

High School Profile

2016 - 2017

ÜSKÜDAR
AMERICAN
ACADEMY



140th YEAR YIL
1876-2016



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 American cultural values.

- Accreditation: Council of International Schools and the Turkish Ministry of Education.
- Memberships: CIS, NACAC, OACAC, NHS, NEHS
- Üsküdar American Academy is an authorized IBDP World School and will have its first IBDP graduates in the class of 2017.

THE STUDENTS

- 844 Turkish students are in grades Prep-12
- 13% of students receive scholarships to attend ÜAA
- 157 in the graduating class 2017
- 100% of graduates attend four year universities
- Over 35% of graduates are attending university abroad in 2015-2016

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. ÜAA 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 119 full time teachers and 2 part time teachers
- They have an average of 16 years of experience
- 57 hold masters degrees and 4 hold doctorates
- 85 are Turkish, 20 Americans, 3 Canadians, 7 British, 1 French, 1 New Zealander, 1 Indian, 1 Brazilian, 1 German and 1 Spanish

THE CURRICULUM CLASS OF 2017

Curriculums offered: The Turkish Lycee Diploma with Turkish University Preparation courses, AP and Honors courses or the IB Diploma Program.

All students follow a FIVE YEAR high school program.

Prep Year: All students enter a preparatory year. The aim of this year is to guarantee a sufficient level of English to enable them to continue their study where all science and math courses are taught in English. When students of the Class of 2017 started their study at ÜAA, they took 22 hours per week of English, 2 hours each of math and science (taught in English), 4 hours of either French, German or Spanish and another 10 hours per week divided between Turkish, Music, Art, IT and Physical Education. Every grade takes one hour of Guidance each week.

Grades 9 and 10: Students in Grades 9 and 10 follow a common curriculum with one elective in each year. The aim of these two years of study is to give them a broad background in all academic areas. This background helps them to select course concentrations in Grade 11 and 12. All math and science courses are taught in English. A second foreign language of French, German or Spanish is required in Grade 9 and Grade 10.

(Students in the second semester of grade 9 need to decide whether to choose the IB Program. The details are of this program are explained in the IB Program section below.)

Grades 11 and 12: Students in Grades 11 and 12 choose electives to supplement the common course requirements. These elective choices are based upon their intended area of future study; courses needed for university entry; and areas of special interest. Students are required to take Turkish Literature and Turkish Language Arts in both Grade 11 and Grade 12, but the number of hours depends upon the students' future university plans.

For the Class of 2016, the number of weekly hours per courses are:

GRADE 9:

English-7, Turkish Literature-3, Turkish Language Arts-2, Second Foreign Language-4, Algebra 2-4, Geometry-2, Pre-Ottoman History-2, Geography-2, Chemistry-2, Biology-2, Physics-2, Health-1, PE-2, Religion and Ethics-1, English Elective-2 and Guidance-1 hour.

GRADE 10:

English-5, Turkish Literature-3, Turkish Language Arts-2, Second Foreign Language-4, Physics-4, Chemistry-3, Biology-3, Pre-Calculus and Trigonometry-6, Ottoman History-2, Geography-2, Religion and Ethics-1, Elective-2, PE-2 and Guidance-1 hour.

GRADE 11:

Mandatory common courses are: English – 5, Turkish 5 or 9, History of the Turkish Republic – 2, Philosophy – 2, Religion and Ethics – 1, Advanced Algebra and Limits – 4, Advanced Geometry – 3, PE – 2, Guidance – 1. In addition, our students need to take 15 hrs. of electives. Elective courses include: Social Sciences, AP Physics C: Mechanics Preparation, AP Chemistry Preparation, AP Biology Preparation, Advanced Biology, AP Physics 1, AP Calculus AB, Advanced Chemistry, Honors American Literature, AP French, World Languages, Advanced Geometry, Analytic Geometry, Visual and Performing Arts

GRADE 12:

Mandatory common courses are: Calculus-4 or AP Calculus BC, English – 5, Turkish-5 or 9, Religion and Ethics – 1, Traffic and First Aid – 1, PE – 2, Guidance – 1. In addition, our students need to take 18 hrs. of electives. **Elective courses include:** Social Sciences, Advanced Biology, AP Physics 2, AP Physics C-Electricity and Magnetism, Advanced Chemistry, Honors World Literature, Honors World History, British Literature, AP Calculus BC, AP Statistics, Advanced Geometry, Analytic Geometry, Economics, Nanoscience and Technology, World Languages, Contemporary World and Turkish History, AP French, Cinema Studies, Visual and Performing Arts.

ACTIVITIES

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

Student Association (Student Government)
Model United Nations (MUN) / French MUN / German MUN
Turkish International Model United Nations (TIMUN)
English Speaking Union
Chess Club
Music Club
Folklore Dance
Science Club
Esperanto
Serçe (literary magazine)
American Football
Spirit of Green Peace Club

Hiking Club
Permaculture Club
Artificial Intelligence Club
Turkish Drama / English Drama
Memoranda (Yearbook)
National English Honor Society
National Honor Society
Documentary Film Club
Photography Club
Quantum Physics Club
Ultimate Frisbee

THE IB DIPLOMA PROGRAM AT UAA

Students in our first cohort of the IB Diploma Program (IBDP) are expected to earn two Diplomas – **one from the IBO in January 2017 in the first semester of Grade 12**, and the **National High School Diploma on graduation in June 2017**. IB Diploma students in Turkey must qualify for the National High School Diploma of the Ministry of Education in order to graduate from high school.

Students in our IBDP are selected on the basis of GPA at the end of Grade 9, teacher recommendation and an interview. The IBDP runs from January of Grade 10 to December of Grade 12. At the end of Grade 10, students finally choose Higher or Standard Level for Turkish and Mathematics, and also whether they wish to take English B HL or English A (Language and Literature). IB students are offered menu of subject combinations, based on their likely choice of studies at university.

The levels (HL or SL) are chosen by students at the end of Grade 10, and are not reflected in their school transcripts. They are indicated in the IB predictions transcript on the reverse of the school transcript.

The final IB scores are published for students **on January 6 2017**, and the school's own transcripts of the final results will be available to universities on **January 18 2017**. Turkey in the 20th Century is a school based syllabus approved by the IBO, and offered as a substitute for the History, Geography and Sociology required for the National Diploma. It is taught and assessed in Turkish, as required by the Ministry of Education. **IB students continue with their Turkish Diploma requirements through Grade 12, as reflected on their UAA transcripts.**

SUBJECT COMBINATIONS OFFERED

IB Group	Engineering	Life Sciences	Management
1 – Studies of Language & Literature	Turkish A HL or SL	Turkish A HL or SL	Turkish A HL or SL
2 – Language Acquisition	English A HL or SL, or English B HL	English A HL or SL, or English B HL	English A HL or SL, or English B HL
3 – Individuals & Societies	Turkey in the 20th Century SL	Turkey in the 20th Century SL	Turkey in the 20th Century SL
4 – Natural Sciences	Physics HL	Biology HL	Physics HL
5 – Mathematics	Mathematics HL or SL	Mathematics HL or SL	Mathematics HL or SL
6 – Track Elective	Chemistry HL	Chemistry HL	Economics HL

ADVANCED PLACEMENT, HONORS AND ADVANCED COURSES

The following AP courses are offered:

11th Grade: Calculus AB, Physics I, Physics C-Mechanics

12th Grade: Calculus BC, Physics II, Physics C-Electricity and Magnetism, Statistics (offered for the first time in 2016-17).

Advanced Placement Prep classes offered: Biology, Chemistry and French Language and Culture, German Language and Culture and Spanish Language and Culture.

Honors courses offered:

11th Grade: Honors American Literature

12th Grade: Honors World Literature and Honors World History

AP Testing

All courses offered in grades 11 and 12 are demanding and similar to the rigor of Advanced Placement courses.

Students, accustomed to academic rigor and self-discipline, often study for exams on their own for courses not offered at UAA.

In May 2016, 75 UAA students took a total of 169 exams.

92% of students scored a 3 or higher on the AP exams, 77% received a score of 4 or 5 and 50% received a score of 5.

GRADING

Üsküdar American Academy follows the passing and promotion system of the Turkish Ministry of Education. Due to the Ministry of Education regulations announced on 07.09.2013 all schools are reporting out of a 100 scale. The passing grade is 50. Students who fail one or more courses take make-up exams. The exam grade is averaged with the year-end grade to determine the new course grade. In order to graduate a student must pass all courses.

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**. Our school **does not practice grade inflation**. The program is demanding and it is difficult for students to achieve high marks. Please refer to the Grade Distribution Chart for details.



TESTING

Only students considering attending universities abroad typically take the SAT, ACT, SAT Subject Tests and the TOEFL.

IELTS is mandatory in Grade 11 for all students. For the class of 2017, the IELTS average was 7.56. In 2016 the world wide average was 6 and the average score in Turkey was also 6.

DISTRIBUTION OF CUMULATIVE GPA'S FOR THE CLASS OF 2016

GPA	Number of Students	Percentage of the Class
95 - 100	14	9%
90 - 94	33	21%
85 - 89	37	24%
80 - 84	35	22%
75 - 79	20	13%
70 - 74	10	6%
65 - 69	5	3%
60 - 64	2	1%
59 - 55	1	--

TURKISH MINISTRY GRADE EQUIVALENT

Turkish Ministry of Education / 07.09.2013 Equivalent	5.0 Scale / Previous Years
85 - 100	5.0
70 - 84.99	4.0
60 - 69.99	3.0
50 - 59.99	2.0
0 - 49.99	1.0

• The highest GPA of the Class of 2017 at the end of Grade 11 is 97.79

CLASS OF 2017 ACT PROFILE

SECTION	MIDDLE 50%	MEAN
English	29 - 33	31
Reading	27 - 33	30
Math	33 - 36	33
Scientific Reasoning	28 - 34	31
Composite	30 - 33	31

CLASS OF 2017 SAT/ SUBJECT TEST PROFILE

SAT / SAT SUBJECT	MEAN
SAT Critical Reading	630
SAT Math	750
SAT Writing	640
Math I	740
Math II	760
Physics	760
Chemistry	730
Composite	2040

INTERNATIONAL UNIVERSITY MATRICULATION 2011-2016

100% of Üsküdar American Academy graduates go on to four year colleges and universities. Graduates from the classes of 2010-2015 have matriculated to the following institutions.

United States

Amherst College
Babson College
Barnard College
Baruch College of the CUNY
Bentley University
Berklee College of Music (2)
Boston University (4)
Brown University (2)
Bucknell University
University of California at Berkeley (4)
University of California at Los Angeles (4)
California Institute of Technology
Carnegie Mellon University (8)
University of Chicago (2)
Claremont McKenna College
Columbia University (3)
Cooper Union for the Advancement of Science and Art
Cornell University (3)
Duke University (2)
Emerson College (2)
Emory University
George Washington University (2)
Georgia Institute of Technology
Harvard University (2)
Harvey Mudd College
Johns Hopkins University
University IL Urbana-Champaign (7)
Lafayette College
Lehigh University
Massachusetts Institute of Technology
University of Michigan (4)
New York University (14)
Northeastern University
Northwestern University (7)
University of Pennsylvania (6)
Polytechnic Institute of NYU (4)
Pratt Institute (2)
Princeton University
Purdue University (3)
Reed College (2)
Rhode Island School of Design
Roger Williams University (2)
Rutgers, the State University of New Jersey at Newark
University of North Carolina-Chapel Hill
School of the Art Institute of Chicago (2)
Sciences Po - Columbia University
Dual BA Program
University of Southern California

Stevens Institute of Technology
Syracuse University (2)
Tufts University (3)
Vanderbilt University
University of Virginia (3)
Washington University in St. Louis
Webb Institute
West Virginia University
Yale University

Canada

University of British Columbia (6)
McGill University (15)
University of Toronto (7)
University of Waterloo (2)

United Kingdom

AA School of Architecture (2)
University of Bath (3)
University of Birmingham
University of Bristol
University of Cambridge
Central Saint Martin's College of Art & Design
City University London
Durham University
University of the Arts London
University of Edinburgh (3)
University of Exeter (3)
King's College London (F) (2)
University College London (F) (4)
University of Kent
University of Manchester (3)
Newcastle University
University of Nottingham (2)
School of Oriental and African
University of Sheffield
University of Southampton (2)
University of Sussex
University of Warwick (2)
University of Westminster

Europe & Other

University of Amsterdam
Universita Bocconi (3)
Carl Benz School of Engineering (3)
Ecolé Hotelière de Lausanne (2)

Georgetown University School
Of Foreign Service, Qatar
University of Groningen
INSA Lyon
Istituto Marangoni
Les Roches International School
Of Hotel Management
Universiteit Maastricht
University of Melbourne
University of New South Wales
Nuova Accademia di Belle Arti
Milano
Paris College of Art
Polytecnico di Milano (3)
Polytecnico di Torino
Rotterdam School of
Management, Erasmus (2)
University of Szeged
Université Paris IV - Paris Sorbonne
Université Paris VII - Denis Diderot
Warsaw University of Tech

(F): Foundation Year



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