

Profile 2024/25 for Colleges and Universities

ZIS Upper School at a Glance


College Board Code: 796330	IB School Code: 1170
---	---------------------------------------

Address: ZIS Upper School
 Moosstrasse 15
 8134 Adliswil
 Switzerland


Phone: +41 58 750 24 00
Website: www.zis.ch

Director: Elsa Hernández-Donohue, MA
Principal: David Markus, M Ed
Assistant Principals:
 Alison Callaghan, MA Sc (Upper School)
 Jason Musselman, M Ed (Curriculum Grades 6–12)


University and Career Counselors:
 Marisa Jackson, M Ed mjackson@zis.ch
 Lindsay Tosun, M Ed ltosun@zis.ch
 Bryn Will, MA bwill@zis.ch



Scan QR code to view the 2024/25 Profile online



1302
Students on two campuses



550
Total students
Grades 9–12



147
Students in the
Class of 2025

Mission and Philosophy

We are a learning community of students, faculty, staff, and parents. At Zurich International School (ZIS), educational excellence commits us to: **Learn, Care, Challenge, Lead.**

The School

ZIS is a leading non-profit day school offering a comprehensive education program for students ages 3–18 to our mainly expatriate community.

We are an inclusive school with an open admission policy enrolling a diverse student population with a range of abilities. Learning Support (LS) and English as an Additional Language (EAL) services are available.

Upper School Faculty

The 83 full-time and part-time Upper School faculty have taught an average of over seven years at ZIS, and most have taught at other international schools throughout the world.

Curriculum

All students work toward earning a ZIS Upper School Diploma. The school offers the International Baccalaureate (IB) Diploma Programme, Advanced Placement (AP) courses and ZIS Upper School courses. We value AP and IB pathways equally. Our academic advising encourages students to choose the pathway best suited to their needs. The integration of technology into the curriculum is a priority and is based on the International Society for Technology in Education (ISTE) Standards. ZIS emphasizes Social Emotional Learning as a key component of education. Using the CASEL Framework and the International School Counselor Association (ISCA) standards, ZIS has integrated SEL into the advisory program and academic curriculum.

The language of instruction is English.

59

Nationalities represented by students

45

Mother tongue languages spoken by students

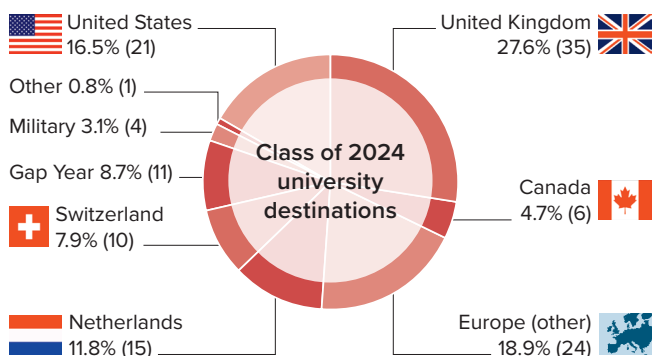
81%

Upper School faculty holding MA/MS or higher degrees (Total ZIS faculty 68%)

7.25

Average years of teaching at ZIS by Upper School faculty (by total ZIS faculty 7)

Class of 2024 University Destinations (127 students)



ZIS is approved by the Canton of Zurich's Department of Education



ZIS Upper School Programs, Grading, Graduation Requirements

Access to AP, Honors and Higher Level IB Courses

Students in Grades 9 and 10 may take the following AP courses: AP Computer Science Principles, AP Computer Science A, AP World History, AP Physics 1, AP Seminar, AP World Languages, and AP Math if appropriate. They may also take Honors Biology and Honors Chemistry. Students are strongly advised not to take four IB HL courses. Students do not take a seventh IB certificate subject.



Number of AP/IB/Honors courses offered in 2024/25

Students are also allowed to enroll in courses offered by IB Pamoja, Virtual High School, Stanford's OnLine High School (OHS), and Johns Hopkins Center for Talented Youth (CTY).

Policy for Reporting Disciplinary History

ZIS reserves the right to report to universities any out of school suspensions and expulsions that take place during Grades 9–12. We may also notify institutions about any changes to enrolment status.

Minimum Graduation Credit Requirements

English	4 credits
Math	3 credits
Science	3 credits
Social Sciences	3 credits
World Languages	2 credits
Creative Arts	2 credits
Physical Education	2 credits
Additional Elective Classes	4 credits
Total credits required	23 credits

- All students are required to take German in Grade 9
- 1 credit = 1 class year



Credits earned by vast majority of ZIS students

Grading Considerations

- A 4.0 scale is used to calculate GPA
- Grades are unweighted
- We do not rank
- We do not calculate a cumulative GPA
- Only ZIS grades are used to calculate GPA

Letter Grade	Levels of achievement	4-point scale equivalents
A (A-)	Excellent	4.0 (3.67)
B (B+, B-)	Very Good	3.0 (3.33, 2.67)
C (C+, C-)	Satisfactory	2.0 (2.33, 1.67)
D (D+, D-)	Poor	1.0 (1.33, 0.67)
F	Failing	0
NG	Transfer credit	NA
CR / NCR	Credit / No credit	NA
WP/WF	Withdrawal	Pass/Fail
UG	Ungraded	NA

ZIS Upper School Courses

Creative Arts: Foundation Art & Design; Foundation Art & Design Technology; Studio Art; Digital Graphic Design; Design Tech I; Digital Photography; Essential Theater; Acting & Directing; Actor's Workshop; Music Studio I–III; Creative Music; Concert Band; String Orchestra; Vocal & Choral Music

English: English as an Additional Language (EAL); English 9; English 10; English Literature; English Language; English Research & Composition; Broadcast Journalism

Mathematics: Integrated Mathematics 1A–1C; Integrated Mathematics 2A–2C; Integrated Mathematics 3C; PreCalculus; Personal Finance; Discrete Mathematics

Physical Education: Physical Education 9 & 10

Science: Coordinated Science I–II; Honors Biology; Honors Chemistry; Design Tech II; Sports Science; Advanced Computer Science

Social Studies: History I–II; Philosophy; Contemporary History

World Language: French, German and Spanish A1–B2.2 and Fluent I & II

Advanced Placement (AP) Courses

Creative Arts: Drawing; 2-D Art & Design; 3-D Art & Design

English: AP English Language; AP English Literature; AP Seminar; AP Research

Mathematics: Calculus AB; Calculus BC; Statistics

Science: Biology; Chemistry; Computer Science A; Computer Science Principles; Physics 1; Physics 2; Physics C: Mechanics; Electricity & Magnetism

Social Studies: Art History; European History; World History; Psychology; Human Geography; Microeconomics & Macroeconomics

World Languages: French and German

International Baccalaureate (IB) Programme

Group 1, Studies in Language & Literature: English A: Literature HL/SL; English A: Language & Literature HL/SL; French A: Language & Literature HL/SL; German A: Language & Literature HL/SL; Spanish A: Language & Literature HL/SL; IB A Literature SL Self-taught

Group 2, Language Acquisition: French ab initio SL; French B HL/SL; German B HL/SL; Spanish ab initio SL; Spanish B HL/SL

Group 3, Individual & Societies: History HL/SL; Psychology HL/SL; Economics HL/SL; Geography HL/SL; Environmental Systems & Societies SL

Group 4, Experimental Sciences: Biology HL/SL; Chemistry HL/SL; Physics HL/SL; Environmental Systems & Societies SL; Design Technology HL/SL

Group 5, Mathematics: Mathematics SL Applications & Interpretations; Mathematics HL/SL Analysis & Approaches

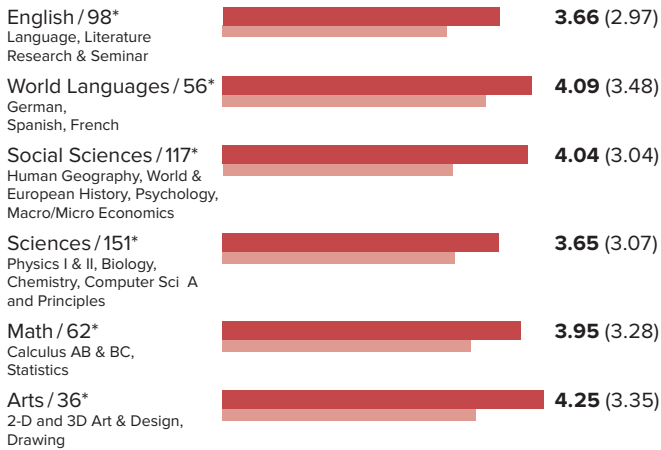
Group 6, Arts: Visual Arts HL/SL; Music HL/SL; Theatre HL/SL

Results at a Glance

Advanced Placement (AP) Results 2024

ZIS (World)

Highest possible score: 5 points / *Number of ZIS exams taken



67%
of ZIS exams
receiving 4.0
or higher



89%
of ZIS exams
receiving 3.0
or higher



214
AP exam
takers Grades
9-12



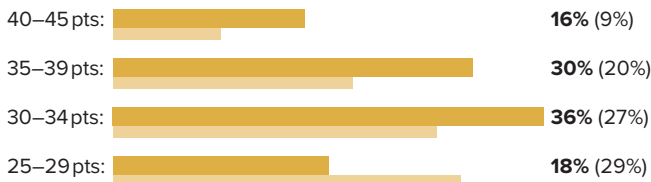
532
Total
AP exams
taken

International Baccalaureate (IB) Results 2024

ZIS (World)

Total points obtained by IB Diploma candidates:

Highest possible score: 45 points



Average Score by Subject Group:

Highest possible score: 7 points



30%
of ZIS students
received a
bilingual diploma



68
Number of
ZIS IB Diploma
candidates



98%
of ZIS
IB Diploma
candidates
passed



34.5
Average points
earned by ZIS
IB Diploma
candidates (vs. 30
worldwide)

Class of 2025 Grade 11 Grade Distribution (Select Grade 9 & 10 AP course grades included)

Letter Grade 4-point scale equivalents	A 4.0	A- 3.67	B+ 3.33	B 3.0	B- 2.67	C+ 2.33	C 2.0	C- 1.67	< C- 1.33 or <
Adv. Computer Science I & II	6								
Broadcast Journalism I-II	6	1	1						
Concert Band & String Orchestra	9	2							
Contemp. History (Yr & Sem)	1	3		1	2				
Creative Music	3	1							
Design Technology II	4	3							
Digital Graphic Design			2	3	2				
German for Fluent Speakers III	1		2	4	1	1			
Honors Biology	1	4	5	5	4		1		
Honors Chemistry	2	1	4	6	2	1			
Integrated Mathematics 3C		1	3	2		1			
Pre-Calculus	4	6	3	4	2	2	2	3	1
Sports Science (Yr & Sem)	3	3	1	5					
Other World Languages – non IB/AP courses	3	3	2	2				1	
Other courses < 4 enrolments	4		1	1	2	2			1
AP 2-D Art / 3-D Art / Drawing	1	3		2	1				
AP Art History		3	1	2	3	3	1	1	
AP Biology	1	2	1	1	1				
AP Calculus AB & BC	5	6	4	2	1	1	1		
AP Chemistry	2	1	2		2	2	1		
AP Computer Science A	7		1		1		2	1	
AP Comp. Science Principles	5	5	7	4	3	1	2	1	
AP Economics		1	1	1	4		3		1
AP English Language	3	2	7	9	3	2			
AP English Literature	5	3	5	2	1				
AP European History	1		2	2	1	1			
AP German Language	1	2	1		2	1			
AP Human Geography	1	5	3	5		1	1		
AP Physics 1 & 2	7	9	5	3	8	3	1		
AP Psychology	2	4		4		2			
AP Seminar	3	2	6	2	1				
AP World History	3	8	4	6	4	1	1		
IB Biology HL Yr 1	13	9	7	4	3	2	2		
IB Biology SL Yr 1	3	2		1		1			
IB Chemistry HL Yr 1	6	6	6	5	5				
IB Chemistry SL Yr 1 & Yr 2	5	1	1		2				
IB Design Tech. HL & SL Yr 1	1	2	7	1	2	1		1	
IB Economics HL Yr 1	10	9	9	5	4	3	2	1	
IB Economics SL Yr 1	4	4	2	2	2	1		1	
IB English A: Lang & Lit HL Yr 1	5	13	10	9	3	1			
IB English A: Lang & Lit SL Yr 1	4	15	16	7	6	1	1		
IB English A: Lit HL & SL Yr 1	2	2	3	1					
IB Env. Systems SL Yr 1	1	3	4	4	2			1	
IB French A: Lang & Lit SL Yr 1	2								
IB French B HL & SL Yr 1 and AP French	4	3	3	2	1				
IB Geography HL Yr 1	2	4	6	7	1	1			
IB Geography SL Yr 1	8	4	7	1	1				
IB German A: Lang & Lit HL & SL Yr 1	1	4	2	3	9	5	1	1	
IB German B HL Yr 1	2	4		1	1				
IB German B SL Yr 1	1	5	9	2	4	3	1		
IB History HL Yr 1	5	1			2				
IB History SL Yr 1	2	1	1	2					
IB Mathematics HL Analysis and Approaches Yr 1	10	5	4	3	2	3	3		1
IB Mathematics SL Analysis and Approaches Yr 1	8	9	6	2	9	4	6	1	
IB Mathematics SL Applications Yr 1		2	3	6	3	3		3	1
IB Music HL Yr 1	2	2							
IB Physics HL Yr 1	7	4	4	1	1	1	1		
IB Physics SL Yr 1	3		1	2	1	1	1		1
IB Psychology HL Yr 1	6	4	1	1	3				
IB Psychology SL Yr 1	2		2	1					
IB Psychology SL Yr 1	2	1			1				
IB Spanish Ab In Yr 1 & Yr 2	2	2	1		1				
IB Spanish B HL & SL Yr 1	2	3	2	2					
IB Theatre Arts HL & SL Yr 1	1	2		1		1			
IB ToK Yr 1	22	31	23	12	4				
IB Visual Arts HL & SL Yr 1		3	3						
IB Spanish Ab In Yr 1	1	2	1						
IB Spanish B HL & SL	4	4	1	2	3	2			
IB ToK Yr 1	33	15	11	6	1				
IB Visual Arts HL & SL Yr 1		1	2		2				
Total	242	244	217	166	124	57	34	16	6

Note: Table only includes courses with 4 or more students.

University Matriculations

Colleges and universities attended by ZIS Graduates 2022–24:



Argentina

Universidad Austral



Austria

MODUL University Vienna
Medical University of Vienna



Belgium

Catholic University of Louvain
Ghent University
Howest University of Applied Sciences
Katholieke Universiteit Leuven



Canada

Bishop's University
Concordia University
McGill University (5)
Queen's University
Sheffield College
Sheridan College Institute of Technology and
Advanced Learning
University of British Columbia
University of Toronto (5)
University of Waterloo
Western University



Cyprus

European University Cyprus



Denmark

Copenhagen Business School
Technical University of Denmark



Finland

Aalto University
University of Helsinki



France

Ecole nationale supérieure d'architecture Paris-
Malaquais
ESCP Business School (2)
Central School of Nantes
Collège Universitaire de Sciences Po
The American University of Paris (2)



Germany

Catalyst Institute for Creative Arts and Technology
CODE University of Applied Sciences
University of Fribourg
Universitätsmedizin Neumarkt a. M. Campus
Hamburg
University of Konstanz
University of Mannheim



Greece

American College of Greece



Hong Kong

The University of Hong Kong



Hungary

University of Veterinary Medicine



Ireland

National University of Ireland Galway
Trinity College Dublin
University College Dublin



Israel

IDC Herzliya – Raphael Recanati International
School (3)



Italy

Humanitas University (5)
Istituto Marangoni (3)
John Cabot University
Luigi Bocconi University
LUISS Guido Carli
Politecnico di Torino
Università Bocconi (2)
University of Pavia



Netherlands

Amsterdam University College (2)
Amsterdam University of Applied
Sciences
Delft University of Technology
Eindhoven University of Technology

Erasmus University Rotterdam (4)
Fontys University of Applied Sciences
Hotel School, The Hague (2)
Leiden University (4)
Maastricht University (2)
Technical University of Delft
Technical University of Eindhoven (4)
The Hague University of Applied Sciences
Tilburg University (2)
University College Utrecht (2)
University of Amsterdam (6)
University of Groningen
University of Maastricht
University of Twente (3)
Utrecht University
Vrije Universiteit Amsterdam (4)
Wageningen University and Research Centre (2)



Norway

Norwegian University of Science and Technology



Singapore

National University of Singapore



Spain

Ceu San Pablo University
ESADE Business School
ICAI School of Engineering
IE University (19)
Loyola University Andalusia
Universidad Carlos III de Madrid
Universidad Católica de Murcia
University of Navarra



Sweden

Linköping University
Lund University
Umea University
Uppsala University



Switzerland

BHMS Hospitality school
École Polytechnique Fédérale de
Lausanne
École hôtelière de Lausanne / EHL (3)
Franklin University Switzerland
Glon Institute of Higher Education (2)
Les Roches Schools of Hotel Management
Lucerne University of Applied Sciences and Arts
Schweizerische Hotelfachschule Luzern
SKDZ
Swiss Federal Institute of Technology / ETH Zurich
(2)
University of Lausanne
University of Lucerne
University of St. Gallen (7)
University of Zurich (6)



United Kingdom

Arts University Bournemouth
Brighton and Sussex Medical School (2)
Bristol, University of the West of England
Brunel University London
Canterbury Christ Church University
Cardiff University
City, University of London (2)
Durham University (2)
Glasgow Caledonian University
Goldsmiths, University of London
Hult International Business School (2)
Imperial College London (6)
Kent and Medway Medical School
King's College London, University of
London (5)
Kingston University
Lancaster University (2)
London School of Economics and Political Science,
University of London (2)
Loughborough University (2)
Newcastle University (3)
Norwich University of the Arts
Nottingham Trent University
Oxford Brookes University
Queen Mary University of London (2)
Queen Mary University, Edinburgh
Queen's University Belfast
Regent's University London
Royal Holloway, University of London (2)
The University of Edinburgh (5)
University Campus of Football Business
University College London (12)
University Centre South Essex
University of Bath (8)
University of Brighton (2)
University of Bristol
University of Buckingham
University of Cambridge
University of Dundee
University of Exeter (8)
University of Glasgow (3)
University of Leeds
University of Manchester
University of Nottingham (2)
University of Oxford
University of Sheffield
University of Southampton
University of St Andrews (3)
University of Stirling
University of Surrey (3)
University of Sussex
University of the Arts London (3)
University of Warwick (4)
University of Westminster
University of York



United States

American University
Arizona State University
Augsburg University
Babson College
Bates College
Boston College (2)
Boston University (4)
Brigham Young University
Brown University (3)
California Baptist University
Calvin University
Carnegie Mellon University
Colby College
Columbia College Chicago
Columbia University in the City of New York
Cornell University
Culinary Institute of America
Curry College
Dartmouth College (2)
Davidson College
Elon University (2)
Emerson College (2)
Emory University (2)
Fordham University
George Mason University
George Washington University
Georgetown University
Georgia Southern University
Harvey Mudd College
Marist College
Mars Hill University
Marymount University
Michigan State University
Mississippi State University
Mount Holyoke College
New York University (2)
North Carolina State University
Northeastern University (2)
Northwestern University (2)
Parsons School of Design
Pennsylvania State University (2)
Purdue University
Quinnipiac University (2)
Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute
Rice University
Santa Clara University
Savannah College of Art and Design
Scripps College
Southern Methodist University
Texas Christian University
The New School
The Pennsylvania State University
The University of Tampa
Trinity University
Tufts University (2)
Tulane University of Louisiana
University of California – Berkeley
University of California – Davis
University of California – San Diego
University of California-Santa Barbara
University of Chicago
University of Colorado Boulder (2)
University of Denver
University of Miami
University of Michigan
University of New Mexico
University of Northwestern
University of Pennsylvania
University of Rochester
University of Southern California
University of Wisconsin-Madison
Utah Valley University
Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University
Wake Forest University

Note: number in parentheses = number of ZIS Graduates