



# HIGH SCHOOL PROFILE 2024

## 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

- IB PYP/DP SCHOOL
- CIS
- NEASC
- ABU DHABI DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION AND KNOWLEDGE (ADEK)
- UAE MINISTRY OF EDUCATION



دائرة التعليم والمعرفة  
 DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION  
 AND KNOWLEDGE



UNITED ARAB EMIRATES  
 MINISTRY OF EDUCATION

81

NATIONALITIES

153

GRADUATES

36

IB DIPLOMA  
 STUDENTS

92

STUDENTS  
 TOOK AT LEAST  
 ONE IB COURSE

40

LANGUAGES  
 SPOKEN

## ADMINISTRATION AND COUNSELORS

Head of School

**Mr. Robert Rinaldo**

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Secondary Principal

**Mr. Garth Wyncoll**

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Gr. 11-12 Vice-Principal

**Ms. Monica Martin**

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Gr. 9-10 Vice-Principal

**Ms. Zahra Bhatti**

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AP Coordinator

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IB Coordinator

**Mr. Elliot Brodie**

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Counselors

**Ms. Keisha McCray**

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**Ms. Lia Noronha**

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**Ms. Catherine Sciolis**

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This map represents the largest percentage of nationalities of the 2023-2024 student body.

3.5%  
CANADA

12%  
UNITED STATES

24%  
OTHERS

3.5%  
LATIN AMERICA

7%  
EUROPE

11%  
MIDDLE EAST

52%  
UAE

6.5%  
SE ASIA



# COLLEGE AND UNIVERSITY MATRICULATION, CLASS OF 2021-2024

THIS IS GAA'S 10TH GRADUATING CLASS, 2024 ACCEPTANCES ARE IN BOLD.

## UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

**California State University-Bakersfield**  
Christopher Newport University  
**Cornell University**  
**DePaul University**  
**Drexel University**  
**Eastern Florida State College**  
Florida Institute of Technology  
**Folsom College**  
George Mason University  
James Madison University  
**Michigan State University**  
Old Dominion University  
**Savannah College of Art and Design**  
**Suffolk University**  
**The Pennsylvania State University**  
**University of California-Santa Barbara**  
University of Central Florida  
University of Colorado Boulder  
University of Mary Washington  
**University of Pittsburgh-Pittsburgh Campus**  
**University of San Diego**  
Virginia Commonwealth University  
Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State 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  
**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 Bradford  
University of Bristol  
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 Suffolk  
University of Surrey  
University of Sussex  
University of Westminster, London

## ASIA PACIFIC

**Kyung Hee University**  
**Nanyang Technological University (NTU)**  
**Yonsei University - Underwood International College**  
UCSI University  
Waseda University

## AUSTRALIA & NEW ZEALAND

Macquarie University  
**The Australian National University**  
**University of New South Wales (UNSW)**  
**University of Sydney**  
**University of Technology, Sydney**

## 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 Guelph**  
University of Ottawa  
**University of Toronto**  
University of Victoria  
University of Waterloo  
York University

## EUROPEAN UNION

Constructor University  
EM Normandie  
**Erasmus University Rotterdam**  
ESCP Business School  
**EU Business School**  
European University of Valencia  
**Howest University of Applied Sciences**  
**Humanitas, Italy**  
**IADE Portugal**  
IE University  
Leiden University  
Maastricht University  
**Medical University of Warsaw**  
Saint Louis University Madrid  
**Sophia University**  
The Hague University of Applied Sciences  
**Tilburg University**  
Trinity College Dublin  
**TU Eindhoven**  
**Universidad Europea de Madrid**  
**Università Cattolica del Sacro Cuore**  
**University of Amsterdam**  
**University of Groningen**  
Vrije Universiteit Amsterdam

## UNITED ARAB EMIRATES

**American University in Dubai**  
**American University of Sharjah**  
Canadian University Dubai  
Curtain University Dubai  
**Emirates Flight training academy**  
Fatima College of Health Sciences  
**GBS DUBAI**  
**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**  
Sorbonne University Abu Dhabi  
**United Arab Emirates University**  
**University of Birmingham Dubai**  
**University of Wollongong in Dubai**  
**Zayed University**

## MIDDLE EAST / AFRICA

**The British University in Egypt**  
**University of Pretoria**  
German University in Cairo  
RCSI-Bahrain

## 2024 POST MATRICULATION

USA	19%
Canada	9%
UK	19%
Europe	14%
UAE	38%
Asia	5%
Middle East	1%
Australia	5%
Military Service	27%

**73%\***  
OF GAA GRADUATES  
ENTER HIGHER  
EDUCATION

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

GAA CURRICULUM  
IS RATED  
**OUTSTANDING**  
BY ABU DHABI DEPARTMENT  
OF EDUCATION AND  
KNOWLEDGE (ADEK)

**70%**  
OF GAA FACULTY  
HAVE ADVANCED  
DEGREES

GAA FACULTY  
MEMBERS REPRESENT  
**29**  
NATIONALITIES



## COURSE OFFERINGS

### ENGLISH

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

### MATH

Integrated Math I  
 Integrated Math II & Honors  
 Integrated Math III & Honors  
 Math Foundations  
 Statistical Mathematics

### SOCIAL STUDIES

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  
 Non-Native Arabic  
 Arabic, A & B

### PHYSICAL EDUCATION

PE 9  
 Weight Training & Fitness

### ARTS

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

### IBDP

English Language & Literature 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  
 Math AA SL/HL  
 Math AI SL/HL  
 Visual Arts SL/HL

### AP COURSES

English and Composition  
 Macro Economics  
 Physics AB  
 Biology  
 Chemistry  
 Computer Science Principles  
 PreCalculus

## ASSESSMENT CONVERSION CHART

DESCRIPTION	GRADE DESCRIPTION	IB SCORE	AP SCORE	LETTER GRADES	GRADING SCALE
MASTERY	Student demonstrates exemplary application of learning standards.	7	5	A+	4.3
		6		A	4.0
PROFICIENT	Student demonstrates proficient application of learning standards.	5	4	A-	3.7
		4		B+	3.3
DEVELOPING	Student is approaching proficiency of learning standards; some evidence of application of key concepts, processes and skills.	3	3	B	3.0
		2		B-	2.7
		1		C+	2.3
EMERGING	Student demonstrates limited application of learning standards; limited evidence of application of key concepts, processes and skills.	3	2	C	2.0
		2		C-	1.7
INSUFFICIENT	Student does not yet demonstrate sufficient application of learning standards; does not meet minimum learning expectations at this time.	1	1	D+	1.3
		1		D	1.0
INCOMPLETE	Student did not submit sufficient evidence of learning performance to be appraised.	IN	1	F	0.0
				IN	I



## EDUCATIONAL APPROACH

GEMS American Academy offers an enriched U.S. college preparatory curriculum leading to a US High School Diploma, a US High School Diploma with AP & IB course(s) or International Baccalaureate Diploma curriculum. English is the language of instruction. All students are required to study a language in addition to English, for a minimum of three credits.

Rigorous academic offerings, including AP & IB diploma courses, are complemented by a broad array of electives in the arts, sciences and humanities. 2024-2025 is the 1st time that GAA is offering AP courses.

One credit is earned by completing two semesters of a course. For students who will sit AP or IB exams, 0.25 weight or 0.50 IB HL weight will be added to the final quality points for the year. Courses meet approximately 200 minutes a week.

## SCHEDULE

GEMS American Academy High School employs a block schedule. There are 4 periods per day, with each period being 85 minutes long. The school year is divided into four quarters, two semesters.

## GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS

Students may enroll in up to eight courses each year. Students must earn a minimum of 25 credits by meeting itemized sequence in order to graduate.

### SUBJECT

### CREDIT

English	4
Math	4
Science	4
Social Studies	3
World Languages	3
Arts	1
PE	1
Other	5

### TOTAL

25

## 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.

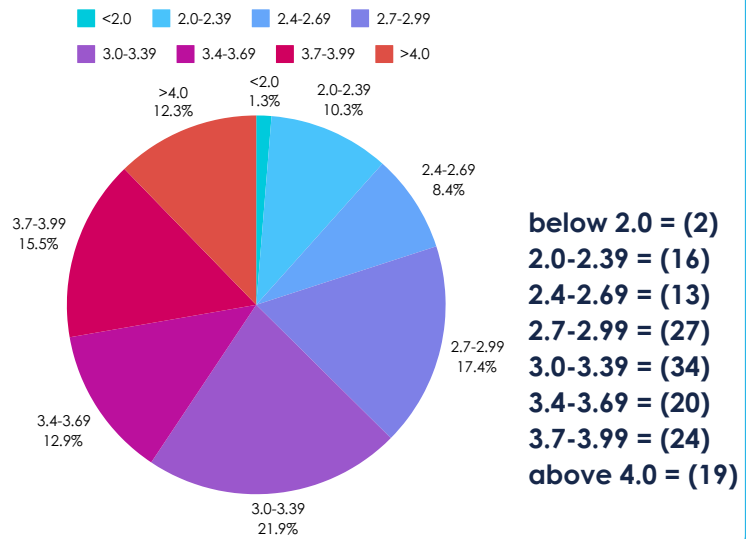
## LAUDE SYSTEM

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.

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 2024 GPA STATISTICS



## IBDP RESULTS

The class of 2024 at GAA is the 9th full IBDP graduating class.

\* Our IBDP program is open enrollment.

30

AVERAGE WORLD SCORE FOR DIPLOMA CANDIDATES

60%

OF SENIORS TOOK AT LEAST ONE IB COURSE

37

HIGHEST DIPLOMA SCORE AWARDED TO CANDIDATES

23%

OF SENIORS WERE FULL IB STUDENTS