

GEMS WORLD ACADEMY - DUBAI ACADEMY PROFILE 2021—2022

MISSION: Education for a better world: to be the number one Global Academy where students are independent learners in the pursuit of excellence, encouraging intellectual curiosity, independent thought and effective learning habits in order to live fulfilling lives whilst creating a better world for others.

THE ACADEMY COMMUNITY

GEMS World Academy – Dubai (GWA) is a private, Pre-K to Grade 12 co-educational IB continuum day Academy. Established in 2008 as a member of the GEMS Education network of schools, GWA currently hosts over 1400 students from more than 90 nationalities. We view our multicultural community as a source of learning as we develop an understanding of what makes people different, while celebrating our similarities. Students have access to a broad range of learning experiences facilitated by a multicultural and multilingual international staff of educators in a world-class Academy facility. The IB Learner Profile and GEMS Core Values shape our character expectations as we aim to develop international mindedness in all members of our community, students, staff and parents alike.

ACCREDITATION

GWA is authorised by the International Baccalaureate Organization to offer four IB Programmes to students aged 3 – 18 years old. GWA is also accredited by the Council of International Schools (CIS) and the New England Association of Schools and Colleges (NEASC).

THE CURRICULUM

GWA offers four International Baccalaureate (IB) programmes: the Primary Years Programme (PYP), Middle Years Programme (MYP), Diploma Programme (DP) and Career-related Programme (CP). Following the UAE's educational guidelines, all students must take Arabic until the end of Grade 9, while students who are citizens of Arabic speaking countries are required to study Arabic until graduation. Muslim students study Islamic Education as part of their academic schedule through to the end of Grade 12. The language of instruction at the Academy is English. Students in Grades 9-12 follow a university preparatory programme culminating in the IB's full Diploma, Career-related or Diploma Courses (Certificate) Programme in addition to the NEASC-accredited GWA High School Diploma.

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UCAS: 46011

SPIRIT:

- Excellence
- Consistency
- Authenticity
- Diligence
- Dynamism
- Humility

GENIUS VALUES:

- **G**rounded
- **E**ntrepreneurial
- **N**urturing
- **I**nnovative
- **U**nique
- **S**ophisticated

THE MIDDLE YEARS PROGRAMME (MYP)

The MYP is a rigorous and innovative five-year programme for students aged 11-16 (Grades 6-10 at GWA). Students take one subject from each of the following **eight** areas every year: Arts, Design, Health and Physical Education, Individuals and Societies, Language and Literature, Language Acquisition, Mathematics and Science.

The MYP helps every child see their studies through a global lens to personalise learning. Students learn how to conceptualise their understanding, think critically about the value of the content, how the content is presented, and why they are engaged in every learning activity.

During Grades 9 and 10, students at GWA complete a Personal Project. Through this, students demonstrate the knowledge and skills they have acquired in a project that includes a written component, a final product, and a reflection on their work. Throughout their journey in the MYP, GWA students also have opportunities to take part in a robust and meaningful Service in Action Programme.

THE IB DIPLOMA PROGRAMME (DP)

The DP is a demanding university preparatory programme that leads to external exams. It is designed for highly motivated students in their final two years of Academy life. The DP curriculum emphasises critical thinking, intercultural understanding, research skills and community service.

The Diploma Programme at GWA has minimum entrance requirements for Grade 10 students. Students who do not qualify for the full DP can enroll in the Diploma Courses (see below). Approximately 90% of GWA students in Grades 11 and 12 are enrolled in the full DP, with the remainder enrolled in Diploma Courses, or the High School Diploma route.

The IB Diploma will be awarded to a candidate provided all of the following requirements have been met: all CAS requirements, the candidate's total points are 24 or more, there is no grade E awarded for Theory of Knowledge and/or the Extended Essay, there is no grade 1 awarded in a subject/level, there are no more than two grade 2's awarded (Higher Level (HL) or Standard Level (SL)), there are no more than three grade 3's or below awarded (HL or SL), the candidate has gained 12 points or more in HL subjects, and the candidate has gained 9 points or more on SL subjects.

DIPLOMA COURSES PROGRAMME

The Diploma Courses Programme is an alternative pathway within the DP. Courses students complete 6 subjects at the SL and sit IB World Exams in May. Courses students must fulfill all of their SL courses requirements and complete a modified CAS portfolio requirement. Diploma Courses candidates receive a transcript of results issued by the IB.

HIGH SCHOOL DIPLOMA REQUIREMENTS

GWA High School Diploma students must study six SL subjects and complete all Creativity, Activity and Service requirements. They must also achieve a passing grade of '3' or higher in all their subjects.

To be awarded a GWA High School Diploma as a Courses or DP student, candidates must score 3 or higher in his/her DP courses. For Diploma candidates, they must also obtain a 'D' or higher in Theory of Knowledge (TOK) and the Extended Essay (EE)/Research Paper (RP) and complete all Creativity, Activity and Service requirements. The GWA High School Diploma is accredited by CIS and NEASC.

EVALUATION SCHEME

GWA conforms to the IB system with grades ranging from 7 (high) to 1 (low), with the exception of TOK and EE which is reported A (high) to E (low). This system is used for all internal and external assessments and on official transcripts. A detailed description of grade descriptors is located here:

https://www.ibo.org/globalassets/publications/recognition/assessmentbrief_web.pdf.

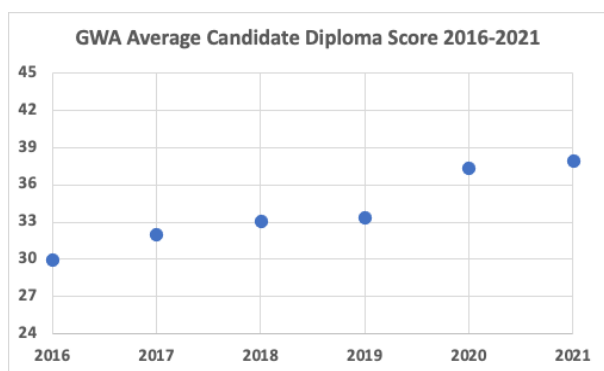
HIGH SCHOOL TRANSCRIPTS

GWA provides only the end-of-year grades for grades 9-11 on transcripts. For Grade 12, a mid-year grade is reported at the end of the first semester, and a final grade is provided at the end of Grade 12. Final IB grades will be reported directly to universities via the IB website during the first week of July following the final exams, and are not re-

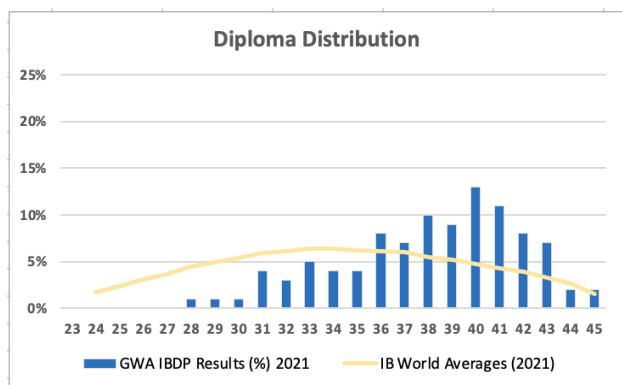


DISTANCE/BLENDED LEARNING PERIOD

From March 8 - June 24, 2020, all schools in the UAE closed due to Covid-19. During this time all GWA students had access to teachers, lessons, and learning materials via a well-developed distance learning programme. Attendance during the distance learning period averaged 96.6% across the Secondary School. Some after-school activities were able to continue in the form of virtual sessions, but no team sports or group activities took place as the UAE was under strict lockdown orders. During the 2020-2021 academic year, GWA operated in a blended learning format: while all Grade 9-12 students were permitted to attend classes in person, some opted to continue distance learning for one or both semesters. Due to government safety restrictions, GWA did not offer in-person team sports, music ensembles, or other group activities, however, some activities continued in a virtual format. During the 2021-2022 academic year, all educational activities have resumed with minimal restrictions, and all students have returned to campus for in-person learning.



Diploma Scores



Diploma Score Distributions by Year

CLASS RANK & GRADE POINT AVERAGE

- We do not report class rank due to the mobility of our students and the diversity of their educational backgrounds.
- We do not report a GPA, but do provide a suggested equivalency scale below:

GWA 2020 IB Diploma Programme Results

GWA Grade	Achievement Descriptor	Suggested Equivalent Letter Grade	Suggested GPA Calculation
7	Exceptional	A+	4.00
6	Superior	A/A-	4.00
5	Very Good	B+/B/B-	3.50
4	Satisfactory	C+/C	3.00
3	Mediocre	C-	2.00
2	Poor	E	0.00
1	Very Poor	F	0.00

Total students registered	Number of diploma and retake candidates registered in the session	Number of subject entries in the session	Number of candidates who passed the diploma
117	92	887	92
Percentage of candidates who achieved the Diploma	Average points obtained by candidates who achieved the Diploma	Highest Diploma points awarded to a candidate	Average grade obtained by candidates who achieved the Diploma
100%	38	45	6.04



SELECTED GWA MATRICULATIONS 2014 - 2021

Asia

Hong Kong University of Science & Technology
Koc University
Nanyang Technological University
New York University Shanghai
University of Tsukuba
Yonsei University

Middle East & Africa

American University of Sharjah
Emirates Aviation University
Gulf Medical University
New York University – Abu Dhabi
University of Birmingham - Dubai
University of Cape Town

Australia/New Zealand

Australian National University
Monash University
University of Auckland
University of Melbourne
University of New South Wales
University of Sydney

United Kingdom

Imperial College London
London School of Economics
University of Cambridge
University College London
University of Edinburgh
University of Oxford

Canada

Concordia University
McGill University
McMaster University
University of British Columbia
University of Toronto
University of Waterloo

USA

Columbia University
Cornell University
Duke University
Georgetown University
New York University
Northeastern University
University of California - Berkeley

Europe

Erasmus University – Rotterdam
Copenhagen Business School
Maastricht University
Richard Wagner Conservatory of Music in Vienna
TU Delft
Universita Bocconi