## SCHOOL PROFILE | 2020-2021



## Mission

Our mission is to be an exemplary learning community-enriched by differences, informed through inquiry, global in reach.

## School and Community

Washington International School is an independent, coeducational day school serving the international and American communities in the nation's capital. Founded in 1966, WIS was one of the first schools in the US authorized to implement the International Baccalaureate Diploma Program (DP).

The school enrolls 900 students in Pre-Kindergarten through Grade 12. The WIS graduating class of 2020 numbered 58 students. Our students and their parents represent more than 90 nations. Approximately $16 \%$ of students receive financial aid.

## Faculty

Faculty and staff members come from more than 30 countries. Over seventy percent of the faculty hold master's degrees or higher.

## Class Size

The average Upper School class size is 10 students.

Head: Suzanna Jemsby
Upper School Principal:
Sarah Polland
College Counseling Coordinator:
Abby Krolik
(202) 495-7349 abby.krolik@wis.edu

## CEEB Code: 090226

## Accreditation:

CIS \& Middle States

## Curriculum

All students are enrolled in a rigorous college preparatory curriculum. Two key components of our curriculum are internationalism and the learning of more than one language. In the primary years, our youngest students are fully immersed in French or Spanish; children in Grades 1-5 follow a dual-language program in English and either French or Spanish. By the time they get to the upper grades, most students are fluent in their second language.
All students in Grades 11 and 12 follow the International Baccalaureate (IB) curriculum, a highly demanding honors program. While nearly all students pursue the full IB Diploma Program, some choose to take a different combination of higher and standard level courses, making them eligible to receive individual Certificates, rather than the Diploma.

## Over their four years in the Upper School, students will have completed:

English: 4 years
Math: 4 years (including algebra, geometry, trigonometry and calculus for all)
$2^{\text {nd }}$ Language: 4 years
Additional Language: optional
Social Sciences: 4-7 years
Lab Sciences: 4-7 years
Arts Courses: 2 years required
Grade 10 Project: $1 / 2$ year
Community Service: 80 hours
Theory of Knowledge: $11 / 2$ years
Physical Education 2-4 years

## IB Diploma Program

In Grades 11 and 12 students must select one subject from each of the six groups.

## Individuals

 \& SocietiesHistory HL/SL Geography HL/SL Economics HL/SL Psychology HL/SL

## Mathematics

Analyses \&
Approaches HL/SL
Applications \& Interpretation HL/SL

UPPER SCHOOL COURSE REQUIREMENTS

| Grade 9 | Grade 10 | Grades 11 and 12 |
| :--- | :--- | :--- |
| English | English | 3 DP Higher Levels |
| $2^{\text {nd }}$ Language | $2^{\text {nd }}$ Language | 3 DP Standard Levels |
| Math | Math | (must include English, math, <br> Iab science, social science, <br> and foreign language) |
| Geography (semester) | History | Continuation of two: <br> Biology/Chemistry/Physics |
| History (semester) | Choice of at least two: Third Science, <br> Chinese, Language Tutorial, Geography, <br> Programming and Physical Computing, <br> Journalism, Music (Vocal/Choral or <br> Instrumental), Visual Art 2D or 3D, <br> Photography, Film and Design, Narrative <br> Biology/Chemistry/Physics | Theory of Knowledge <br> Art/Music/Theatre Arts/Journalism/ <br> Design Technology/Yearbook/Advanced <br> Photography/Advanced Robotics/Narrative <br> Film Production/Language Tutorial |
| Choice of at least two: Third Science, <br> Chinese, Language Tutorial, Programming <br> and Physical Computing, Journalism, Music <br> (Vocal/Choral or Instrumental), <br> Visual Art 2D or 3D, Photography, Film and <br> Design, Narrative Film, <br> Design Technology, Theater Arts | Extended Essay |  |
|  | Grade 10 Project |  |
| Community Service | Community Service | Creativity, Activity, Service |
| Physical Education | Physical Education |  |

## CLASS OF 2020 HIGHLIGHTS

58 students in the Class of $2020 \cdot 31$ students were at WIS since at least 1st grade • $95 \%$ of students in the IB Diploma Program • 98\% of WIS candidates earned the IB Diploma while 85\% of the candidates worldwide earned the IB Diploma • 69.1\% of WIS IB Diplomas were the prestigious Bilingual Diploma in comparison to $26 \%$ of world-wide candidates • $50 \%$ of WIS students' marks were 6's or 7's • 5.48 average IB subject mark at WIS compared to 4.95 worldwide subject mark • 34.3 average WIS IB Diploma score compared to 31.4 worldwide IB Diploma score • 46 are attending college in the US • 12 are attending universities abroad • 6 are taking a gap year

## STANDARDIZED TESTS

| ACT SUMMARY |  |  | SAT SUBJECT TEST SCORES |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | Mid 50\% | Mean | (5 or more exams) |  |  |
| ELA | 30-36 | 32 |  | Mid 50\% | Mean |
| English | 30-35 | 32 | Chemistry | 660-760 | 721 |
| Math | 26-31 | 28 | English Literature | 633-793 | 708 |
| Reading | 27-36 | 31 | French | 720-800 | 729 |
| Science | 25-33 | 30 | Math Level I | 640-660 | 653 |
| Writing | 8-10 | 8 | Math Level II | 680-790 | 720 |
| Composite | 27-33 | 30 | Physics | 710-780 | 733 |
| SAT SUMMARY |  |  | Spanish | 730-800 | 761 |
|  | Mid 50\% | Mean |  |  |  |
| ERW | 650-750 | 700 |  |  |  |
| Mathematics | 640-770 | 690 |  |  |  |
| Total | 1280-1510 | 1380 |  |  |  |

## AWARD TOTAL

Not all students in the Classes of 2019 and 2020 were eligible due to citizenship restrictions.

9 National Hispanic Scholar
17 National Merit Commended

1 National Merit Semifinalist
6 Presidential Scholar Nominee
1 Presidential Scholar Semifinalist

| IB EXAM GRADE DISTRIBUTION |  |  |
| :--- | :---: | :---: |
| Exam | WIS \% | World \% |
| Grade |  |  |
| 7 | $20 \%$ | $12 \%$ |
| 6 | $30 \%$ | $24 \%$ |
| 5 | $30 \%$ | $28 \%$ |
| 4 | $17 \%$ | $23 \%$ |
| 3 and below | $3 \%$ | $13 \%$ |
| (World IB statistics come from an IBO |  |  |
| publication.) |  |  |


| AP EXAM GRADE DISTRIBUTION |  |  |  |  |  |
| :--- | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Subject | $\mathbf{5}$ | $\mathbf{4}$ | $\mathbf{3}$ | $\mathbf{2}$ | $\mathbf{1}$ |
| French | 16 | 6 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Spanish | 24 | 8 | 2 | 1 | 0 |
| TOTALS | 40 | 14 | 2 | 1 | 0 |

## EXTRACURRICULAR ACTIVITIES

## GRADING SYSTEMS

On top of the demands of their IB classes, WIS students participate in multiple extracurricular activities on campus and off. Some of our offerings at WIS include:
Clubs: Asian Heritage, Black Student Union, Chess, Debate, Girls Who Code, Global Issues Network, Latinx/Hispanic Student Union, Math, Merch Madness, Mock Trial, MUN, Operation Smile,
Physics, Pride Alliance, Reading Partners, Robotics, Space, Student Diversity Leadership, Students Standing, UNICEF
Publications: International Dateline (online student newspaper), Yearbook
Sports: Basketball, Cross Country, Golf, Soccer, Softball, Swimming, Tennis, Track, Ultimate Frisbee, Volleyball
Student Government: International Student Union
Theater Productions: Fall \& Spring Musicals, Winter Play, Senior Produced Plays

## Transcripts

The school uses an internal 7-point scale for grading students in 9-12 (see chart at right). Not all of the work that students are graded on will be included in the final IB mark; therefore grades on the transcript should not be interpreted as predicted IB grades.

## Ranking and Weighting

WIS does not rank its students. Acknowledging the significant demands of the IB curriculum, a weighting scheme is used which recognizes the comparative difficulty of higher level courses. Courses designated as HL have a weight of 1.1. All courses award 5 credits per semester with the following exceptions: Grades 9 and 10 Phys. Ed. and Theory of Knowledge courses are .3 credits per semester; Grade 10 Project is .3 credits in fall semester of Grade 10 year; courses with $11 / 12$ in the title are .2 credits per semester.

| GRADE | DESCRIPTOR |
| :---: | :---: |
| 7 | Excellent |
| 7- |  |
| 6+ | Very Good |
| 6 |  |
| 6- |  |
| 5+ | Good |
| 5 |  |
| 5- |  |
| 4+ | Satisfactory |
| 4 |  |
| 4- |  |
| $3+$ and below | Failing |

## WIS Matriculation for Classes of 2017-2020, by Country:

## Australia

University of Queensland (1)

## Belgium

Katholieke Universiteit Leuven (2)

## Canada

*McGill University (10)
Quest University (1)
University of British Columbia (3)
University of British Columbia-Okanagan Campus (1)
*University of Toronto (13)
*University of Waterloo (1)

## France

*Sciences Po-Columbia University Dual BA Program (1)

## Italy

SDA Bocconi School of Management (1)

## Netherlands

Erasmus University-Rotterdam (2)

## Spain

Charles III University of Madrid (1)
*IE University-Segovia (1)

## United Kingdom

Durham University (2)
Imperial College London (1)
King's College London (1)
London School of Economics and Political Science (1)
University College London (2)
University of Aberdeen (1)
University of Bristol (4)
*University of Cambridge (4)
University of Edinburgh (6)
University of Exeter (1)
University of Oxford (2)
*University of St. Andrews (1)
University of Sussex (2)
University of Warwick (1)

United States of America
American University (1)
Babson College (2)
Bard College (1)
*Barnard College (1)
*Boston College (2)
Boston University (2)
Brown University (2)
*Bryn Mawr College (2)
Bucknell University (1)
*California Institute of Technology (CalTech) (2)
Carleton College (2)
Colgate University (1)
College of the Holy Cross (1)
*College of William \& Mary (5)
Colorado College (1)
Columbia University (1)
Connecticut College (1)
The Cooper Union for the Advancement of Science \& Art (1)
*Cornell University (3)
*Dartmouth College (1)
Davidson College (1)
*Drexel University (1)
Duke University (2)
*Embry-Riddle Aeronautical UniversityDaytona Beach (1)
Emory University (1)
Franklin Olin College of Engineering (1)
The George Washington University (3)
*Georgetown University (5)
Georgia Institute of Technology (2)
Harvard University (1)
*Harvey Mudd College (1)
Haverford College (3)
Indiana University Bloomington (1)
Ithaca College (1)
Johns Hopkins University (2)
*Massachusetts Institute of Technology (1)
*New York University (12)
Northeastern University (4)
Oberlin College (1)
Ohio State University (1)
*Pennsylvania State University (1)
Pitzer College (1)

Pratt Institute (1)
Purdue University (1)
Rhode Island School of Design (RISD) (1)
Savannah College of Art \& Design (SCAD) (1)
*Sciences Po-Columbia University Dual BA Program (1)
Spelman College (2)
Stanford University (1)
Swarthmore College (1)
Syracuse University (1)
*The New School (2)
*Towson University (1)
Tufts University (2)
University of Arizona (1)
*University of California, Berkeley (5)
*University of California, Los Angeles (5)
*University of California,
Santa Barbara (2)
*University of Chicago (7)
University of Colorado, Boulder (1)
*University of Maryland, Baltimore County (1)
University of Maryland, College Park (3)
*University of Michigan (11)
*University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill (3)
*University of Pennsylvania (9)
*University of Pittsburgh (2)
University of Southern California (2)
University of Virginia (4)
University of Washington (2)
University of Wisconsin, Madison (1)
*Vanderbilt University (3)
*Virginia Commonwealth University (1)
Wake Forest University (1)
*Washington University in St. Louis (2)
*Wellesley College (1)
*Yale University (2)
(*) Indicates a university/college attended by at least one member of the Class of 2020.

