ACADEMICA
INTERNATIONAL
STUDIES

ACADEMIC INTERNATIONAL STUDIES
DUAL DIPLOMA PROGRAM
COURSE CATALOG

The Mission of the Academica International Studies Dual Diploma Program is to give students in countries outside of the United States the opportunity to earn a U.S. high school diploma while simultaneously earning their secondary school diploma in their country of origin. The purpose is to provide an additional competitive advantage to these students by fostering the development of self-directed and responsible 21st century life-long learners through the thoughtful use of interactive, media-rich educational opportunities in a flexible, student-centered, virtual learning environment.

Academica International Studies provides the following services and benefits to its students:

ACCESS: Access to an extremely diverse, fully-accredited course catalog. Our courses are aligned to both state and national standards.

INNOVATION: The possibility for student enrichment in a rich and engaging virtual classroom provided by a student-friendly Learning Management System (LMS). The LMS also gives teachers flexibility to enhance course content and adapt requirements and objectives to directly meet individual student needs when needed.

RESPONSIVENESS: Facilitation and feedback will be provided by highly experienced faculty members, who hold valid Florida teaching certificates. Our teachers are professionally trained in online education best practices, and will communicate and collaborate with students adhering to our high standards for faculty responsiveness.

MENTORSHIP: Students will be closely monitored by teachers and administrators to ensure achievement and success, including a cohesive communications plan that alerts students and parents about progress and pacing so any potential problems or struggles are solved before they become major issues.

Table of Contents

Academica International Studies Dual Diploma Program .....……..……...Page 3

Course Descriptions…….. Pages 4 - 15

- English Language Arts……Pages 4 - 8
- Social Sciences……..……...Pages 9 - 11
- Additional Electives……..……Pages 12- 15

Academica International Studies Dual Diploma Program

Graduation Requirements: In order to obtain the AIS High School diploma, the following course requirements must be completed.

Subject Area	Course Requirements 24 Credits
Native Language & Literature	4 credits, with major concentration in composition, reading for information, and literature
English	4 credits
Mathematics	4 credits, one of which must be Algebra 1 or equivalent and one of which must be Geometry or its equivalent
Science	3 credits, two of which must have a laboratory component and one of which must be Biology 1 or equivalent course or series of courses
Social Studies	1 credit of World History 1 credit of US History .5 credit of US Government .5 credit of Economics
Fine Arts or Performing Arts	1 credit of fine or performing arts, speech and debate, or practical arts
Physical Education/Health	1 credit in physical education to include integration of health
Electives	4 credits
Grade Point Average	Minimum Cumulative Overall GPA of 2.0 on 4.0 scale

Course of Study: A minimum of 6 of the 24 graduation requirements must be taken in order to earn the Dual Diploma. All students will take the 4 Required Courses: 2 Credits in English, United States History, and United States Government/Economics. Students will take 2 credits from the Electives.

Electives

Course	Credits	Prerequisite
College Entrance Exam Prep	1	None
Concepts of Engineering & Technology	1	None
Criminology	1	None
Digital Photography	1	None
Global Studies	1	None
Introduction to Social Media	1	None
Life Management Skills	1	None
Psychology	1	None

Note that all electives may not be available each semester

Course Descriptions

English Language Arts

English I

In this class you are going to participate in a series of online tutorials, state-of-the-art learning modules, oral and written examinations, and creative projects. You will become more knowledgeable about everyday English vocabulary and grammar and highly proficient in practical conversation and day-to-day interaction. You will acquire a variety of skills related to both comprehension and communication in everyday English.

Prerequisites: None. Credits 1.0

Major Concepts Covered:

Semester 1

- Students will be able to demonstrate, orally and in writing, a clear understanding of everyday English grammar.
- Students will learn strategies for clear and articulate pronunciation of English vocabulary.
- Students will learn how to successfully converse in diverse English-language settings and environments.
- Students will acquire a variety of skills related to both comprehension and communication in everyday English.
- Students will master the following grammatical structures: the verb to be, pronoun and noun forms, possessive forms, the simple present tense and the present continuous tense.
- Students will master vocabulary related to the following themes: greetings and introductions, family and friends, describing your home, things we can/can't do, exchanging information, how much/how many, describing daily routines, and what's happening.

Semester 2

- Students will continue to learn strategies for clear and articulate pronunciation of English vocabulary.
- Students will master the following grammatical structures: the simple past tense, the present perfect tense, adverbs, modals, and future forms.
- Students will master vocabulary related to the following themes: greetings and introductions, talking about the past, talking about the future, things we have done, routines and actions, past experiences, let's trade apartments, and comparing people and things.
- Students will complete creative projects throughout the course where they will be required to apply the knowledge of the English language that they are acquiring and demonstrate proficiency in both written and oral form.

English II
In this class you will continue to participate in a series of online tutorials, state-of-the-art learning modules, oral and written examinations, and creative projects. You will continue to improve your English vocabulary and grammar skills as well as become proficient in more formal settings.

Prerequisites: Successful completion of English I or the equivalent. Credits 1.0

Major Concepts Covered:

Semester 1

- Students will continue to learn strategies for clear and articulate pronunciation of English vocabulary as well as develop skills necessary for communication in more formal settings.
- Students will review all grammatical structures from English I.
- Students will learn how to successfully converse in diverse English-language settings and environments.
- Students will acquire a variety of skills related to both comprehension and communication in everyday English.
- Students will master the following grammatical structures: past continuous, past perfect, conditionals, the passive, reported speech and relative clauses.
- Students will master vocabulary related to the following themes: comparing people and things, past and present, describing past experiences, personal history, plans/ promises/predictions, travel, what if, and hopes and regrets, what did they say, on vacation.

Semester 2

- Students will continue to learn strategies for clear and articulate pronunciation of English vocabulary as well as develop skills necessary for communication in more formal settings.
- Students will review the grammatical structures taught in Semester 1 and will learn how to apply higher order thinking skills when dealing with written and spoken texts.
- Students will master vocabulary related to the following themes: community, career trends, house and home, inventions, the environment, finance, safety preparedness and the arts.
- Students will complete creative projects throughout the course where they will be required to apply the knowledge of the English language that they are acquiring and demonstrate proficiency in both written and oral form.

English III
The purpose of this course is to give students the tools to understand and express who they are and where they want to go. By the end of the course, each student's portfolio of writings will provide a descriptive self-portrait of a young adult growing up.

Prerequisites: Successful completion of English II or the equivalent. Credits 1.0

Major Concepts Covered:

Semester 1

- Text connections
- Identifying theme and how it develops
- Moving a story forward
- Comparing and contrasting mediums
- Using context clues
- Thesaurus and dictionary skills
- Finding the main idea
- Writing an effective summary
- Assess internet sources
- Reading informational texts
- Researching and organizing information
- Avoiding plagiarism/citing sources
- Writing an introduction, supporting paragraphs, and the conclusion to an essay
- Recognizing point of view
- Identifying the narrator
- Planning narrative writing, beginning a narrative, and writing a narrative
- Writing dialogue

Semester 2

- Identifying conflicting points of view
- Using supporting evidence
- Presenting information in different mediums
- Evaluating modes of communication
- Analyzing theme
- Figurative language
- Syntax and diction
- Interpreting implicit and explicit ideas
- Identifying irony and puns
- Poetic elements
- Point of view
- Analyzing plot pattern
- Interpreting symbolism
- Argumentation vs. persuasion
- Identifying multiple perspectives on an issue
- Finding credible sources
- Knowing your audience
- Making and supporting a claim
- Acknowledging counter-claims

- Preparing a rebuttal
- Concluding an argument

English IV

The purpose of this course is to provide students integrated English language arts study in reading, writing, speaking, listening, and language for college and career preparation and readiness.

Prerequisites: Successful completion of English III. Credits 1.0

Major Concepts Covered:

Semester 1

- Theme, Thematic analysis, Thesis Statement
- Idea Development
- Proper use of conventions
- Characterization
- Plot analysis
- Six Traits of Writing
- Narrative Writing Process
- Proper Use of Conventions
- Text Structures
- Figurative language
- Tone, Mood
- Diction
- Connotation and Denotation
- Structure

Semester 2

- Informational Texts, Text Features
- Context
- Compare and Contrast
- Argument analysis, Argument writing process
- Characteristics of an Effective Claim, Counterclaim
- Appeals to Logic, Emotion, and Ethics
- Logical fallacies
- Research skills, Ethical Researching and Writing Practices
- Naturalism
- Dialect
- Figurative language
- Syntax
- Poetry - Difference between an Essay and a Poem, How to Analyze and Paraphrase Poems

English V

The purpose of this course is for students to discover how real life is the foundation of the best stories, plays, poems, films, and articles. Students will explore a variety of human experiences such as laughter, obstacles, betrayal, fear, and transformation through the study of literature and writing.

Prerequisites: Successful completion of English IV. Credits 1.0

Major Concepts Covered:

Semester 1

- Poetry
- Connotation, Denotation, and Imagery
- Humor & Tone
- Plot, Pacing, and Point of View
- Narrative Writing
- Pre-writing Process
- Writing Tips
- The Hurdle: Understand Various Types of Writing, Determine an Author's Purpose in Writing, Make a Prediction about a Topic
- Historical Context and Human Rights
- Point of View
- The Victory: Analyzing Writing Prompts, How to Identify Topics, Gathering Information
- Analysis, Research and Citations
- Outlining
- Grammar

Semester 2

- Fear, Fear in Film
- Surprise
- Project Runaway: Understanding of Universal Themes in a Film Critique, Analyze the Techniques that Authors Use to Explore and Communicate Themes, Evaluate a Director's Use of Literary and Film Techniques to Create Suspense
- Apostrophes and Homonyms
- Julius Caesar
- Argumentative Writing, Claims and Counterclaims
- Develop Your Position
- Outline Your Argument
- Write your Argument
- Using Word Parts to Decipher the Meaning of Words
- How to Use Phrases and Fragments for Effect

Social Sciences

Economics
In this course, you will recognize examples of economics in your daily life. You will see how the economic choices of larger groups, like businesses and governments, affect you and others.

Prerequisites: Successful completion of English I or the equivalent and United States Government.
Credits .5

Major Concepts Covered:

- Study of Economics, Scarcity and Choice
- Opportunity Cost
- Supply and Demand
- Money, Wants and Needs
- Career and Income
- Taxes
- Saving and Investing, Credit
- Budgets
- Entrepreneurship
- Factors of Production
- Business Organization, Market Competition
- Marginal Cost Analysis
- Production Possibilities
- Business Cycle
- Government and the Economy
- The Federal Reserve
- Monetary Policy and Fiscal Policy
- Economic Goals and Measurement
- Comparative Advantage and Trade
- Inflation
- Circular Flow
- Public Policy Analysis

Global Studies
Students will learn more about the challenges facing societies and the relationships between societies, governments, and individuals in these areas. Each unit will focus on a particular area of social concern, often with a global view, and examine possible solutions at both a structural and individual level.

Prerequisites: None. Credits 1.0
*counts as Dual Diploma Elective

Major Concepts Covered:

- Analyzing Social Problems

- Mass Media
- Poverty
- Education
- Crime
- Population and the Environment
- War & Terrorism

Psychology
The purpose of this course is to introduce you to the psychological facts, principles, and phenomena associated with each of the subfields within psychology.

Prerequisites: None. Credits 1.0
*counts as Dual Diploma Elective

Major Concepts Covered:

- The evolution of psychology
- The biological bases of behavior
- Sensation and perception
- Consciousness and dreams
- Human development
- Learning and memory and intelligence
- Psychological disorders and therapy
- Social psychology

United States Government
You will gain a greater understanding on the history of the United States of America's beginnings, and knowledge of how government functions at the local, state and national levels.

Prerequisites: Successful completion of English I or the equivalent. Credits .5

Major Concepts Covered:

- Origins of Modern Government and Types of Government
- Enlightenment Influences
- Declaration of Independence
- Articles of Confederation
- The Constitution
- Branches of Government, Checks and Balances and Federalism
- Judicial Branch, the Court System, and the Supreme Court
- The Amendments and the Bill of Rights
- Civil Rights and Civil Liberties
- The Legislative Branch, Powers of Congress and Congressional Elections
- Role of Political Parties and Interest Groups
- How a Bill Becomes a Law
- The Executive Branch, Presidential Elections and the Cabinet
- Citizenship and the Rights and Responsibilities of United States Citizens

- Voting Rights and Responsibilities

United States History
In this course, you will look at some of the most profound questions that thoughtful United States still debate. You will research many important events throughout the history of the United States of America. In the process, you will witness the development of the United States throughout its history to today's superpower status.

Prerequisites: None. Credits 1.0

Major Concepts Covered:

Semester 1

·Understanding the chronological order of historical events
·Understanding the connections between historical events
·Generating inferences around historical events
·Interpreting Primary and Secondary sources
·Civil War
·Reconstruction
·Westward Expansion
·Industrial Revolution
·Populism
·Push and Pull Factors of Immigration
·Social Reform
·Imperialism

Semester 2

· World War One
·The Roaring Twenties
·The Great Depression
· World War Two
· Cold War
· Korean War
· Vietnam War
· Civil Rights Movement
·1970s
·1980s
·1990s
·The Millennium
·Terrorism

Electives

College Entrance Exam Prep
In this course, you will practice thinking strategies, build verbal competence, and sharpen your mathematics reasoning. You will acquire essential test-taking strategies.

Prerequisites: None. Credits 1.0

Major Concepts Covered:

- College Entrance Exam vocabulary, requirements and facts
- Vocabulary: word meaning, roots, prefixes and suffixes, sentence types, sentence completion, literary terms and transitional words
- Critical reading
- Inferences
- Point of view
- Author's tone and attitude
- Long and short reading passages
- Understanding reading passages and Determining main idea
- Web use for self enhancement in vocabulary
- Algebraic expressions and Algebraic mistakes
- Changing word problems into math problems
- Math – Rate, Distance, Work, Cost and Mixture problems
- Simultaneous Equations
- Factoring Quadratics
- Inequalities
- Binomials and Trinomials
- Direct and Inverse Variation
- Functions
- Probability
- Rational and Radical Equations
- Graphing equations and absolute value
- Geometry including: coordinate geometry, Pythagorean theorem, parallel and transversal lines, area and perimeter, triangles, rectangles, polygons and circles surface area
- Permutations and combinations: Alphanumeric problems, Logic, Graphs/Charts
- Writing Essays: using essay prompts, brainstorming and planning, word choice, elaboration sentence type
- Grammar: identifying errors and punctuation

Concepts of Engineering & Technology
In this course, you'll be exploring the various fields of this occupation, its history, the important role it plays in human life, and the ethical issues related to engineering.

Prerequisites: None. Credits 1.0

Major Concepts Covered:

- Development & Understanding of Engineering
- Intro to Engineering: Making Problems into Ideas
- From Sketches to Products
- Civil Engineering
- Mechanical Engineering
- Chemical Engineering
- Biological Engineering
- Impossible Engineering

Criminology
In this course, students will explore the field of criminology or the study of crime. In doing so, students will look at possible explanations for crime from psychological, biological, and sociological standpoints, explore the various types of crime and their consequences for society, and investigate how crime and criminals are handled by the criminal justice system.

Prerequisites: None. Credits 1.0

Major Concepts Covered:

- Learn what crime is and how it is related to deviance
- Discuss what criminology is and how it relates to other disciplines
- Investigate legitimate reasons why a crime might be excused
- Examine crime statistic sources and the issues with each
- Look at some of the research methods that criminologists use to study crime

Digital Photography
In this course, students will learn creative photographic skills and processes. Students will build a portfolio of work and explore the fields of photography and graphic arts.

Prerequisites: None. Credits 1.0

Major Concepts Covered:

- Introduction and History of Photography
- Aperture and Shutter Speed
- Composition and Lighting
- Special Techniques
- People and Photography
- Landscapes and Places
- The Close Up
- Documentary and Action

Introduction to Social Media
The purpose of this course is to learn how to interact on various social media platforms in order to survive and thrive in this age of digital communication. In this course, you'll learn the ins and outs of social media platforms such as Facebook, Twitter, Pinterest, Google+, and more. You'll also discover other types of social media you may not have been aware of and how to use them for your benefit—personally, academically, and eventually professionally as well. If you thought social media platforms were just a place to keep track of friends and share personal photos, this course will show you how to use these resources in much more powerful ways.

Prerequisites: None. Credits 1.0

Major Concepts Covered:

- Clearly define social media
- Communicate a solid understanding of social media and how it has changed over time
- Identify various types of social media
- Identify the basic uses of social media
- Discuss the positive and negative influences of social media on individuals, businesses, and society as a whole

Life Management Skills
The purpose of this course is to produce health literate students that make sound decisions and take positive actions for healthy and effective living. The course is wellness oriented and emphasizes responsible decision-making and planning for a healthy lifestyle.

Prerequisites: None. Credits 1.0

Major Concepts Covered:

- Responsible decision-making
- Goal-setting, including personal health and individual wellness planning
- Positive emotional development, including the prevention of depression and suicide
- Communication, interpersonal and coping skills, including prevention of bullying and Internet safety
- Nutrition and physical activity
- Tobacco, alcohol, and other drug use and abuse
- Analyzing health information and consumer knowledge
- Health-related community resources
- Health advocacy skills
- Making Financial Decisions
- Multiple Intelligences and Learning Styles
- Effective Study Skills
- Time Management

- Career Planning
- Leadership Skills
- Netiquette and Proper Online Behavior
- Peer Pressure
- Genetic Disorders
- Human Impacts on the Environment
- Media Literacy
- Volunteering in the Community