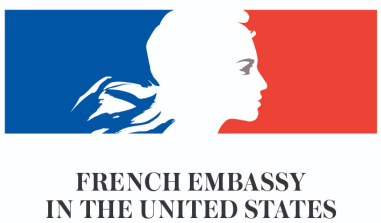


AMERICAN INTERNATIONAL SECTIONS



What is an American International Section?

IT IS A BILINGUAL AND BICULTURAL PROGRAM

The French Ministry of National Education has forged bilateral partnerships with several countries' educational systems in order to create international options for high school students working towards their Baccalauréat. The resulting diploma is not a separate Baccalauréat, it is the **OIB, or International Option of the Baccalauréat**. The educational authorities of partner countries are responsible for the implementation, pedagogical oversight and promotion of the sections. For all American International sections, **the partner of the French Ministry of National Education is the College Board**.

What sets the American International Section apart is that it combines the breadth and rigor of the French curriculum with extra subjects taught in English, resulting in **a bilingual and bicultural program**. Students get used to meeting academic demands from the two educational systems on a daily basis.

WHO IS ENROLLED IN AN AMERICAN INTERNATIONAL SECTION?

French schools in France, the U.S. and elsewhere in the world may offer the American OIB, therefore there is **no national origin requirement** or preference. Students do need to be quite **proficient in English** since several classes are taught by certified American teachers or French teachers who are bilingual. Students move naturally **from one language and culture to another**, shifting between two educational systems on a daily basis.

WHAT IS THE COURSE OF STUDY IN AN AMERICAN INTERNATIONAL SECTION?

Standards in the International Sections are high. Students may be enrolled from 1st grade (CP) to 12th grade (terminale). Students enrolled in an International Section are taught the core syllabus enabling them to follow advanced classes taught in the language of the partner country.

Starting in middle school (collège), students have the opportunity to take **English Language-Literature and History-Geography** courses taught from an American perspective by certified American and French teachers.

- American Language and Literature: Beyond a foreign language class, this course incorporates teaching of literature in English **in the same way as in a first language teaching**.
- History-Geography: The French syllabus is adapted to include a **greater emphasis on the history and geography of North America**, taught half in French, half in English.

The International Section's specific provision is a **significant proportion of the schedule** in middle schools (at least 20% depending on the grade) and high schools (lycées) (at least 20% depending on the grade and course). It represents at least 6 teaching hours a week in English, 4 of which are on top of the regular schedule. In addition to this, there are usually **extracurricular activities** related to the culture of the country. These activities are instrumental in creating a multicultural learning experience.

Level	Subject	Hours
Elementary school	All subjects	At least 3 hours per week taught in English
Middle Schools & High Schools	American Language and Literature	4 hours per week on top of the regular language course
	History-Geography, Mathematics, Science	4 hours per week in lieu of regular History & Geography, with 2 hours taught in English

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WHO ARE THE TEACHERS IN AN AMERICAN INTERNATIONAL SECTION ?

Teachers in international sections are usually **native speakers** of the language they teach and hold a teaching certificate from the partner country. Those teachers who are French have experience of teaching in the school system of the section's partner country. In all cases, their appointment must be approved by the French ministry of National Education. The educational authorities of the partner country sometimes loan teachers to the international sections. In any case, the French Ministry of National Education oversees all teaching selections.

EXAMS AND DIPLOMAS

Students enrolled in the international section take **specific exams** towards the end of school year to be awarded the international option of the DNB (Diplôme National du Brevet at the end of middle school) or the International Option of the Baccalauréat (OIB at the end of high school), both of which are widely recognized.

The International Option of the DNB is made up of:

- All standard exams for DNB;
- Two specific oral exams in Language and Literature as well as History and Geography, each with a weight of 50 points out of 900. Both examinations are in English.

The International Option of the Baccalauréat is made up of:

- The required standard exams for each course, with the exception of written and oral exams in English language (LVA) and the History and Geography exam;
- A specific Language and Literature exam in English in lieu of the LVA exams, which includes both written and oral components;
- A specific History and Geography exam in lieu of the standard History and Geography exam; this exam includes a written and oral component;
- Each exam carries a weight of 15 (30% of the final overall Baccalauréat grade).

The French Baccalauréat is the culmination of the French high school curriculum and is required to enroll into high education institutions in France.

OIB =

French Baccalauréat

+

American Language and Literature

History and Geography