SCHOOL PROFILE | 2019-2020







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 2019 numbered 57 students. Our students and their parents represent more than 90 nations. Approximately 13% 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.

3100 Macomb Street NW Washington DC 20008-3324 Tel: (202) 243-1800 Fax: (202) 243-1802 www.wis.edu Head: Suzanna Jemsby Upper School Principal: Sarah Polland

College Counseling Coordinator: Abby Krolik (202) 495-7349 abby.krolik@wis.edu **University Counselors:** Pamela C. Joos (202) 243-1845 pam.joos@wis.edu

Joanna C. Tudge (202) 243-1683 joanna.tudge@wis.edu CEEB Code: 090226 Accreditation: CIS & Middle States

THE WIS EXPERIENCE

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) 2nd Language: 4 years Additional Language: optional Social Sciences: 4–7 years Lab Sciences: 4–7 years Arts Courses: 2 years required Grade 10 Project: ½ year Community Service: 80 hours Theory of Knowledge: 1½ years Physical Education 2–4 years

International Baccalaureate Courses

In 11th and 12th grades students must select one subject from each of the six subject areas.*

Language Acquisition French HL/SL* Spanish HL/SL* Chinese SL Other languages on a tutorial basis *also available ab initio

Sciences

Biology HL/SL

Chemistry HL/SL

Physics HL/SL

Design Technology

HL/SL

Environmental

Systems and

Societies SL

Studies in Language and Literature English HL/SL (required)

French HL/SL Spanish HL/SL Other languages on a tutorial basis

> Extended Essay

Theory of Knowledge

Creativity, Activity, Service

Arts Music HL/SL Theatre Arts HL/SL

Visual Arts HL/SL Another language, Individuals & Societies, or Science course Individuals & Societies

History HL/SL Geography HL/SL Economics HL/SL Psychology HL/SL

Mathematics

Analysis & Approaches HL/SL Applications & Interpretation HL/SL

*Some WIS students have elected to participate in online IB instruction through Pamoja.

UPPER SCHOOL COURSE REQUIREMENTS			
9 th Grade	10 th Grade	11 th and 12 th Grades	
English	English	3 DP Higher Levels	
2 nd Language	2 nd Language	3 DP Standard Levels	
Math	Math	(must include English, math,	
Geography (semester)		lab science, social science, and foreign language)	
History (semester)	History		
Choice of two:	Continuation of two:	Theory of Knowledge	
Biology/Chemistry/Physics Biology/Chemistry/Physics		Extended Essay	
Choice of at least two: Third Science, Chinese, Language Tutorial, Programming: Physical Computing or SWIFT, Journalism, Music (Vocal/Choral or Instrumental), Visual Art 2D or 3D, Photography, Film and Design, Introduction to Narrative Film, Design Technology, Theater Arts	Choice of at least two: Third Science, Chinese, Language Tutorial, Geography, Journalism, Music (Vocal/Choral or Instrumental), Visual Art 2D or 3D, Photography, Film and Design, Introduction to Narrative Film, Design Technology, Theater Arts	Optional Electives: Art/Music/Theatre Arts/Journalism/ Design Technology/Yearbook/Advanced Photography	
	Grade 10 Project		
Community Service	Community Service	Creativity, Activity, Service	
Physical Education	Physical Education		

CLASS OF 2019 HIGHLIGHTS

57 students in the Class of 2019 • 19 students were at WIS since at least 1st grade • 96% of students in the IB Diploma Program • 100% of WIS candidates earned the IB Diploma while 77.4% of the candidates worldwide earned the IB Diploma • 54.6% of WIS IB Diplomas were the prestigious Bilingual Diploma in comparison to 23.7% of world-wide candidates • 45% of WIS students' marks were 6's or 7's • 5.33 average IB subject mark at WIS compared to 4.63 worldwide subject mark • 34 average WIS IB Diploma score compared to 29.6 worldwide IB Diploma score • 40 are attending college in the US • 16 are attending universities abroad • 1 are taking a gap year (Worldwide scores are 2019.)

STANDARDIZED TESTS

Mid 50%

623-738

570-710

645-770

690-790 731

633-695 658

685-785 728

700-770 730

660-758 698

Mean

675

643

701

SAT SUBJECT TEST SCORES

(5 or more exams)

Biology Molecular

English Literature

Chemistry

Math Level I

Math Level II

French

Physics

Spanish

ACT SUMMARY

	Mid 50%	Mean
ELA	29-34	28
English	27-34	28
Math	26-32	27
Reading	29-34	29
Science	25-34	27
STEM	25-33	27
Writing	8-10	8
Composite	28-33	31

SAT SUMMARY

	Mid 50%	Mean
ERW	660-730	695
Mathematics	670-753	699
Total	1330-1473	1388

AWARD TOTAL

Not all students in the Classes of 2018 and 2019 were eligible due to citizenship restrictions.

1

- 6 National Hispanic Scholar
- **12** National Merit Commended
- 3 Presidential Scholar Nominee
 - 2 Presidential Scholar Semifinalist

National Merit Semifinalist

EXTRACURRICULAR ACTIVITIES

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: Black Student Union, Debate, Girls Who Code, Global Issues Network, Happiness Club, Investment Club, Latinx/ Hispanic Student Union, Math Club, MUN, Operation Smile, Pride Alliance, Reading Partners, 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: 9th and 10th 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.

IB EXAM GRADE DISTRIBUTION			
Exam Grade	WIS %	World % (2019)	
7	16%	7%	
6	30%	21%	
5	32%	28%	
4	18%	25%	
3 and below	4%	19%	

(World IB statistics come from an IBO publication.)

AP EXAM GRADE DISTRIBUTION					
Subject	5	4	3	2	1
French	8	9	0	1	0
Spanish	12	13	2	1	0
TOTALS	20	22	2	2	0

GRADING SYSTEMS

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

WIS Matriculation for Classes of 2016-2019, by Country:

Australia

University of Queensland (1)

Belgium

*Katholieke Universiteit Leuven (2)

Canada

*McGill University (7)
Quest University (1)
*University of British Columbia (3)
University of British Columbia–Okanagan Campus (1)
*University of Toronto (12)

Netherlands

Erasmus University–Rotterdam (2)

Spain

Universidad Carlos III de Madrid (1)

United Kingdom

Durham University (3) *Imperial College London (2) King's College London (1) London School of Economics and Political Science (2) School of Oriental and African Studies (1) University College London (3) University of Aberdeen (1) University of Bristol (7) University of Cambridge (3) *University of Edinburgh (7) University of Exeter (1) University of Manchester (1) *University of Oxford (2) University of Southampton (1) University of St. Andrews (1) *University of Sussex (3) University of Warwick (2)

United States of America

American University (2) Babson College (2) Bard College (1) Barnard College (1) Boston College (3) *Boston University (1) Brown University (2) *Bryn Mawr College (1) *Bucknell University (1) California Institute of Technology (1) Carleton College (2) Carnegie Mellon University (1) Claremont McKenna College (2) Colgate University (1) College of the Holy Cross (1) *College of William & Mary (3) *Colorado College (2) Columbia University (1) *Connecticut College (1) *The Cooper Union for the Advancement of Science & Art (1) *Cornell University (3) *Dartmouth College (2) Davidson College (1) Duke University (2) Emory University (1) Franklin Olin College of Engineering (1) George Mason University (1) *The George Washington University (3) *Georgetown University (3) *Georgia Institute of Technology (3) *Harvard University (1) *Haverford College (3) *Indiana University Bloomington (1) Ithaca College (1) James Madison University (1) Johns Hopkins University (2) Middlebury College (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) Princeton University (1) Purdue University (1) Rhode Island School of Design (1) Savannah College of Art & Design (1) Sciences Po-Columbia University Dual BA Program (1) Spelman College (2) Stanford University (2) *Swarthmore College (3) Syracuse University (1) The New School (1) *Tufts University (2) Tulane University (1) University of Arizona (1) *University of California, Berkeley (6) University of California, Davis (1) *University of California, Los Angeles (6) *University of California, Santa Barbara (2) University of Chicago (6) University of Colorado, Boulder (1) *University of Maryland, College Park (6) *University of Michigan (8) University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill (2) *University of Pennsylvania (10) *University of Pittsburgh (1) University of Richmond (1) University of Southern California (2) *University of Virginia (6) *University of Washington (2) *University of Wisconsin, Madison (2) Wake Forest University (1) Washington University in St. Louis (1) Williams College (1) Yale University (3)

*Indicates a university destination for a member of the Class of 2019.



