

She is cultivating her

purpose



9th THE NINTH GRADE YEAR IS FULL OF *discoveries*

From researching energy and matter in Physics to uncovering social, political, and economic interconnectedness in Modern World History, or grappling with the intersection of technology and design in Media Arts, 9th grade students have the ability to open new doors of understanding, while strengthening their skill sets in each subject area. At the heart of her 9th grade year is the question that each student will answer: Who am I as a learner, community member and future leader?

10th THE TENTH GRADE YEAR IS FULL OF *exploration*

From participating in lab work in Chemistry to deep-diving into the 20th century starting with the run-up to World War II in Global History II, to cultivating a newfound love of a modern or classical language, 10th grade students have the ability to continue to discover and explore further in their chosen interests and paths. Students are encouraged to continue to probe and analyze as the AIS curriculum allows them to do so. Each student will learn how to answer: How can I expand the scope of my learning and contributions to my community?

11th THE ELEVENTH GRADE YEAR IS FULL OF *understanding*

From learning about our nation in United States History (grade level or honors) in order to be an informed citizen, to selecting from a variety of math and science courses, juniors gain fuller knowledge and understanding of all subjects during their third year in Upper School. Electives such as Women in Antiquity, Computer Science III, Research in Microbiology, and Anatomy and Physiology are offered to our 11th graders — further expanding their knowledge in core subjects and allowing for deeper exploration of individual academic interests.

12th THE TWELFTH GRADE YEAR IS FULL OF *mastery & preparation* FOR THE FUTURE

Our seniors are fluent in a variety of languages, sciences, mathematic disciplines, and eras of history. The 12th grade offers a plethora of courses which allow our students to focus their learning on subjects they enjoy or want to learn more about before they head off to college. Math options include Linear Algebra, Economics, and Statistics. Science options include Organic Chemistry, Advanced Engineering, Astrophysics, and our most popular course, Bioethics. History dives deeper into subjects such as African and African American History, International Relations, Holocaust, and Middle Eastern History. Our visual and performing arts department offers courses such as Artist as Entrepreneur, Photography, and Production Direction. English offers a variety of options for seniors including Sociolinguistics, Mental Illness in Literature, Irish Literature, and Detective Fiction. We allow our seniors to take ownership of their course of study, and explore subjects of interest in order to prepare them for future learning.

Hallmarks of the Upper School experience



SPECIAL STUDIES PROGRAM (SSP)

SSP is a hands-on, experiential learning program allowing all Upper School students to explore career-oriented, community service, and international immersion opportunities in a variety of settings. Students are required to complete one SSP per year (during January and February), and one Global SSP during their four years in Upper School. Global SSP 2019-2020 options included: Art as Cultural Expression (Ireland), Civil Rights (American South), Cultural Immersion (China), Habitat for Humanity, Culture & Service at SEGA School (Tanzania), among others.

ADVISORY

The Advisory program is designed to create a small, family-like community within the larger Upper School community, for each girl to interact with on a biweekly basis. Each 9th grader has a faculty advisor who works specifically with 9th grade students, and is chosen as an expert in the transition to Upper School. Each 10th grader is then paired with a different faculty advisor who stays with them through graduation. Faculty advisors act as a liaison between school and home, discussing curricular and co-curricular balance with students and families, and helping with course selection.

SENIOR "COLLEGE 101" TRANSITION SERIES

In May, students in Grade 12 enroll in the "College 101" Transition Series at the conclusion of classes, focusing on high-interest topics as well as classes on transition to college life. Students attend courses in college prep including Finance 101, Self-Health and Self Defense, to name a few, and enjoy each other as a grade before graduation. The program is designed to encourage an understanding of the world, encourage critical and analytical thinking, independence and confidence beyond their years at AIS.

ROBOTICS

The Robotics team, known as Femme Tech Fatale, competes each winter in several regional and national competitions. The team is typically the only all-female team and usually places in the top quartile which we are very proud to report! Robotics gives our girls the opportunity to code, build, and drive a robot – which requires life skills such as problem-solving, teamwork, and trial and error.

SENIOR ASSEMBLY

By the time senior year arrives, the art of public speaking is second nature to our students. Since 1992, seniors have prepared and presented a multimedia research-based speech with visuals to the Upper School student body, faculty, and staff of 300+ people. Topics range from the performing arts, to scientific research, to current events, and their presentation is a graduation requirement, graded by a faculty member.

WEDNESDAY SEMINARS

Our new academic schedule has allowed us to create an extended Seminar time on Wednesday afternoons. This time is dedicated to in-depth classroom activities, which might include outside speakers and trips, and will create unique opportunities that expand the excellent teaching and learning already happening in our classrooms. Seminar will also be used for Community in Action Day, focusing on diversity, equity, and inclusion, the local Special Studies Program (SSP) in January and February, ArtsFest activities, Upper School speakers and activities, as well as a myriad of presentations and activities across divisions. These fixed long blocks of time will eventually give students in grades 11 and 12 opportunities to engage in off-campus internships and research projects. Teachers will have added opportunities for collaboration across disciplines and divisions, making our curriculum delivery more innovative and experiential.

AIS BY THE NUMBERS*

300+

students, faculty, and staff
in attendance for each
Senior Assembly presentation

90+

students in leadership
positions each year

55+

student-led, extracurricular
opportunities

95

faculty members hold master's
degrees, 5 earned Doctorates,
and 5 hold J.D.s

8:1

student-teacher ratio
in the Upper School

*As of the 2019-2020 school year

COURSE PLANNER BY GRADE FOR 2020-2021 SCHOOL YEAR

	Grade 9	Grade 10	Grade 11	Grade 12	Years / Credits Req.
English	English I English I Honors	English II English II Honors	English III English III Honors	English IV (semester electives) English IV Honors (semester electives) Electives include: Examining the Nobel Prize in Literature; Irish Literature; Literature of Protest; My Memory, My Misery, My Memoir; Story to Screen: Film Adaptation; Utopian, Dystopian, and Apocalyptic Literature	4 <i>English I-IV</i>
History	Global History I	Global History II	United States History United States History Honors Women in Antiquity (f,s)	African American History (s) African and African American History** International Relations** Middle Eastern History** The Third Reich and the Holocaust (f) History Through Fiction (s) Women in Antiquity (f,s)	3 <i>US History required</i>
Classical Language	Ancient Greek I Latin I, II	Ancient Greek I, II Latin I, II Latin III Honors	Ancient Greek I, II Ancient Greek III Honors Latin I, II Latin III, IV Honors Women in Antiquity (f,s)	Ancient Greek I, II Ancient Greek III, IV Honors Latin I, II Latin III, IV Honors Latin V Honors (f+/or s) Women in Antiquity (f,s)	Through <i>Ancient Greek III or Latin III</i> OR <i>3 consecutive years in high school of the same language</i>
Modern Language	French I, II French II Honors Spanish I, II Spanish II Honors Mandarin Chinese I	French I, II, III French II, III Honors Spanish II, III Spanish II, III Honors Mandarin Chinese II	French III, IV French III, IV Honors Spanish III, IV Spanish III, IV Honors Mandarin Chinese III Honors	French IV, V French IV, V Honors Spanish IV, V Spanish IV, V Honors Mandarin Chinese IV Honors	
Math	Algebra IB Geometry Geometry Accelerated Geometry Honors Algebra II Accelerated Algebra II Honors Computer Science I	Geometry Algebra II Algebra II Accelerated Algebra II Honors Precalculus Accelerated Precalculus Honors Computer Science I, II	Algebra II Precalculus Precalculus Accelerated Precalculus Honors Calculus Calculus I Honors Statistics & Probability Statistics & Probability Honors Computer Science I, II Computer Science III Honors	Precalculus Calculus Calculus I Honors Calculus II Honors Economics Statistics & Probability Statistics & Probability Honors Computer Science I, II Computer Science III Honors	3 <i>through Algebra II</i>
Science	Physics I Physics I Accelerated Physics I Honors Computer Science I Engineering: Drafting & CAD (f) Engineering: Principles of Design (s)	Chemistry I Chemistry I Honors Computer Science I, II Engineering: Drafting & CAD (f) Engineering: Principles of Design (s) Independent Science Research***	Biology I Biology I Honors Chemistry II Honors: Advanced Topics (f) Chemistry II Honors: Organic Bioethics (s) Computer Science I, II Computer Science III Honors Environmental Sustainability (f) Conservation Biology (s) Engineering: Drafting & CAD (f) Engineering: Principles of Design (s) Independent Science Research***	Bioethics Biology II: Emerging Infectious Diseases** Biology II Honors: Anatomy & Physiology (f) Biology II Honors: Neuropsychology (s) Chemistry II Honors: Advanced Topics (f) Chemistry II Honors: Organic (s) Computer Science I, II Computer Science III Honors Environmental Sustainability** (f) Conservation Biology** (s) Engineering: Drafting & CAD (f) Engineering: Principles of Design (s) Physics II Honors: Astrophysics (f) Physics II Honors: Electricity & Magnetism (s) Research in Microbiology Independent Science Research***	3 (Labs) <i>including Physics I (9th) Chemistry I (10th) Biology I (11th/12th)</i>
Visual and Performing Arts	Ceramics I (f or f+s) Media Arts I Piano Lab I (f), II (s) Studio Art I Theatre I Independent Music Electives (f/s)	Ceramics I (f or f+s) Media Arts I, II Photography I Piano Lab I (f), II (s) Studio Art I Studio Art II (f +/or s) Theatre I, II Independent Music Electives (f/s)	Artist as Entrepreneur (f/s) Ceramics I (f or f+s) Media Arts I, II Photography I, II Photography III Honors Piano Lab I (f), II (s) Production: Direction & Practice Studio Art I Studio Art II (f +/or s) Theatre I, II Independent Music Electives (f/s)	Artist as Entrepreneur (f/s) Ceramics I (f or f+s) Media Arts I, II Photography I, II Photography III, IV Honors Piano Lab I (f), II (s) Production: Direction & Practice Studio Art I Studio Art II (f +/or s) Theatre I, II Independent Music Electives (f/s)	1.5 <i>(1 credit must be classroom)</i>
Athletics, Physical Education, and Wellness	Athletic and/or Physical Education Offerings Media Literacy Wellness I	Athletic and/or Physical Education Offerings Wellness II	Athletic and/or Physical Education Offerings Wellness III	Athletic and/or Physical Education Offerings Wellness IV	4

(f) Fall Semester (1/2 credit)

(s) Spring Semester (1/2 credit)

**Courses that can be taken with Honors

***Requires application and approval

Beyond the classroom: Student life

At Agnes Irwin, curricular and co-curricular experiences complement each other and are designed to help girls uncover their passions. Each student encounters a variety of choices fundamental to taking risks in new areas. Our students are curious, and it is often the case that a nascent interest in the 9th grade fostered through our clubs, publications, boards, councils, and organizations, can develop into a passion-driven leadership role during senior year.

CLUBS

Accountability
Council Club
AIS Allied
Akilah Club
Athletes Helping Athletes
Book Club
Career Club
Debate
DECA
FOCUS
For the Culture
Girls Grant Making Club
Guitar Club
Lower School Helpers
Minds Unlimited
Model UN

Peer Assistance and
Leadership (PALS)
Paper Airplanes Club
K-Pop Club
Sculpting with Clay Club
Set Design
Social Justice
Spanish Club
Stage Crew
STEM
Sustainable Living Club
Taste of China
Team Joy
UBU Improv
World Affairs Club
Young Democrats
Young Republicans

ORGANIZATIONS

Asian Student Union
Bel Cantos/Choir
Black Student Union
Compass
Discipline Committee
Empowering Girls In STEM
Jewish Student Union
Middle Eastern
Student Alliance
PALS
Repertory Company
(RepCo)
The Council for the
Advancement of Girls
Student Ambassador
Leadership Team (SALT)

PUBLICATIONS

Frenish Magazine
Impulse Arts Magazine
Lamp
SKIRT
Wick

BOARDS

Arts Council
Athletic Association (AA)
Environmental Board (ECO)
Honor Council
Service Council
Student Government
UNITY

Student Life opportunities representative of 2019-2020 school year.

Our Core Values

We accomplish our mission of empowering girls to learn, to lead, and to live a legacy by embodying these four core values of The Agnes Irwin School:

Excellence



We **provide** an exceptional education that develops each girl's highest potential and produces passionate, resilient, and empowered learners and leaders.

Character



We **expect** honesty, kindness, and personal integrity in all that we do and say.

Community



We **foster** an inclusive environment where individuals are valued, contributions are celebrated, deep connections are formed, and traditions are cherished.

Respect



We **treat** all with dignity and understanding, welcoming differences in backgrounds, perspectives, and cultures.

A typical day

**IN THE UPPER SCHOOL
FOR A NINTH GRADER
WHEN THE STUDENTS ARE
LEARNING ON CAMPUS**



Agnes Irwin follows a five-day rotation schedule, with extracurriculars meeting before, during, and after school.

Sample 9th Grade Schedule

8:00 a.m. Office Hours:
Boards/Org Meetings,
Meet with Faculty, Fitness
8:30 a.m. Physics I Honors
9:35 a.m. Assembly or Advisory
10:05 a.m. Modern World History
10:50 a.m. Media Arts I
11:35 a.m. Office Hours:
Boards/Org Meetings,
Meet with Faculty, Fitness
12:05 p.m. Lunch
12:40 p.m. English I
1:45 p.m. Algebra II Honors
2:30 p.m. Spanish II Honors
3:15 p.m. End of Classes

Sample 9th Grade Wednesday Schedule

8:00 a.m. Office Hours:
Boards/Org Meetings,
Meet with Faculty, Fitness
8:30 a.m. Photography I
9:15 a.m. Physics I Accelerated
10:00 a.m. Upper School Meeting
10:20 a.m. Latin II
11:05 a.m. English I Honors
11:50 a.m. Lunch with Advisory
12:20 p.m. Office Hours:
Boards/Org Meetings,
Meet with Faculty, Fitness
12:50 p.m. Seminar
3:15 p.m. End of Classes

The Agnes Irwin School

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