



ÜSKÜDAR
AMERICAN
ACADEMY

HIGH SCHOOL PROFILE 2024/2025



Üsküdar American Academy

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THE SCHOOL

Üsküdar American Academy, established in 1876, is one of Turkey's oldest, preeminent preparatory schools. At every level, the school's program is intensely academic with a commitment to bilingual education. Üsküdar American Academy is known for outstanding student achievement, a broad program of co-curricular activities, and a blend of Turkish and international cultural values.

Accreditation: Council of International Schools and the Turkish Ministry of Education.

Memberships: CIS, NACAC, IACAC, NHS, NEHS, IBO
Üsküdar American Academy has been an authorized IBDP World School since 2016.

THE STUDENTS

- 901 Students attend grades Prep-12
- 15% receive scholarships to attend
- 174 in the 2025 graduating class
- 100% of graduates attend four-year universities
- 65% of graduates are attending university abroad in the 2023-2024 school year

Students are admitted to Üsküdar American Academy on the basis of a highly competitive national high school entry examination taken by over 1 million students. UAA enrolls students who have scored within the top 1% of this exam. International standardized testing results attest to the academic caliber of the student body.

FACULTY

- The faculty consists of 118 full-time teachers and 2 part-time teachers
- They have an average of 9 years of experience
- 61 hold master's degrees and 6 hold doctorates
- 95 are Turkish, 6 Americans, 5 Canadians, 7 British, 1 French, 1 German, 1 Spanish, 1 Belgian and 1 Montenegrin



THE CURRICULUM CLASS OF 2025

Our students follow a FIVE-YEAR high school program. They receive the “Anadolu Lise Diploma.”

Prep Year: All students enter a preparatory year. When students of the Class of 2025 started their study at UAA, they took 21 hours per week of English, 2 hours each of math and science (both taught in English) , 4 hours of a second foreign language, 4 hours of Turkish, 2 hours of Physical Education, 2 hours of Art and Music, 2 hours of IT and 1 hour of Guidance.

Grades 9 and 10: Students in Grade 9 and students following solely the Ministry of Education Diploma Program in Grade 10 follow a common curriculum with two electives each year. The aim of these two years of study is to give them a broad background in all academic areas. It is mandatory for every student to take the three core sciences - biology, physics, and chemistry and a second foreign language of French, German or Spanish. ***IBDP students start the IB curriculum in Grade 10.*** During their Grade 10 year the IBDP students also take additional science and second foreign language courses outside of the diploma program. Please see the IB section for detailed information.

Grades 11 and 12: Students following solely the **Ministry of Education Diploma Program** in Grades 11 and 12 choose electives to supplement the Common Core requirements. Students choose from a selection ***of Honors, AP and Advanced courses***. All Advanced courses as well as Honors American Literature, Honors World Literature, Honors World History and Honors Contemporary World History taught in Grades 11 and 12 are equivalent to the rigor of AP courses. ***IBDP students fulfill the Common Core requirements through their selected HL/SL classes and some further courses.*** Please see the IB section for course information.

All Science and Math courses are taught in English.

For the Class of 2025 the weekly hours per course for Common Core classes and electives are:

GRADE 9

Common Core:

English-5
Algebra II and Geometry-6
Turkish Language and Literature-5
Second Foreign Language-4
Biology-2
Chemistry-2
Physics-2
History-2
Geography-2
Physical Education-2
Religion and Ethics- 2
Health and Traffic Education - 1
Guidance-1

▶ Electives:

Arts Elective (pick one):

Visual Arts-2
Music-2
Music Production - 2
Computer Science and Design-2
Coding and Game Design-2
English Drama-2
Dance - 2

English Elective (pick one)

Creative Writing - 2
Journalism - 2
Language Strategies for Success - 2
Reader's Theater-2
Public Speaking - 2
Writers Workshop-2
Young Adult Literature - 2

GRADE 10

Common Core:

English Language and Literature -5
Precalculus and Trigonometry-6
Turkish Language and Literature-5
Second Foreign Language-4
Physics-3
Chemistry-3
Biology -2
History - 2
Geography - 2
Philosophy - 2
Religion and Ethics -2
Physical Education -2
Guidance-1

▶ Electives (pick one):

English Drama - 1
Music - 1
Music Production - 1
Visual Arts - 1
Folk Dancing - 1

GRADE 11

Common Core:

Calculus and Geometry (or AP Calculus and Geometry (or AP Calculus AB & Geometry) - 7
English Language and Literature - 5
Turkish Language and Literature - 5
History - 2
Philosophy - 2
Physical Education -2
Religion and Ethics - 2
Guidance-1

▶ Electives (pick three):

Advanced Physics I - 4
Advanced Chemistry I - 4
Advanced Biology I - 4
AP Physics C: Mechanics - 4
AP Chemistry - 4
AP Statistics - 4
Fundamentals of Science - 4
Computer Science - 4
Honors World History - 4
Honors American Literature - 4
Turkish Literature - 4
Geography - 4
Economics - 4
Innovation and Entrepreneurship Management- 4

▶ Electives (pick one):

English Drama - 2
Advanced Coding and Game Design - 2
Art and Digital Design - 2
Visual Arts - 2
Chamber Music - 2
Music and Technology- 2

GRADE 12

Common Core:

Discrete Mathematics with Analytical Geometry- 6
English Language and Literature- 5
Turkish Language and Literature- 5
History of the Turkish Republic and Kemalism - 2
Religion and Ethics - 2
Physical Education - 2
Guidance - 1

▶ Electives (pick three):

Advanced Biology II - 4
Advanced Chemistry II - 4
Advanced Physics II - 4
AP Calculus BC - 4
AP Physics C: E&M - 4
AP Statistics - 4
Honors Contemporary World History - 4
Cinema Production and Script Writing - 4
Computer Science and Bioinformatics- 4
Neuroscience - 4
Integrated Learning - 4
Economics - 4
Social Science - 4
Maths for Turkish University - 4
Social Sciences for Turkish University - 4
Turkish for University- 4

▶ Electives (pick one):

English Drama - 2
Sculpture and Ceramics - 2
Visual Arts - 2
Chamber Music - 2
Music and Technology- 2
3-D Engineering Drawing - 2
Advanced Coding and Game Design - 2
Design and Innovation Management - 2



ADVANCED PLACEMENT, HONORS AND ADVANCED COURSES

The following AP, Honors and Advanced courses were offered to the Class of 2025:

Grade 11: AP Calculus AB, AP Physics C: Mechanics, AP Chemistry, AP Statistics, Advanced Biology I, Advanced Chemistry I, Advanced Physics I, Honors American Literature, Honors World History

Grade 12: AP Calculus BC, AP Statistics, AP Physics C: E&M, Advanced Chemistry II, Advanced Biology II, Advanced Physics II, Honors World Literature, Honors Contemporary World History

All advanced courses offered at UAA are demanding and equal to the rigor of Advanced Placement courses.

Students, accustomed to academic rigor and self-discipline, often study for AP exams on their own for courses not offered at UAA. **In May 2024, 144 UAA students took a total of 364 AP exams.**

Grade	10	11	12	TOTAL*
# of students who took AP tests	61	68	15	144
Total number of AP exams taken	124	219	21	364
# of students who scored 3	14	7	2	23
# of students who scored 4	31	33	4	68
# of students who scored 5	32	62	11	105

*We also had some 9th Grade students take AP exams which are not shown in this table.

The International Baccalaureate Diploma Programme at UAA

Students in the IB Diploma Programme (IBDP) **earn two Diplomas** - one from **the IB in December** (in the first semester of Grade 12) and the **National High School Diploma** on graduation **in June**. IBDP students decide to pursue the IBDP during the 2nd Semester of 9th Grade and **they start the IB curriculum in Grade 10**.

The IBDP runs from January of Grade 10 to November of Grade 12. At the end of Grade 10, students make a final choice between Higher and Standard levels for those subjects offered at both levels. These levels are not reflected on their school transcripts but they are indicated on their IB transcripts. During their Grade 10 year the IBDP students also take additional science and second foreign language courses outside of the diploma program.

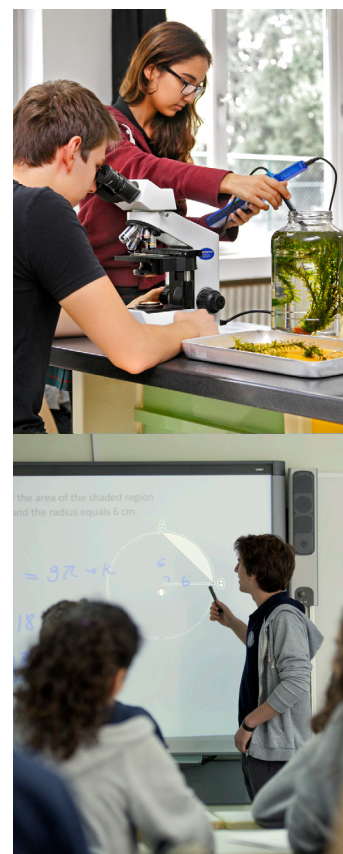
IBDP students must meet some additional requirements from the Ministry of Education (M.E.B.) in order to graduate with the National High School Diploma. **IBDP students continue with these National Diploma requirements during Grade 12, as reflected on their UAA transcripts.**

Subjects Offered to the Class of 2025

Students study 6 subjects, one from each group. The IB requires 3 or 4 subjects to be studied at Higher Level (HL), the rest at Standard Level (SL). Levels are selected at the start of Grade 11.

IB Group	Subjects offered
1 - Studies in Language and Literature	Turkish A: Literature (HL or SL)
2 - Studies in Language and Literature / Language Acquisition	English A: Language and Literature (HL or SL), English B (HL)
3 - Individuals and Societies	Turkey in the Twentieth Century (SL)
4 - Sciences	Physics (HL or SL), Biology (HL or SL)
5 - Mathematics	Mathematics: Analysis & Approaches (HL or SL)
6 - Electives	Chemistry (HL), Computer Science (HL), Economics (HL), Visual Arts (HL), Business Management (HL)

IBDP students must also complete the "DP core" consisting of Theory of Knowledge (TOK), the extended essay, and CAS (Creativity, Activity, Service).



GRADING

Üsküdar American Academy follows the passing and promotion system of the Turkish Ministry of Education.

The passing grade is 50. A student's Grade Point Average is calculated on the basis of the grade and the number of periods each class meets per week.

Grades are not weighted. AP, Honors, IB and Advanced courses are not given special weight. In this context, earning High Honors and Honors is commendable.

RANKING

Üsküdar American Academy does not rank. The program is demanding and it is difficult for students to achieve high marks.

TESTING

Only students considering attending universities abroad typically take the SAT, ACT, AP tests and the TOEFL. IELTS is mandatory in Grade 11 for all students. The average IELTS score for the UAA Class of 2024 is 7.64.

CLUBS & ACTIVITIES

Üsküdar American Academy believes in the educational value and leadership opportunities gained when students are involved in co-curricular activities as well as community service. Students can choose between more than 85 offerings. Some of our main clubs and activities include:

American Football	Health and Medicine Club
Artificial Intelligence Club	Hiking
Astrophysics and Astrobiology Club	History Club
Bioinformatics Club	Intelligent Minds
Biomechanics Club	Maker Club
Bridge Club	Memoranda (Yearbook)
Codefest	Model United Nations (English/ Turkish/French/Spanish)
Computer Programming Club	Musical
Cryptography Club	National English Honor Society
Culture and Poetry Club	National Honor Society
Debate Club	Permaculture Club
English/Turkish Drama	Photography
Environment Club	Quantum Physics Club
Ethics and Philosophy Club	Readers' Circle Club
Ethical Hacking Club	Sailing Club
Entrepreneurship Club	Science Club
European Youth Parliament	Short Film Shooting Club
Finance Club	Social Entrepreneurship Club
Genetics and Evolution Club	Student Government
Girls in Tech	

CALP (Community Action Learning Program)

Involvement in Community Action is valued at UAA. CALP, launched with this in mind, aims to ensure that students' social responsibility projects are regular and continuous. The program also intends to encourage and support the creation of new projects. Each student is expected to complete 60 hours of community service during their time at UAA.



INTERNATIONAL UNIVERSITY MATRICULATION 2020-2024

100% of Uskudar American Academy graduates go on to four-year colleges and universities. Graduates from the classes of 2020-2024 have matriculated to the following institutions.

United States

Babson College (2)
Boston University (6)
Bryant University
Brown University (3)
Carnegie Mellon University (2)
Claremont McKenna College
Columbia University (4)
Cornell University (3)
Dartmouth College (5)
Davidson College
Drew University
Drexel University (2)
Duke University (4)
Emerson College
Georgetown University
Georgia Institute of Technology
Grinnell College
Hamilton College
Harvard University (4)
Johns Hopkins University (1)
Lafayette College
Lawrence University
Loyola Marymount University
Marymount Manhattan College
Michigan State University
Middlebury College
Mount Holyoke College
New York University (12)
Northwestern University (5)
Pratt Institute (7)
Princeton University (3)
Purdue University (6)
Ringling College of Art and Design
School of Visual Arts (3)
Sciences Po - Columbia University
St John's College
St John's University
Stanford University (4)
The University of British Columbia
Tufts University (2)
Tulane University
University of California, Berkeley (10)
University of California, Los Angeles (7)
University of California, Santa Barbara (4)
University of Chicago
University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign (5)
University of Massachusetts, Amherst

University of Michigan (2)
University of Pennsylvania (2)
University Of Richmond
University of San Francisco
University of Southern California (4)
University of Virginia
University Of Washington
University of Wisconsin, Madison
Vanderbilt University (2)
Wesleyan University
Whitman College
Yale University

Canada

Dalhousie University
McGill University (6)
Toronto Metropolitan University
University of Toronto (24)

United Kingdom

Arts University Bournemouth
Brunel University
City University of London (5)
Durham University (11)
Imperial College London (14)
King's College London (20)
London School of Economics and Political Science (5)
Loughborough University
Newcastle University
Queen Mary, University of London (7)
University of London - Royal Academy of Music
University College London (40)
University of Bath (10)
University of Birmingham (4)
University of Bristol (5)
University of Edinburgh (5)
University of Exeter
University of Leeds (2)
University of Manchester (22)
University of Nottingham (3)
University of Oxford (14)
University of Salford
University of Sheffield (2)
University of Southampton
University Of Surrey
University of Sussex (2)
University of Warwick (11)

Europe & Other

Aachen University of Applied Sciences
Amsterdam University College (4)
Beaux-Arts de Paris
Bocconi University (12)
Catalyst Institute for Creative Arts and Technology
City University of Hong Kong(3)
Constructor University
Deggendorf Institute Of Technology
Delft University (16)
Ehl Swiss School Of Tourism And Hospitality
Eindhoven University of Technology (15)
Erasmus University Rotterdam (11)
Heidelberg University
Humanitas University (2)
Karlsruhe Institute of Technology (2)
KU Leuven University (5)
Leiden University (4)
Les Roches, Marbella
Luiss University
Maastricht University
Munich University of Applied Sciences
Paris I - Sorbonne University
Politecnico di Torino (8)
Radboud University
Rubika Valenciennes
James Cook University
University of Rome - La Sapienza (3)
Università Cattolica del Sacro Cuore
Utrecht University
Simmelweis University
Sapienza Università Di Roma
Sorbonne University
The Technical University Of Munich (2)
Tilburg University (2)
Università Degli Studi di Padova
University of Bologna
University of Amsterdam (18)
University Of Exeter
University of Groningen (3)
University of Limerick
University of Milan
University of Turin
University of Twente (2)
Utrecht University
Vita-Salute San Raffaele University (4)
Vrije Universiteit Amsterdam (3)



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