS



IBDP RESULTS

The class of 2025 at GAA is the 10th graduating full IBDP class.

* Our IBDP program has open enrollment policy.

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AVERAGE WORLD SCORE FOR DIPLOMA CANDIDATES

53%

OF SENIORS TOOK AT LEAST ONE IB COURSE

45

HIGHEST DIPLOMA SCORE AWARDED TO CANDIDATES

19%

OF SENIORS WERE FULL IB STUDENTS