



## WASHINGTON INTERNATIONAL SCHOOL



### Mission

The mission of Washington International School is to provide a demanding international education that will challenge students to become responsible and effective world citizens.

### 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). All students in Grades 11 and 12 are enrolled in the Diploma Program.

The school enrolls 900 students in Pre-Kindergarten through Grade 12. The WIS graduating class of 2014 numbered 69 students. Our students and their parents represent more than 80 nations. Approximately 15% of students receive financial aid.

### Faculty

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

### Class Size

The average Upper School class size is 11 students.

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ACCREDITATION:  
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## 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, Spanish or Dutch. By the time they get to the upper grades, most students are fluent in their second language.

All students in Grades 11 and 12 take International Baccalaureate (IB) Diploma Program (DP) courses, a highly demanding honors program. Typically 96% of students pursue the full IB Diploma Program. Other students complete the same courses as the Diploma candidates, with a different combination of higher and standard level courses.

### 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<sup>nd</sup> Language:** 4 years

**Additional Language:** optional

**Social Sciences:** 4–7 years

**Lab Sciences:** 4–7 years

**Arts Courses:** 1 year required

**Grade 10 Project:** ½ year

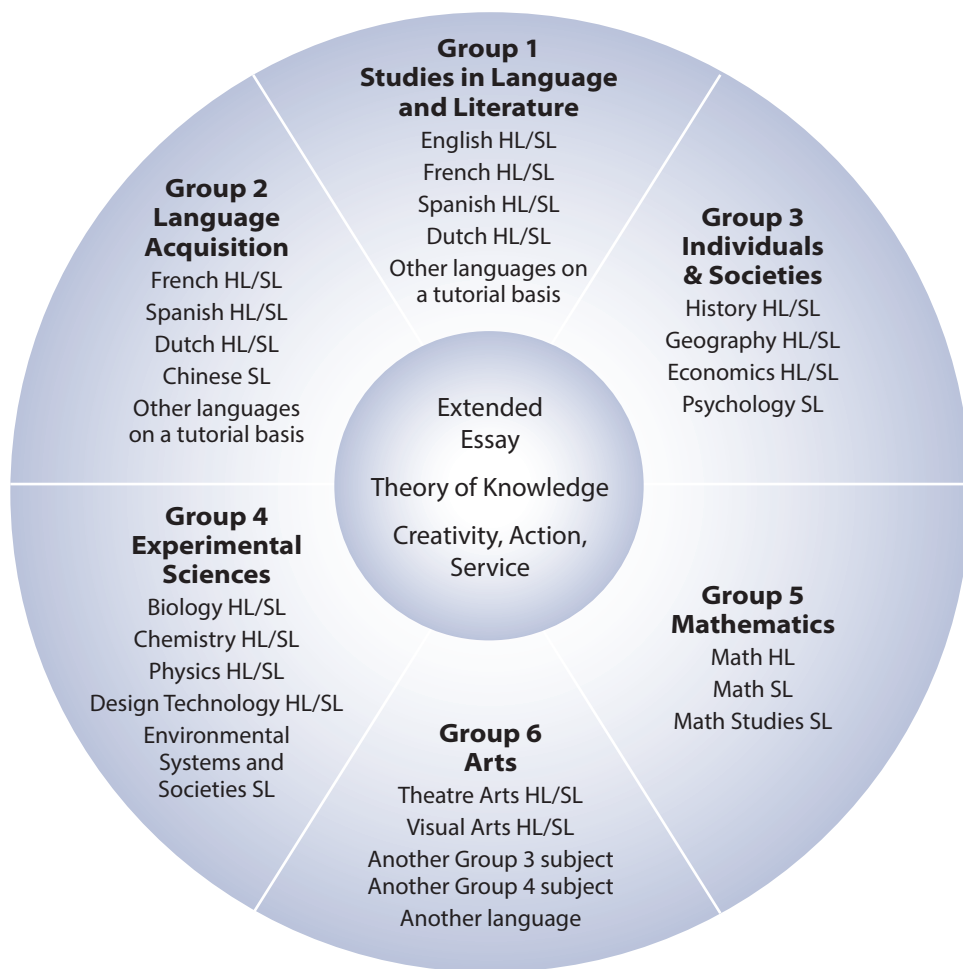
**Community Service:** 80 hours

**Theory of Knowledge:** 1½ years

**PE:** 2–4 years

## IB Diploma Program

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



## UPPER SCHOOL COURSE REQUIREMENTS

9 <sup>th</sup> Grade	10 <sup>th</sup> Grade	11 <sup>th</sup> and 12 <sup>th</sup> Grades
English	English	3 DP Higher Levels
2 <sup>nd</sup> Language	2 <sup>nd</sup> Language	3 DP Standard Levels
Math	Math	(must include English, math, lab science, social science, and foreign language)
Geography (semester)		
History (semester)	History	
Choice of two: Biology/Chemistry/Physics	Continuation of two: Biology/Chemistry/Physics	Theory of Knowledge Extended Essay
Choice of at least two: Additional Language/Art/Music/Drama/Journalism/Design Technology/Digital Design/Photography and Film/Computer Systems, Programming and Robotics/Third Science	Choice of at least two: Additional Language/Geography/Art/Music/ Drama/Journalism/ Design Technology/ Digital Design/ Photography and Film/Computer Systems, Programming and Robotics/Third Science	Optional Electives (one): Art/Music/Drama/Journalism/ Design Technology/PE
	Grade 10 Project	
Community Service	Community Service	Creativity, Action, Service
PE	PE	

# CLASS OF 2014 HIGHLIGHTS

69 students in the Class of 2014 • 26 students were at WIS since at least 1st grade • 97% of students in the IB Diploma Program • 92% of WIS candidates earned the IB Diploma while 79% of the candidates worldwide earned the IB Diploma • 68% of students also earned the prestigious IB Bilingual Diploma in comparison to 28% of worldwide candidates • 53% of WIS students' marks were 6's or 7's • 5.6 average IB subject mark at WIS compared to 4.7 average worldwide (2013) subject mark • 34.8 mean WIS IB Diploma score compared to 29.9 mean worldwide IB Diploma score • 47 are attending college in the US • 19 are attending universities abroad • 3 are taking a gap year

## STANDARDIZED TESTS

### SAT

	Mid 50%	Mean
Critical Reading	630 – 720	670
Math	620 – 740	669
Writing	640 – 740	676

\* Many students at WIS speak a language other than English at home.

### SAT SUBJECT TESTS

#### (5 or more exams)

	Mid 50%	Mean
Biology - Molecular	520 – 660	604
Chemistry	570 – 730	666
English Literature	620 – 730	669
French	710 – 790	732
Math Level I	610 – 690	640
Math Level II	660 – 780	719
Physics	670 – 750	705
Spanish	710 – 800	742

### IB EXAM GRADE DISTRIBUTION

Exam Grade	WIS %	World % (2013)
7	15%	7%
6	38%	21%
5	29%	29%
4	14%	25%
3 and below	4%	18%

(World IB statistics come from an IBO publication.)

### DISTINCTIONS

108 students out of 130 were eligible in the Classes of 2013 and 2014.

- |  |  |
|--|--|
| 1 National Achievement Scholar           | 11 National Merit Commended Students     |
| 1 National Achievement Commended Student | 1 National Merit Semi Finalist           |
| 1 National Hispanic Scholars             | 1 Presidential Scholar Nominee           |
|  | 1 Presidential Scholarship Semi Finalist |

### AP EXAM GRADE DISTRIBUTION

Subject	5	4	3	2	1
French	14	10	3	0	0
Italian	2	0	0	0	0
Spanish	11	3	2	0	0
	27	13	5	0	0

## 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:** Amnesty International, African-American Culture Club, Arlington Academy of Hope, Fiesta International, Gender Equality Club, Global Issues Network, Guitar Club, Matha's Table, Model OAS, Model United Nations, Reading Club, Sexual Orientation Alliance, Varsity Math Club

**Publications:** *International Dateline* (online student newspaper), *Faust* (literary magazine), Yearbook, News Action (online)

**Sports:** Baseball, Basketball, Cross Country, Golf, Soccer, Softball, Swimming, Tennis, Track, Volleyball

**Student Government:** International Student Union

**Theater Productions:** Fall & Spring Musicals, Winter Play, Senior Produced Plays

## GRADING SYSTEM

### 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; thus grades on the transcript should not be interpreted as predicted IB grades.

### Ranking and Weighting

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 0.5 credits per semester with the following exceptions: 9th and 10th Phys. Ed. and Theory of Knowledge courses are 0.3 credits per semester; courses with 11/12 in the title are 0.2 credits per semester.

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

**Number of WIS Students Enrolled:**

**Canada**

McGill University (21)  
 University of Toronto (4)  
 University of British Columbia (3)  
 Emily Carr University of Art + Design (1)

**Chile**

Pontificia Universidad Católica de Chile (1)

**France**

École Nationale Supérieure d'Architecture de Paris - Val de Seine (1)  
 Sciences Po - Columbia University Dual BA Program (1)

**Germany**

RWTH Aachen University (1)  
 University of Frankfurt (1)

**Netherlands**

Amsterdam University College (1)  
 Leiden University (1)  
 University College Maastricht (1)  
 University College Utrecht (1)  
 University of Amsterdam (1)  
 University of Groningen (1)

**Portugal**

Universidade Nove de Lisboa

**Sweden**

University of Gothenburg

**United Kingdom**

University of St. Andrews (6)  
 University of Cambridge (3)  
 University of Oxford (3)  
 Imperial College London (2)  
 University College London (2)  
 University of Bath (2)  
 University of Edinburgh (2)  
 Durham University (1)  
 Queen Mary, University of London (1)  
 University of East Anglia (1)  
 University of Glasgow (1)

University of Manchester (1)  
 University of Sheffield (1)  
 University of Surrey (1)  
 University of Sussex (1)  
 University of Warwick (1)  
 University of Westminster (1)  
 University of York (1)

**United States**

University of California, Berkeley (9)  
 New York University (6)  
 University of California, San Diego (6)  
 University of Virginia (6)  
 Columbia University (5)  
 University of Wisconsin, Madison (5)  
 Boston University (4)  
 Haverford College (4)  
 Johns Hopkins University (4)  
 Northwestern University (4)  
 Stanford University (4)  
 University of Maryland, College Park (4)  
 Vassar College (4)  
 Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University (4)  
 American University (3)  
 College of William and Mary (3)  
 Cornell University (3)  
 Drexel University (3)  
 Pennsylvania State University, University Park (3)  
 Swarthmore College (3)  
 Tufts University (3)  
 University of California, Los Angeles (3)  
 University of Southern California (3)  
 Washington University in St. Louis (3)  
 Duke University (2)  
 Franklin and Marshall College (2)  
 Georgia Institute of Technology (2)  
 Northeastern University (2)  
 Princeton University (2)  
 Rhode Island School of Design (2)  
 University of Chicago (2)  
 University of Pennsylvania (2)  
 Yale University (2)  
 Bard College (1)  
 Barry University (1)  
 Berklee College of Music (1)  
 Boston College (1)  
 Carleton College (1)  
 Carnegie Mellon University (1)  
 Champlain College (1)  
 Colorado College (1)  
 Connecticut College (1)  
 Dartmouth College (1)  
 Dickinson College (1)  
 Elon University (1)  
 Fordham University (1)  
 Georgetown University (1)  
 Grinnell College (1)  
 Harvard University (1)  
 James Madison University (1)  
 Massachusetts Institute of Technology (1)  
 Morgan State University (1)  
 Oberlin College (1)  
 Occidental College (1)  
 Parsons The New School for Design (1)  
 Pomona College (1)  
 Pratt Institute (1)  
 Reed College (1)  
 Rollins College (1)  
 Santa Clara University (1)  
 School of the Museum of Fine Arts (1)  
 Shepherd University (1)  
 Skidmore College (1)  
 Smith College (1)  
 Spelman College (1)  
 Syracuse University (1)  
 The Cooper Union for the Advancement of Science & Art (1)  
 The George Washington University (1)  
 The New School for Jazz and Contemporary Music (1)  
 The University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill (1)  
 Towson University (1)  
 University of California, Davis (1)  
 Wake Forest University (1)  
 Wesleyan University (1)  
 Western Carolina University (1)

