THE INTERNATIONAL SCHOOL OF SAN FRANCISCO

School Profile 2025-2026

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Accreditations

The International Baccalaureate Organization

The French Ministry of Education

The Council of International Schools (CIS)

The California Association of Independent Schools (CAIS)

The Western Association of Schools and Colleges (WASC)

Our International Community

The International School of San Francisco (formerly known as the International High School of French American International School) is an independent, coeducational prekindergarten-12th grade school located in the heart of San Francisco. Since our founding 62 years ago, our community has prepared students to navigate the world with confidence and command, empathy and joy. We achieve this through rigorous bilingual, French, and International Baccalaureate education programs, and a vibrant school culture strengthened by multilingual, multinational educators and families.

Our Mission + Values

MISSION: Guided by the principles of academic rigor and diversity, International offers programs of study in French and English to prepare its graduates for a world in which the ability to think critically and to communicate across cultures is of paramount importance.

VALUES: Our international community brings together people from many backgrounds. Together we strive to create a shared culture that develops compassionate, confident, and principled people who will make the world better. We base our community on these values: Respect, Integrity, Inclusion, Collaboration, and Curiosity.

COMMITMENT TO EQUITY: We commit to advancing equity and social justice in our diverse, urban community. We fulfill this promise through our programs and practices, and we inspire and equip our students to live this commitment locally and internationally.

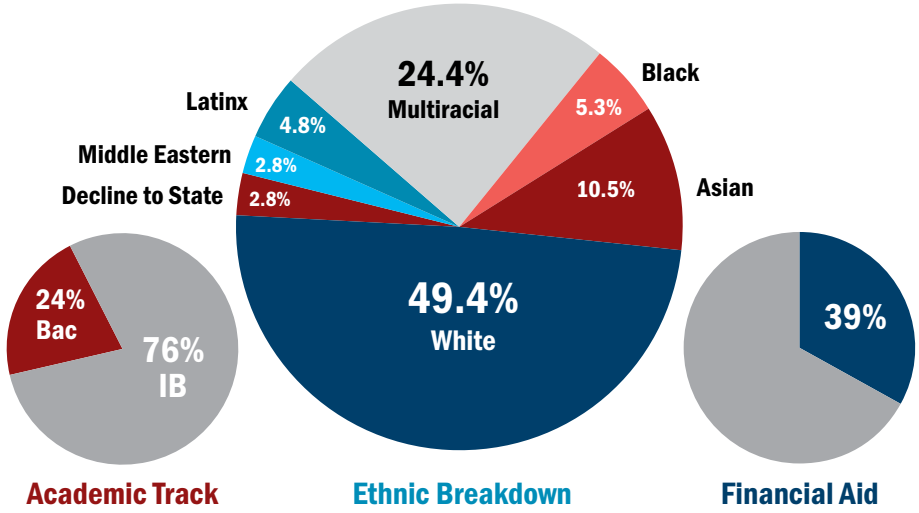
High School Demographics

Enrollment: 358

The Class of 2026: 114 Students

31 countries represented

Geographic Representation: 92% San Francisco, 3% Peninsula, 4% East Bay, 1% Other



Our Diploma Programs

Our students have the choice to select between two diploma pathways: the International Baccalaureate Diploma Program (IBDP) and the French Baccalaureate (French Bac). In both programs, students are taking demanding classes, many of which are equivalent to introductory college courses. Students simultaneously receive an American High School Diploma upon completion of their required courses.

International Baccalaureate



The International Baccalaureate Diploma Program (IBDP) is a two-year academically rigorous program recognized throughout the world. The program is highly customizable and students are encouraged to choose subjects unique to their interests. Over the course of the program, students study literature, mathematics, at least one experimental science, at least one subject in the "individuals and societies" category, and a second language.

They also take the course Theory of Knowledge (focusing on epistemology), write an Extended Essay (a 4,000-word research paper), and complete the CAS requirement (creativity, activity, and service).

Due to the demanding nature of the program, students can take no more than three IB courses at the Higher Level. Students who complete a second language A (native-level) or a science/individual & societies class in a different language and earn a 3 or higher receive an IB bilingual diploma.

IB Course Offerings

GROUP 1
Literature + Language and Literature (Language A)
English (HL and SL)
French (HL and SL)
Mandarin Chinese (HL and SL)
Spanish (HL and SL)

GROUP 2
Language Acquisition (Language B + Language ab initio)
French ab initio (SL only)
French B (HL and SL)
Italian B (HL and SL)
Italian ab initio (SL only)
Mandarin Chinese B (HL and SL)
Spanish B (HL and SL)

GROUP 3
Individuals and Societies
Global Politics (HL and SL)
History (HL and SL, *offered in English and French*)
Geography (HL and SL, *offered in English and French*)
Psychology (HL and SL)

GROUP 4
Experimental Sciences
Biology (HL and SL, *offered in English and French*)
Chemistry (HL and SL)
Environmental Systems (SL only)
Physics (HL and SL, *offered in English and French*)

GROUP 5
Mathematics
Mathematics Analysis and Approaches (HL and SL)
Mathematics Applications and Interpretations (SL only)

GROUP 6
Arts and Electives
Computer Science (HL and SL)
Design Technology (HL and SL)
Economics (HL and SL)
Film (HL and SL)
Music (HL and SL)
Theater Arts (HL and SL)
Visual Arts (HL and SL)

French Baccalaureate



The French Baccalaureate is a two-year program that is an essential credential for entry into the French national university system. It combines required core courses and selected in-depth specialty courses. Students select three specialty classes in grade 11 and drop one of these specializations in grade 12. All French Bac students must complete a "grand oral" presentation in grade 12 which focuses on one or both of the final specializations.

THE BACCALAUREAT FRANCAIS INTERNATIONAL (BFI) — This opt-in program is the successor of the Option Internationale du Baccalauréat (OIB) and leads to additional Bac exams at the end of grade 12. The majority of International students choose to participate in the BFI program. The BFI places a large emphasis on oral presentation and argumentation skills. It also encourages students to analyze how their own cultures fit within a broader world context. As part of the BFI, students take the new course, *Connaissance du Monde* (translation: understanding of the world), where they explore the following topics: contemporary world issues, building a healthy future, and becoming a global citizen. They also complete a personal project (in partnership with an international organization) based on their interests; this culminates in an oral presentation.

French Bac Course Offerings

COMMON CORE
This set of courses is taken by all French Bac students.

French
Philosophy
History/Geography
Civics (combined with the History/Geography curriculum)
English
Combined Experimental Sciences: Physics and Biology
Second Foreign Language (Arabic, Italian, Mandarin, or Spanish)
P.E.

SPECIALIZATIONS
Students choose three specializations in grade 11, and continue with two of these in grade 12.

Mathematics
Physics and Chemistry
Biology
Economics and Social Science
Humanities, Literature, Philosophy (HLP)

ELECTIVE COURSEWORK

Theater
Visual Art
Advanced Math
Applied Math



GPA Scale

Our school assigns unweighted GPAs. Please note that we changed our GPA scale in Fall 2023 to better align with a traditional American grading scale. International does not rank students.

LETTER	GPA	FRENCH SCALE	IB SCALE
A+	4.3	20–17	7
A	4.0	16–14	6
A-	3.7	13	5+
B+	3.3	12	5
B	3.0	11	4+
B-	2.7	10	4
C+	2.3	9	3+
C	2.0	8	3
C-	1.7	7	2+
D+	1.3	6–4	2
D	1.0	3–1	1
F	0.0	0	0

Previous GPA Scale (until Fall 2023)

LETTER	GPA	FRENCH SCALE	IB SCALE
A+	4.25	20-17	7
A	4.0	16-14	6
B+	3.5	13-12	5
B	3.0	11-10	4
C	2.0	9-7	3
D	1.0	6-4	2
F	0	3-0	1/0

Standardized Testing

Class of 2025

Middle 50% Math: 620-730
Middle 50% EBRW: 650-730
Average Composite: 1350

Class of 2024

Middle 50% Math: 590-680
Middle 50% EBRW: 650-720
Average Composite: 1310

** The majority of our students opt to take the SAT instead of the ACT, which makes it difficult to gather statistically significant information for the latter test.*

Discipline Policy

We expect our students to respond truthfully if a college requires students to self-report any disciplinary infractions that result in probation, suspension, or expulsion. International provides disciplinary information on such infractions upon the college's request.

Unique Learning Opportunities

ARTS: Our Arts Pavilion is our home for the arts and a testament to how integral the arts are in our daily life. Students have access to professional artists and extensive resources to further their interests in Theater, Music, Film, and Visual Arts. Highlights include masterclasses, workshops, visiting artists and events, and major shows throughout the year.

YEAR OF ACTION: Every year, International holds a series of student-organized events in which the high school community participates in workshops about issues and identities that are important to our students. Our Year of Action work is organized by the Student Diversity Council, which works to find ways for our community to come together and learn from one another.

GLOBAL TRAVEL: Every year, our students have the opportunity to participate in unforgettable trips all over the globe. Each destination has a specific theme and focus—athletic, linguistic, or scientific—but all have a cultural and service learning dimension. They provide extraordinary opportunities to enhance our students' globally-focused education outside the classroom and enrich their linguistic proficiency. The trips abroad take place during the academic year and last about two weeks each.

MULTILINGUAL CURRICULUM: International's multilingual program enables students to experience different ways of thinking on a daily basis, enhancing their intellectual flexibility. Our students are able to add a third or fourth language class when their peers in other schools are just beginning language learning. Accelerated classes in Arabic, Italian, Mandarin, or Spanish position them for proficiency in another language, in addition to English and French. Several of our IB non-language learning classes are also offered in French.

URBAN ENGAGEMENT: The Urban Engagement Mentorship program helps students hone in on their passions and professional interests, and begin to prepare for work beyond the school through a curated mentorship program, pairing students with parents and alumni. The program entails an introductory course in the fall, open to all Grade 10 students, which introduces them to research, interview and other skills through which to probe future professional work. In addition to being paired with mentors, they engage with a range of professional panels and undertake field trips.

College Enrollments

Class of 2021 through Class of 2025

Our students' enrollment choices reflect the diversity of International's student body and their adventurous spirits. Of the Class of 2025, 99% chose to attend 4-year institutions.

American University
Amsterdam University College
Art Center College of Design
Bard College
Bard College Berlin
Barnard College
Bates College
Berklee College of Music
Bocconi University
Boston College
*Boston University**
Bowdoin College
Brandeis University
Brown University
Bryn Mawr College
California Polytechnic State University (San Luis Obispo)
Carleton College
*Carnegie Mellon University**
City College of San Francisco
Claremont McKenna College
Colgate University
College of Marin
Colorado School of Mines
Columbia University
Columbia University and Sciences Po Dual BA
*Concordia University (Montreal)**
Cornell University
Dartmouth College
DePaul University
Drexel University
Duke University
Emerson College
Emory University
Erasmus University Rotterdam
ESSEC Business School
Florida Institute of Technology
Fordham University
*George Washington University**
Georgetown University
Georgia Institute of Technology
Grinnell College
Hampshire College
Harvard University
Harvey Mudd College
Haverford College
HEC Montreal
IE University
Imperial College London
Johns Hopkins University
Kenyon College
King's College London
Lewis & Clark College
Louisiana State University
*Loyola Marymount University**
Maastricht University
Macalester College
*McGill University**
*New York University***
Newcastle University
*Northeastern University***
*Northwestern University**
Oberlin College
Occidental College
Olin College of Engineering
Parsons School of Design at The New School
Pitzer College
Polytechnique Montreal
Pomona College
Prépa BCPST Lycée du Parc
Princeton University
Purdue University (Main Campus)
Reed College
Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute
Rutgers University (New Brunswick)
San Diego State University
San Francisco State University
Santa Barbara City College
*Santa Clara University**
Sapienza Universita di Roma
Seattle University
Smith College
Sorbonne University
Spelman College
Stanford University
Stenden University of Applied Sciences
Syracuse University
The New School
The University of Edinburgh
The University of Warwick
Trinity College Dublin
Trinity University
*Tufts University***
Tulane University of Louisiana
Université Paris Dauphine (London campus)
University College Dublin
University College London
University for the Creative Arts
University of Amsterdam
University of Arkansas
University of Bristol
*University of British Columbia**
*University of California (Berkeley)***
University of California Berkeley and Sciences Po Dual Degree
*University of California (Davis)***
*University of California (Irvine)***
*University of California (Los Angeles)***
University of California (Riverside)
*University of California (San Diego)***
*University of California (Santa Barbara)**
*University of California (Santa Cruz)***
University of Chicago
University of Colorado Boulder
University of Dallas
University of Denver
University of Exeter
University of Glasgow
University of Hawaii at Manoa
University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign
University of North Dakota
University of Notre Dame
*University of Oregon**
*University of Pennsylvania**
University of Puget Sound
University of Rochester
University of Roehampton
University of San Diego
*University of San Francisco**
*University of Southern California***
*University of St Andrews**
*University of Washington (Seattle Campus)***
Vanderbilt University
Vassar College
Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University
*Washington University in St. Louis**
Wellesley College
Wesleyan University
Williams College
Worcester Polytechnic Institute
Yale University

*** Ten or more students enrolled*
** Five or more students enrolled*

