

The History of Westlake Academy

Westlake Academy is located in the tranquility of Westlake, Texas. The Town of Westlake operates <u>Westlake</u> <u>Academy</u>, a prestigious and innovative school, offering all three programs of the rigorous International Baccalaureate (IB) curriculum - Primary Years Programme, Middle Years Programme, and the Diploma Programme. The International Baccalaureate Organization in Geneva, Switzerland and the IBNA authorizes the Diploma Programme. Westlake Academy continues to maintain an Exemplary rating, which is awarded by the Texas Education Agency. Additionally, Westlake Academy is nationally ranked by US News & World Report, Newsweek, and the Washington Post.

Westlake Academy is a K – 12^{th} Texas public charter school, which is accredited by the Texas Education Agency. Over 850 students attend Westlake Academy. All Westlake residents are granted priority consideration for enrollment. All non-Westlake resident students are admitted through a lottery.



Mission

Westlake Academy is an IB World School where students become compassionate, life-long learners though an internationally-minded, balanced education that empowers students to contribute to our interconnected world.

Vision

Westlake Academy inspires college bound students to achieve their highest individual potential in a nurturing environment that fosters the traits found in the IB Learner profile: Inquirers, Knowledgeable, Thinkers, Communicators, Principled, Open-minded, Caring, Risk-takers, Balanced, and Reflective.

Values

- Maximizing Personal Development
- Academic Excellence
- Respect for Self and Others
- Personal Responsibility
- Compassion and Understanding

Head of School Sean Wilson swilson@westlakeacademy.org 817.490.5757

Diploma Programme Principal James Owen jowen@westlakeacademy.org

817.490.5757

Middle Years Programme Principal

Maxwell Ituah mituah@westlakeacademy.org 817.490.5757

College Counselor Carl Tippen ctippen@westlakeacademy.org 817.490.5764

Registrar

Darcy McFarlane dmcfarlane@westlakeacademy.org 817.490.5765

International Baccalaureate

The IB Diploma Programme is a rigorous pre-university course of study for the academically talented and highly motivated secondary student.

Designed and administered by the home office in Cardiff, Wales, the program encompasses internationally based standards of achievement and has gained a reputation for its rigorous external assessment which is welcomed by universities worldwide.

The curriculum is designed to provide a broad liberal arts experience for the college bound student. The Programme provides an education that balances subject breadth and depth and considers the nature of knowledge across disciplines through the unique Theory of Knowledge course.

An IB curriculum encourages international mindedness, which starts with a foundation in their language and culture. Every student at Westlake Academy takes courses in preparation for the IB diploma in grades 11 and 12.

GPA & Weighting

If a student receives a 70% or higher in a course, then the weighting scale below is used to calculate the cumulative GPA.

Grade Level	Type of Course	Weighting (Quality Points)
МҮР 9 – 10	Pre-IB	5
DP 11 – 12	SL & AP	10
DP	HL	12

Numerical Grades	Letter Grades
90 – 100	Α
80 – 89	В
70 – 79	С
<70	F

Grading and Ranking Policy

The academic year is divided into 4 nine-week grading periods. One credit is awarded for each yearlong course earning 70% or higher.

Weighted grades are used **ONLY** in computing the cumulative GPA. **Numerical grades (Semester and Year end average grades) DO NOT reflect the weighting.**

Westlake Academy does not rank its students.

All semester course grades earned in Grades 9-12 at Westlake Academy (and other accredited schools) are included in the cumulative GPA.

Due to COVID-19 Westlake Academy altered the grading methodology for the 4th quarter of the spring semester of the 2019 – 2020 school year. For students in grades 6-12, teachers assigned a Pass or Fail grade for each student at the end of the quarter. Performance was regularly assessed by teachers to ensure student progression. Students had a Q3 grade and a Q4 Pass/Fail grade. The Q4 Pass/Fail grade was translated to a numerical value at the end of the quarter (Pass = 100%, Fail = 69%).

Finals Exams and Second Semester Grade

Final exams were **not** administered in May 2020. The semester grade was an average of their third quarter grade and their fourth quarter grade.

Grades and Course Credit

Students received course credit for two semesters for 2019 - 2020 academic year. Semester 1 credit had already been posted on student's academic records. Semester 2 credit will consist of the Q3 and Q4 grades without any semester exams. In order to pass for the year, a student must pass average for semesters 1 and 2.

Grade Point Average (GPA)

The GPA calculation for grades 9-12 secondary students followed the existing board policy. The Pass (100%) or Fail (69%/50%), earned in the fourth nine-week period was averaged with third quarter grades to achieve the second semester grade. Second semester grades for this year will be calculated into a student's cumulative GPA. Students who receive weighted credit for AP and IB courses will receive the additional GPA points as outlined in the Parent/Student Handbook.

Subject	WA	World
GROUP 1		
English A: Literature HL	4.91 (64)	4.73
GROUP 2		
Spanish Ab Initio	5.00 (2)	5.05
Spanish B SL	4.92 (52)	5.04
Spanish B HL	6.00 (3)	5.55
French B SL	4.71 (7)	5.12
GROUP 3		
Business HL	4.96 (26)	5.25
Economics HL	3.68 (19)	5.40
History of the Americas HL	5.47 (54)	4.53

IB Score Distribution for Class of 2022

*Numbers in parenthesis are the number of test takers

Subject	WA	World
GROUP 4		
Biology HL	4.30 (10)	4.73
Biology SL	5.13 (16)	4.56
Chemistry HL	3.33 (3)	4.98
Chemistry SL	4.71 (14)	4.54
Computer Science SL	5.29 (7)	5.10
Environmental Systems & Societies SL	4.32 (22)	4.47
Physics SL	6.19 (16)	4.64
GROUP 5		
Mathematics: AA HL	5.67 (12)	5.21
Mathematics: AASL	5.44 (27)	4.99
Mathematics: AI SL	5.16 (25)	4.39
GROUP 6		
Visual Arts HL	4.20 (5)	4.45

IB Diploma Pass Rate

Graduation Year	# Diplomas Earned	WA	World
2015	34 (51)	66.7%	80.8%
2016	38 (61)	62.3%	79.3%
2017	45 (64)	70.3%	78.4%
2018	50 (62)	80.6%	78.2%
2019	57 (63)	90.5%	77.4%
2020	67 (74)	90.5%	85.2%
2021	53 (59)	89.8%	88.9%
2022	58 (63)	92.1%	85.6%
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2022 – 2023 Course Offerings

MYP (7 – 10) Course Offerings

English – English 1, English 2

Math – Algebra 1*, Geometry, Algebra 2, Precalculus

Science - Biology, Chemistry, Physics

Social Science – AP Human Geography, AP World History,

Foreign Language – Spanish 1*, Spanish 2A*, Spanish 2B, Spanish 2, Spanish 3, French 1*, French 2A*, French 2B, French 2, French 3

Fine Arts – Art 1, Art 2, Theatre 1, Theatre 2

Physical Education

Electives – Principles of Applied Engineering; Principles of Information Technology; Principles of Business, Marketing, & Finance; AP Computer Science Principles, Project Based Research

*Courses taken in 7th and 8th Grade that receive high school credit are not calculated in the cumulative GPA.

DP (11 – 12) Course Offerings

<u>Group 1 – Language A</u>

English A: Literature HL

Group 2 – Second Language

Spanish B SL & HL, Spanish Ab, French B SL & HL

Group 3 – Individuals and Societies

Business Management HL, History of Americas HL (US History & Gov't), Economics HL

Group 4 – Sciences

Biology HL*, Chemistry SL*, Physics SL*, Environmental Systems & Societies SL, Computer Science SL

<u>Group 5 – Mathematics</u>

Mathematics: Applications & Interpretations SL, Mathematics: Analysis & Approaches SL & HL

Group 6 – The Arts and Electives

Visual Arts HL

<u>**IB DIPLOMA CORE**</u> – Theory of Knowledge, Extended Essay, Creativity, Activity, & Service

*IB Chemistry, and IB Physics courses taken in 12th grade and are titled Scientific Research & Design (SCRID). IB Biology taken in the 12th grade is entitled Anatomy and Physiology.

Abilene Christian University American University Angelo State University Arizona State University Art Institute of Dallas Auburn University Austin College Barry University **Baylor University Belhaven University Bentley University** Blinn College Bradley University **Brandeis University** Brigham Young University Brigham Young University – Hawaii Brigham Young University – Idaho **Boston College Boston University** Brown University Bucknell University **Butler University California Institute of Technology** California Northstate University Carleton College Carnegie Mellon University **Clemson University** College of Charleston Colorado Ballet Colorado College **Colorado School of Mines Colorado State University** Columbia College **Columbia University Concordia University Cornell University Dallas Baptist University** Dartmouth College **Davidson College** DePaul University Dillard University Drew University **Drexel University** Drury University **Duke University** Elon University Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University **Emory University** Fashion Institute of Technology Florida Atlantic University Florida Southern University Florida State University Fordham University Furman University George Washington University **Georgetown University** Georgia Institute of Technology Hampton University Hardin Simmons University **Harding University** Harvard University Hawaii Pacific University Hendrix College **High Point University Hillsdale College** Hofstra University Houston Baptist University **Howard University** Indiana University Ithaca College Jacobs University Jagiellonian University Medical College Johns Hopkins University Kings College Lake Forest College

Lamar University Langston University Lewis & Clark College Liberty University London Metropolitan University Long Island University Global Louisiana State University Louisiana Tech University Loyola University (Chicago) Loyola Marymount University Marymount Manhattan College Marquette University Mary Baldwin College **Miami University Michigan State University Midwestern State University Missouri University of Science & Technology** Montana State University **New York University New York University-Shanghai** North Carolina A&T University Northern Arizona University **Northeastern University** Northwestern University **Occidental College Oklahoma Baptist University Oklahoma Christian University Oklahoma State University Oral Roberts University Oregon State University Pace University** Pennsylvania State University **Pepperdine University** Pomona College Poznan School of Medical Sciences Princeton University **Purdue University Reed College Regent's University Regis University Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute Rhodes** College **Rice University Rochester Institute of Technology** Sam Houston State University San Diego State University Santa Clara University School of Art Institute of Chicago Seattle University Seton Hill University **Simmons College** South Dakota State University Southern Methodist University Southern University Southwestern University Spelman College Swarthmore College St. Edwards University St. John's University St. John's College St. Mary's University Stephen F. Austin State University Stanford University Syracuse University **Tarleton State University Tarrant County College** Texas A&M University – College Station Texas A&M University – Commerce Texas A&M University – Corpus Christi **Texas A&M University - Galveston** Texas Christian University **Texas State University Texas Southern University Texas Tech University Texas Wesleyan University**

Texas Women's University The New School **Trinity University** Tulane University The Citadel **Union College** United States Air Force Academy United States Military Academy **United States Naval Academy** University of Alabama University of Alabama in Huntsville University of Alaska - Anchorage University of Arkansas University of California, Berkeley University of California, Davis University of California, Irvine University of California, Los Angeles University of California, Santa Barbara University of California, Santa Cruz University of Central Florida University of Chicago University of Colorado - Boulder University of Dallas University of Delaware University of Denver University of Florida University of Georgia University of Houston University of Illinois University of Kansas University of Kentucky **University of Maine** University of Mary Hardin Baylor University of Miami University of Michigan University of Missouri University of Mississippi University of Nebraska University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill University of North Texas University of North Texas at Dallas University of Notre Dame University of Oklahoma University of Oregon University of the Pacific University of Pennsylvania University of Pittsburgh University of Richmond University of San Diego University of San Francisco University of Sheffield University of South Carolina University of Southern California University of the South - Sewanee University of Tampa University of Tennessee University of Texas at Arlington University of Texas at Austin University of Texas at Dallas University of Texas at Tyler University of Tulsa University of Utrecht University of Virginia University of Winchester University of Wisconsin Vanderbilt University Villanova Universitv Wake Forest University Washington & Lee University Washington University in St. Louis Westminster College Westmont College West Texas A&M University Wheaton College Yale University