



THE AMERICAN INTERNATIONAL SCHOOL
SALZBURG AUSTRIA

School Profile

Headmaster: Paul R. McLean

Director of College Guidance: Jeffrey Agardy

Moosstrasse 106, A-5020 Salzburg Austria

Tel.: +43 662 824617 Fax: +43 662 824555 E-mail: office@ais-salzburg.at http://www.ais-salzburg.at

AIS-Salzburg Mission Statement

The American International School-Salzburg is a boarding and day school committed to the college-preparatory education of conscientious young men and women. The academic and boarding programs nurture the students' intellectual growth and artistic potential, as well as their social, physical, and personal development. The school community is guided by and dependent upon self-discipline, mutual respect, integrity, care, and compassion. The school aspires to prepare students to succeed in further studies, to exercise informed judgment, and to become active and responsible members of society.

Accreditation

The American International School-Salzburg is accredited by the Middle States Association of Colleges and Schools and holds membership in the European Council of International Schools, the College Board, and The Association of Boarding Schools.

Faculty

The faculty/student ratio at AIS-Salzburg is 1:6; actual class size average ten students; some sections may have as few as three or four students and a maximum of 20. The faculty is highly distinguished and represents major universities and colleges in North America and Western Europe. There are 14 full-time and 9 part-time faculty members as well as 3 Dorm Parents and 4 full-time Resident Assistants who are responsible for the boarding program on campus. Due to the dual-staff system, the teaching faculty is very long-term, averaging over 13 years of dedicated service to our students.

Academic Program

The academic year is composed of three trimesters and a final examination week. Each of the trimesters represents a minimum eleven full weeks of instruction Mondays through Fridays. Students attend a full schedule of classes from 8:00 a.m. until 3:00 p.m. Mondays, Tuesdays, Thursdays, and Fridays. On Wednesday mornings, two hours are set aside for physical education. All full-credit courses meet for a minimum of 4.5 hours per week. The school year runs from the beginning of September until the end of May. AIS-Salzburg holds classes on all weekdays regardless if they are Austrian or American holidays. A three-week Christmas holiday and a two-week Spring break the only interruptions in the regular instructional schedule. All students in grades 9 through 12 attend a minimum of seven academic courses plus two physical education classes each trimester. The program emphasizes college preparation exclusively and enrolls students in a large number of Advanced Placement courses during the eleventh and twelfth grades.

Course Load Requirements

All students in grades 9-12 must meet the following load requirements each trimester at AIS-Salzburg

- At least 33 classroom periods each week
- at least one course in English or ESL, mathematics, science, and social studies each trimester
- at least two foreign language courses, one of which must be German; the other, French or Spanish
- meet the school's Healthy Lifestyle Requirement each trimester
- enrollment in a grade-level seminar each trimester

Minimum Graduation Requirements

The American International School-Salzburg diploma is awarded to students who have met the following requirements:

1. 12 years of post-kindergarten education
2. one full school year at AIS-Salzburg (three full trimesters)
3. a minimum cumulative GPA of 1.50 in all courses enrolled in at AIS-Salzburg since the ninth grade
4. overall attendance record of 80% minimally annually
5. a positive citizenship record while enrolled at AIS-Salzburg
6. a minimum of 26 academic credits earned. One academic credit is granted for successful completion of one full-year course which meets for five weekly instructional periods. These credits must be earned in the following areas in the ninth through twelfth grades:

English	4 credits
German	4 credits
Mathematics	3 credits (incl. Geometry and Algebra II)
Physical Education (HLR)	2 credits (.5 credits each year)
Science	3 credits (incl. Chemistry and Biology)
Social Studies	3 credits (incl. US History and World Cultures)
Math/Science	1 credit in a math or science course above min.
French or Spanish	4 credits
Health/Electives	3.4 credits

Students may have several choices of levels of study as long as all of the AIS-Salzburg promotion, graduation, and load requirements are met. For example, students may choose Advanced Placement level coursework over a standard course for the grade level, provided approval has been granted and the appropriate background study has been successfully completed.

Advanced Placement

AIS-Salzburg offers 12 approved courses which follow the College Board's requirements. Through enrollment in specific Advanced Placement courses, it is possible for a student to be qualified to sit the AP exams in any of the following subjects: American History, European History, Human Geography, Chemistry, Biology, English Literature, English Language, German, French, Spanish, Calculus AB, and Psychology.

GPA and Class Ranking

The grade-point average is based on the ninth through twelfth grades and is cumulative. Only grades received for courses taken during the regular academic school year in subjects at AIS-Salzburg and summer academic program courses are included in the grade-point average calculation. AIS-Salzburg does not weight any courses for purposes of GPA calculation. Class rank is created for all students during the senior year only and recognizes a valedictorian and Salutatorian. These honors are based upon GPA earned at AIS-Salzburg over the course of at least two complete school years at AIS-Salzburg

Grading Scale

Percentage	Letter Grade	GPA	Descriptor
97-100	A+	4.3	
93-96.9	A	4.0	Excellent
90-91.9	A-	3.7	
87-89.9	B+	3.3	
83-86.9	B	3.0	Above Average
80-82.9	B-	2.7	
77-79.9	C+	2.3	
73-76.9	C	2.0	Average
70-72.9	C-	1.7	
67-69.9	D+	1.3	
63-66.9	D	1.0	Below Average
60-62.9	D-	0.7	
00-59.9	F	0.0	Failing

Grade Averages

All final grades for high school (9-12) full-credit academic courses at AIS-Salzburg are the average of four equal elements distributed as follows: fall trimester grade average (25%); winter trimester grade average (25%); spring trimester grade average (25%); and final examination score (25%).

Final Examinations

Comprehensive final examinations are held in all full-credit academic courses during the last week of the school year for students in the high-school section (grades 9-12) and count as 25% of the cumulative yearly grade. Gaining credit in any high-school course requires a minimum of 60% on the final examination. This policy is designed to prepare students for the style of examination procedure common in most colleges and universities.

College Placement

Beginning in the 11th grade, students participate in college counseling with the school's staff. AIS-Salzburg is a testing center for all AP and SAT I/II examinations. Students are required to take the SAT at least once in the 11th grade and once in the 12th grade. The school arranges TOEFL and IELTS testing.

The following is a sample of universities that have accepted AIS-Salzburg graduates over the past five years: Aarhus University, Arizona State University, Boston University, Brandeis University, College of William and Mary, Georgia Institute of Technology, Hamilton College, Ithaca College, Johns Hopkins University, London School of Economics, Michigan State University, New York University, Penn State University, Pepperdine University, Stanford University, Tokyo College of Art and Design, University of Alberta, University of California at Santa Barbara, University of East Anglia, University of Edinburgh, University of Miami, University of Southern California, University of Salzburg, University of Vienna, University of Virginia, University of Warwick, and Washington University.