



ACADEMIC PROFILE 2020-2021



Headmaster Christopher Nikoloff | **Academic Dean** Dr. Mark Abisi: +41 91 960 5115 • mark.abisi@tasis.ch
Director of University and College Counseling Johanna Fishbein: +41 91 986 5462 • johanna.fishbein@tasis.ch
IB Diploma Coordinator Kathy Anderson: +41 91 960 5108 • katherine.anderson@tasis.ch
University and College Counselors Greg Birk: +41 91 986 5457 • gregory.birk@tasis.ch
Carroll Birk: +41 91 986 5457 • carroll.birk@tasis.ch | Kirk Mitchell: +41 91 986 5458 • kirk.mitchell@tasis.ch

MISSION STATEMENT

The American School in Switzerland (TASIS) is part of a family of international schools that welcomes young people from all nationalities to an educational community that fosters a passion for excellence along with mutual respect and understanding. Consistent with the vision of its founder, M. Crist Fleming, TASIS is committed to transmitting the heritage of Western civilization and world cultures: the creations, achievements, traditions, and ideals from the past that offer purpose in the present and hope for the future. Seeking to balance the pursuit of knowledge with the love of wisdom, and promoting the skills of lifelong learning, an appreciation for beauty, and the development of character, each school combines a challenging academic program with opportunities for artistic endeavor, physical activity, and service to others. Believing in the worth of each individual and the importance of enduring relationships, TASIS seeks to embody and instill the values of personal responsibility, civility, compassion, justice, and truth.

THE SCHOOL

TASIS Switzerland is the first of several TASIS Schools founded by M. Crist Fleming. Founded in 1956 as a

private, co-educational boarding and day school, it is the oldest American boarding school in Europe. Now serving students from Pre-Kindergarten to Postgraduate, TASIS is accredited by the New England Association of Schools & Colleges and the European Council of International Schools.

FACULTY

Of the 67 High School faculty members, 81 percent hold advanced degrees and 52 percent hail from the United States. TASIS actively encourages professional development, supports faculty graduate study, and requires peer observation and dialogue about teaching and learning.

STUDENT BODY

The High School is composed of 230 boarding students and 170 day students, with 39 nations represented. The majority of students (66%) come from Europe, with the remainder hailing from Latin America (11%), the United States and Canada (10%), Asia (7%), or the Middle East and Africa (6%). The Class of 2021 comprises 102 students, and the High School retention rate is 83%.



CURRICULUM

TASIS offers an American college preparatory program with International Baccalaureate and Advanced Placement programs, emphasizing a strong liberal arts education and requiring components of community service and project-based academic travel experiences at all grade levels. Students are expected to complete a minimum of 19 credits and to enroll in a minimum of five full-credit courses each semester. (An alternative program of studies may be designed for students with special talents, interests, or needs. Such a program must follow established guidelines and requires the approval of the Academic Committee.)

GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS

The minimum requirements for graduation are 19 credits, including the following:

- Four years of English. All seniors must pass either a 12th-grade English course offered by the English Department or IB English B 2 HL (IB Diploma candidates only).
- Three years of Mathematics, completing through Mathematics 3 at a minimum
- Three years of History, including Modern World History and either US History or an IB Group 3 course, and successful completion of the Civic Literacy Exam
- Three years of Laboratory Science
- Third-year proficiency in a modern language other than English that is offered at TASIS. Native English speakers arriving in grade 11 are required to demonstrate second-year proficiency in a modern language that is taught at TASIS from the introductory level or continue on to third-year proficiency if they have a background in French, German, Italian, or Spanish. Native English speakers arriving in grade 12 or for a postgraduate year are expected to continue their study of a modern language or complete one year of French, German, Italian, or Spanish.
- One credit in Performing Arts or Visual Arts
- All students in grades 9-10 are required to take Physical Education.
- One Senior Humanities credit, fulfilled by AP US History, Art History, AP Art History, IB Art History, or, for IB Diploma candidates, Theory of Knowledge
- Participation in the Global Service Program each semester for grades 9-11
- Completion of all Academic Travel assignments and obligations
- Fulfillment of the Sports and Activities requirement each semester

COURSE OFFERINGS

English

- Introduction to Literature • Honors Introduction to Literature
- World Literature • World Literature Honors
- American Literature • British Literature
- AP English Language and Composition
- AP English Literature and Composition
- IB English A Literature (SL/HL)
- IB English A Language and Literature (SL/HL)

English as an Additional Language

- English Grammar & Composition 1 and 2
- English Grammar, Composition & Literature 1
- English Grammar, Composition, & American Literature
- English Grammar, Composition, & British Literature
- IB English B (HL)

Mathematics

- Mathematics 1 Core • Mathematics 2 Core
- Mathematics 3 Core • Mathematics 4 Core
- Mathematics 1 Extended • Mathematics 1 Advanced
- Mathematics 2 Extended (includes second-year Algebra topics)
- Precalculus • Precalculus Honors • Calculus
- AP Statistics • AP Calculus AB and BC
- IB Mathematics Analysis and Approaches (SL/HL)
- IB Mathematics Applications and Interpretations (SL/HL)

History

- Ancient & Medieval History • Modern History
- United States History • Art History
- EAL Ancient & Medieval History • EAL Modern History
- AP European History • AP United States History • AP Art History
- AP Economics* • IB History (SL/HL) • IB Art History (SL)
- IB Business Management (SL/HL) • IB Economics (SL/HL)

Theory of Knowledge

- IB Theory of Knowledge

Science

- Biological and Physical Sciences • EAL Biological and Physical Sciences
- Physics • Biology • Chemistry • Ecology
- Computer Science 1 and 2 • AP Biology** • AP Physics**
- AP Chemistry** • AP Environmental Science**
- IB Physics (SL/HL) • IB Chemistry (SL/HL) • IB Biology (SL/HL)
- IB Environmental Systems and Societies (SL)

Modern Languages

- Level 1: French, German, Italian, Spanish
- Level 2: French, German, Italian, Spanish
- Level 3: French, German, Italian, Spanish; IB Language ab initio
- Level 4: French, German, Italian, Spanish; IB Language B SL
- Level 5: French, German, Italian, Spanish; IB Language B HL
- IB Italian A Language & Literature (SL/HL)
- IB Russian A Language & Literature (SL/HL)
- IB Native Language A Literature (SL: SSST)

9° Grado - Sezione Italiana / 9th Grade Italian Section***

- Lingua Italiana 9 • Letteratura e Lingua Italiana 9
- Storia Italiana 9 • Storia dell'Arte 9

Fine Arts

- Drawing & Painting • Advanced Drawing & Painting
- Photography 1 • Architecture 1 • Ceramics & Sculpture
- Instrumental Ensemble • Choir • Music Theater Arts
- Music Literacy • Drama 1 and 2 • AP Studio Art: Drawing
- AP Studio Art: 2-D Design**** • IB Visual Arts (SL/HL)

* AP Microeconomics/Macroeconomics are offered in alternating years.

** AP Biology/Physics alternate years with AP Chemistry/Environmental Science.

*** Required for local residents according to cantonal law.

**** AP Studio Art: 2-D Design is typically offered but will not run in 2020–2021.

TASIS POLICY ON REPORTING GPA AND CLASS RANK

The school year is divided into two semesters, ending in January and June. The year-end grade is cumulative, covering the full work in a year's course and reflecting a 50%/50% weighting for the first and second semesters, respectively. The Academic Honor Roll is calculated each midterm and end-of-semester grading period. Students with a GPA of 3.8 or higher in a given semester receive Highest Honors while those with a 3.5 or higher receive High Honors and those with a 3.2 or higher receive Honors. TASIS does not rank students or report *cumulative* GPA because the majority of TASIS seniors have been at TASIS for fewer than four semesters at the time of university application.

RECENT TEST SCORES

IB EXAMS

	TASIS 2020	TASIS 2019	Worldwide 2020
Number of diploma candidates	49	51	170,343
Percentage earning diplomas	98%	98%	79%
Mean diploma score	34.1	32.2	29.9
Highest IB score	43	42	45
Percentage earning Bilingual Diplomas	25%	50%	25%

In 2020, 69 students took a total of 406 IB subject exams (scored 1-7): 97% of scores were 4 and above, 83% were 5 and above, and 33% were 6 and above.

AP EXAMS

In 2020, 88 TASIS students combined to take a total of 178 AP exams: 75% of scores were 3 or above, 51% were 4 or above, and 79 students recorded a 3 or higher on at least one exam, which The College Board defines as a school success rate of 90%. Twenty-four students were named AP Scholars for demonstrating exemplary college-level achievement on their exams.

STANDARDIZED TESTS

SAT	Evidence Based Reading and Writing	Mathematics	Total
Class of 2020 (73 took the SAT)	570	600	1170

ACT	English	Math	Reading	Science	Composite
Class of 2020 (33 took the ACT)	23	24	22	23	23

ADDITIONAL PROGRAM STRENGTHS

Opsahl Global Service Program

The Opsahl Global Service Program was envisioned by Jan Opsahl '68, the School's first international student, who believes that the experience of serving those in need should be required for every TASIS student. Global Service groups partner with an array of organizations, from international nonprofits to country-specific institutions to local charities, and students attend weekly service meetings throughout the year to prepare for service trips throughout Europe, Africa, and Asia.

STATEMENT ABOUT COVID-19

Due to the Covid-19 pandemic, our High School students experienced distance learning instruction from March 16, 2020, through the remainder of the 2019–2020 academic year. Students demonstrated tremendous resilience and motivation during this time, and enough distance learning work was completed for teachers to assess students with a Spring Semester grade. We did not offer extracurricular activities once distance learning began, and all service and sport activities were canceled. Our location in southern Switzerland, adjacent to Lombardy (the epicenter of the Covid-19 outbreak in Italy), created anxiety and great uncertainty for our community. If we are aware of a personal impact, this will be shared in the student's letter of recommendation.

Academic and Independent Travel

Travel is an integral part of a TASIS education. Whether academic or independent travel, students have an exceptional opportunity to take advantage of their location in the middle of Europe. Academic Travel is part of the Middle and High School curriculum and is a graduation requirement for all students. Some travel assignments are related to courses of study, some are related to particular student interests, and others are assigned by grade level.

UNIVERSITY ACCEPTANCES FOR THE CLASSES OF 2016–2020 Boldface type indicates schools where TASIS students matriculated

USA AND CANADA

Abilene Christian University
American University
Arizona State University
Augsburg University
Babson College
Bard College
Barnard College
Barry University
Bates College
Baylor University
Bentley University
Binghamton University, State University of New York
Boston Architectural College
Boston College
Boston University
Bowdoin College
Brandeis University
Brock University
Brooklyn College, The City University of New York
Bryant University
Bucknell University
California College of the Arts
California Institute of the Arts
California Polytechnic State University, San Luis Obispo
California State Polytechnic University, Pomona
Carleton University
Case Western Reserve University
Chapman University
Clark University
College of Charleston
College of Staten Island, The City University of New York
College of the Holy Cross
College of William and Mary
College of Wooster
Colorado School of Mines
Colorado State University
Columbia College Chicago
Columbia University
Concordia University
Cornell University
Dalhousie University
Dartmouth College
Davidson College
Dean College
DePaul University
DePauw University
Drake University
Drew University
Drexel University
Duke University
Elon University
Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University, Daytona Beach
Emerson College
Emmanuel College
Fashion Institute of Design & Merchandising,
Los Angeles
Florida Gulf Coast University
Florida Institute of Technology
Florida International University
Florida Polytechnic University
Florida Southern College
Fordham University
Franklin & Marshall College
George Mason University
The George Washington University
Georgia Institute of Technology
Georgia State University
Georgian College
Goucher College
Hamilton College, New York
Hawai'i Pacific University
High Point University
Hofstra University
Hunter College, City University of New York
Jacksonville University
James Madison University
Johnson & Wales University, Providence
Kennesaw State University
Kenyon College
La Salle University
Lasell College
Lawrence University
Lehigh University
Lewis & Clark College
LIM College Laboratory Institute of Merchandising
Long Island University, Brooklyn
Louisiana State University
Loyola Marymount University
Loyola University Chicago
Loyola University New Orleans
Lynn University
Manhattanville College
Marist College
Maryland Institute College of Art
Marymount California University
Marymount Manhattan College
Massachusetts College of Pharmacy & Health Sciences
McGill University
McMaster University
Merrimack College
Miami University
Michigan State University
Millsaps College
Montana State University, Bozeman
Mount Holyoke College
The New School, Eugene Lang College of Liberal Arts
The New School, Parsons School of Design
New York Institute of Technology
New York School of Interior Design

New York University
Newbury College
North Carolina State University
Northeastern University
Nova Southeastern University
The Ohio State University
Ontario College of Art and Design
Oregon State University
Otis College of Art and Design
Oxford College of Emory University
Pace University in New York
Pennsylvania State University
Pepperdine University
Pratt Institute
Purdue University
Queen's University
Quest University
Regis University
Rochester Institute of Technology
Roger Williams University
Rollins College
Rutgers University
Ryerson University
Salve Regina University
San Diego State University
Santa Barbara City College
Santa Clara University
Sarah Lawrence College
Savannah College of Art and Design
School of the Art Institute of Chicago
School of Visual Arts
Seattle Pacific University
Seattle University
Seton Hall University
Siena College
Skidmore College
Smith College
Snow College
Southern California Institute of Architecture
Southern Methodist University
St. John's University, Queens
St. Lawrence University
Stanford University
Stetson University
Stonehill College
Suffolk University
Syracuse University
Temple University
Texas A&M University
Texas Christian University
Texas State University
Texas Tech University
Trent University
Trinity College
Tulane University
University of Alabama
University of Alaska, Fairbanks
University of Arizona
University of British Columbia
University of British Columbia, Okanagan
University of California, Berkeley
University of California, Davis
University of California, Irvine
University of California, Los Angeles
University of California, Merced
University of California, San Diego
University of California, Santa Barbara
University of California, Santa Cruz
University of Cincinnati
University of Colorado, Boulder
University of Colorado, Colorado Springs
University of Connecticut
University of Dayton
University of Delaware
University of Denver
University of Guelph
University of Hawaii, Manoa
University of Houston
University of Illinois, Chicago
University of Illinois, Springfield
University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign
University of Kentucky
University of Massachusetts, Amherst
University of Massachusetts, Dartmouth
University of Miami
University of Mississippi
University of Missouri
University of Nevada, Las Vegas
University of Nevada, Reno
University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill
University of North Carolina School of the Arts
University of North Carolina, Wilmington
University of North Texas, Dallas
University of North Texas, Denton
University of Notre Dame
University of Oklahoma
University of Oregon
University of Ottawa
University of Pennsylvania
University of Pittsburgh
University of Puget Sound
University of Redlands
University of Rhode Island
University of Richmond
University of Rochester
University of San Diego
University of San Francisco
University of the South
University of South Florida
University of Southern California

University of Tampa
University of Tennessee, Knoxville
University of Texas, Arlington
University of Texas, Austin
University of Texas, San Antonio
University of Toronto
University of Victoria
University of Virginia
University of Washington
University of Waterloo
University of Wisconsin
University of Wisconsin, Stevens Point
Vancouver Island University
Vanderbilt University
Vassar College
Virginia Polytechnic Institute
Wake Forest University
Washington State University
Weber State University
Wentworth Institute of Technology
Western University/Brescia University College
Wheaton College, Massachusetts
Wheelock College
Whitworth University
Williams College
Worcester Polytechnic Institute
Wright State University
Yale University
York University

UNITED KINGDOM

The Academy of Contemporary Music
Arts University Bournemouth
Bath Spa University
Birkbeck, University of London
Bournemouth University
British and Irish Modern Music Institute (BIMM)
Brunel University London
Buckinghamshire New University
Canterbury Christ Church University
Cardiff University
Cass Business School, City, University of London
Central St Martins - University of the Arts London
City, University of London
Courtauld Institute of Art, University of London
Coventry University
Durham University
Goldsmiths, University of London
Hult International Business School
Imperial College London
The Institute of Contemporary Music Performance
Istituto Marangoni London
Keele University
King's College London
Kingston University
Lancaster University
Leeds Beckett University
London Metropolitan University
The London School of Economics and Political Science
London South Bank University
Loughborough University
Manchester Metropolitan University
Middlesex University
New College of the Humanities
Newcastle University (London)
Nottingham Trent University
Oxford Brookes University
Queen Mary, University of London
Queen's University Belfast
Regent's University London
Richmond, The American International University
in London
Royal Holloway, University of London
SAE Institute Glasgow
School of Oriental and African Studies,
University of London
St George's, University of London
St Mary's University, Twickenham, London
Staffordshire University
Swansea University
Teesside University
University Centre Hartpury
University College London
University for the Creative Arts
University of Aberdeen
University of Bath
University of Birmingham
University of Brighton
University of Bristol
University of Buckingham
University of Cambridge
University of Central Lancashire
University of Chester
University of Derby
University of Dundee
University of East Anglia
University of East London
University of Edinburgh
University of Essex
University of Exeter
University of Glasgow
University of Greenwich
University of Hertfordshire
University of Kent
University of Law
University of Leeds
University of Leicester
University of Lincoln
University of Liverpool

University of Manchester
University of Nottingham
University of Oxford
University of Reading
University of Roehampton
University of Sheffield
University of Southampton
University of South Wales
University of St Andrews
University of Surrey
University of Sussex
University of the Arts London
University of Warwick
University of Westminster
University of York

SWITZERLAND

Business & Hotel Management School
Business School Lausanne
École Hôtelière de Lausanne (EHL)
Eidgenössische Technische Hochschule Zürich (ETHZ)
EU Business School, Geneva
Franklin University Switzerland
Geneva Business School
Geneva School of Diplomacy
Gion Institute of Higher Education
International Management Institute Switzerland
International University in Geneva
Les Roches International School of Hotel
Management
Swiss Hotel Management School
Università della Svizzera italiana (USI)
Universität St. Gallen
Universität Zürich
Webster University

REST OF THE WORLD

The American University of Paris, France
The American University of Rome, Italy
Amsterdam University College, The Netherlands
Amsterdam University of Applied Sciences,
The Netherlands
ArtEZ Hogeschool voor de Kunsten, The
Netherlands
Bard College Berlin, Germany
Danish Technical University, Denmark
Duke Kunshan University, China
Erasmus Universiteit Rotterdam, The Netherlands
ESADE, Ramon Llull University, Spain
ESMOD Berlin International University, Germany
ESRA International Film School, France
EU Business School, Spain
Hong Kong University of Science and Technology,
Hong Kong
HTL International School of Hospitality,
Tourism and Languages, Spain
HU University of Applied Sciences Utrecht,
The Netherlands
Humanitas University, Italy
IE University, Spain
IED Madrid, Spain
International Fashion Academy, France
International University of Monaco
Istituto Marangoni, France
Istituto Marangoni, Italy
Jacobs University, Germany
John Cabot University, Italy
Koc University, Turkey
Les Roches International School of Hotel
Management, Spain
Maastricht University, The Netherlands
Medical University of Warsaw, Poland
Moscow State Institute of International Relations,
Russia
The New School, Parsons School of Design, France
NEOMA Business School, France
New European College, Germany
Nuova Accademia di Belle Arti (NABA), Italy
Paris School of Business, France
Peking University, China
Politecnico di Milano, Italy
Rijksuniversiteit Groningen, The Netherlands
Rotterdam University of Applied Sciences,
The Netherlands
Saxion University of Applied Sciences,
The Netherlands
Saint Louis University, Spain
Stockholm University
Technische Universiteit Delft, The Netherlands
Tilburg University, The Netherlands
Toulouse Business School, Spain
Touro College Berlin, Germany
Universidad CEU San Pablo, Spain
Universidad de Navarra, Spain
Universidade Federal de São Paulo, Brazil
Università Bocconi, Italy
Università degli Studi di Parma, Italy
Università Vita-Salute San Raffaele, Italy
Universiteit Utrecht, The Netherlands
Universiteit van Amsterdam, The Netherlands
University College Dublin, Ireland
University of Bologna, Italy
The University of Hong Kong, Hong Kong
University of New South Wales, Australia
University of Vienna, Austria
Vita-Salute San Raffaele University, Italy
Waseda University, Japan