



Verde Valley School

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ACADEMIC EXCELLENCE • WORLD CITIZENSHIP • PHYSICAL LABOR • ENVIRONMENTAL STEWARDSHIP • SERVICE TO OTHERS

THE SCHOOL

Verde Valley School educates students for college and for life by encouraging them to become intellectually curious, academically accomplished, and creatively expressive. The program promotes intercultural understanding and world citizenship, environmental stewardship, the value of physical labor, and service to humanity with a willing spirit. Founded in 1948, VVS has from its beginning been dedicated to developing students who are not only accomplished scholars, but citizens of the world, committed to contributing positively to humanity. As an IB World School, our students are given the tools to become active, compassionate, lifelong learners who understand that other people, with their differences, can also be right.

THE IB CURRICULUM

All students at VVS enroll in six courses – one from each of the six IB groups. This provides a well-rounded, balanced educational program for every student, and prepares each for the competitive college admission process. Every 4-year senior can boast four years of English, four years of a second language, four years of history and cultural studies, four years of math, four years of science and four years of arts. The IB Program is a rigorous, comprehensive, balanced curriculum that incorporates high standards of assessment and meets the needs of highly motivated students during the final two years of high school. To earn the IB diploma, students additionally complete the following three activities (non-IB Diploma candidates select one of the three):

EXTENDED ESSAY (EE)

The 4,000-word Extended Essay offers the student the opportunity to investigate a topic of individual interest, and acquaints him or her with the independent research and writing skills expected at college. Recent Extended Essay topics include:

- How does the Navajo Matriarchal Tribe Influence Women's Rites of Passage?
- To What Extent was South Korea Influenced by Acculturation with America after the Korean War?
- The Portrayal of the American Soldier by American Cinema During and after the Vietnam War

THEORY OF KNOWLEDGE (TOK)

The interdisciplinary TOK course is designed to provide coherence by exploring the nature of knowledge across disciplines, encouraging an appreciation of other cultural perspectives. Recent TOK presentations include:

- Emotion and Perception as Ways of Knowing
- Science/Western Medicine in Contrast to Eastern Healing Methods
- Religion/Spirituality and Free Will

CREATIVITY, ACTION, SERVICE (CAS)

The CAS program requires each student to become involved in artistic pursuits, sports, and community service. Recent CAS projects include:

- Goat Milk Soap & Laundry Soap Production
- Raising Awareness of the UN's Millennium Development Goals & Service Trip to Malawi
- Composting & Vermiculture

THE FACULTY

There are 21 faculty members at VVS, 79% of whom hold advanced degrees.

THE CO-CURRICULUM

In addition to the rigorous coursework and afternoon activities (which include sports, music ensembles, and service projects), students must also participate in an experiential education curriculum that truly distinguishes VVS from otherwise comparable secondary schools. Field Trips, Project Period, and Work Jobs are some of the most challenging — and most fondly recalled — aspects of the VVS experience. Both Field Trips and Project Period are graded pass/fail and appear on the transcript.

FIELD TRIPS

The annual Field Trips are a natural extension of the VVS and IB missions. During these two-week excursions to a variety of national destinations, students are exposed to cultural differences and unfamiliar terrain. These trips offer students the opportunity to participate in service projects that may include an integration of anthropological/humanitarian approaches to cultural understanding. Students must select a different Field Trip each year they attend Verde Valley School. Recent trips include: California Biomes; Anasazi & Hopi; Canyon de Chelly; River Ranch Sustainable Farming; Comparative Religions; Culture & Service in Los Angeles.

PROJECT PERIOD

During Project Period, students focus their energies on one or two special activities led by faculty and guest instructors. Over ten days, students explore topics or skills outside the academic curriculum. Students are required to make a final presentation to the community for each project.

WORK JOBS

In Work Jobs, which have been a part of life at the school since 1948, students learn the value of physical labor as they maintain and clean the campus grounds and buildings, run the school recycling and composting programs, and care for the School's horses and equestrian facilities.

COLLEGE COUNSELING PHILOSOPHY

The VVS college counseling process is individualized, deliberate, and comprehensive. The student's academic preparation for college begins upon arrival at VVS, and our College Counseling Team of three teachers work to ensure students are prepared for the process. We are committed to helping students conduct meaningful and authentic searches aimed at finding schools where they will thrive. We believe that "fit" is the most important factor.

THE STUDENT BODY

Total students: 115 (105 boarders/7 weekday/18 day)

International students: 53%

Students who receive financial aid: 45%

Nations represented in the student body: 19
Canada, China, France, Germany, Guatemala, Hopi Nation, Japan, Mexico, Morocco, Philippines, South Korea, Russia, Rwanda, Singapore, Spain, Switzerland, Turkey, Vietnam.

U.S. states represented in the student body: 16
Arizona, California, Colorado, Florida, Illinois, Georgia, Maine, Massachusetts, Montana, New Hampshire, New Jersey, New Mexico, North Carolina, South Carolina, Texas, Utah, Washington

SENIOR CLASS

There are 24 students in the class of 2017. Of these, 16 are IB Diploma Program candidates. 100% of VVS graduates are admitted to four-year colleges.

CLASS RANK

Verde Valley School does not rank students.

GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS

Students entering in the ninth grade are required to complete the following:

- 4 years English • 4 years mathematics
- 4 years history • 4 years foreign language
- 4 years science • 4 years in the arts

STANDARDIZED TESTING MEANS

SAT – 1663

CR: 537; Math: 603; Writing: 523

ACT – Composite – 23

English: 22; Math: 24; Reading: 23; Science: 24; Writing: 21

A NOTE ABOUT GPAS

Teachers give percentage grades rather than letter grades. Letter grades are derived from those percentages using the table below, and are supplied on the transcript. However, the GPAs are calculated from the richer data given by the percentage grades.

OUR GPA'S ARE UNWEIGHTED

GRADING SCALE GRADE RANGE SCALE

A	100 -93.0	GPA Range	#in Senior Class
A-	92.9 -90.0	4.00 -3.75	3
B+	89.9 -87.0	3.74 -3.50	7
B	86.9 -83.0	3.49 -3.25	11
B-	82.9 -80.0	3.24 -3.00	3
C+	79.9 -77.0	2.99 -2.75	2
C	76.9 -73.0	2.74 -2.50	1
C-	72.9 -70.0	2.49 -2.25	1
D+	69.9 -67.0	2.24 -2.00	0
D	66.9 -63.0		
D-	62.9 -60.0		

VERDE VALLEY SCHOOL IS ACCREDITED BY THE INTERNATIONAL BACCALAUREATE ORGANIZATION AND Advanced

2016-2017 PRE-IB AND IB COURSE OFFERINGS

THE CORE

IB Theory of Knowledge
IB Extended Essay
IB CAS - Creativity, Action Service

GROUP 1: LANGUAGE A1

English Literature 1
English Literature 2
Language A: English HL & SL

GROUP 2: SECOND LANGUAGE

IB Spanish B ab initio SL
IB Spanish B HL & SL
IB French B ab initio SL
IB French B HL & SL
IB English B HL & SL

GROUP 3: INDIVIDUALS & SOCIETIES

Big History
American History
IB History HL & SL
IB Economics HL & SL
IB Social & Cultural Anthropology HL
IB Environmental Systems & Societies SL

GROUP 4: EXPERIMENTAL SCIENCES

Physical Science
Physics
Chemistry
IB Biology HL
IB Environmental Systems & Societies SL

GROUP 5: MATHEMATICS

Integrated Math I & II
IB Math Studies SL
IB Mathematics HL & SL

GROUP 6: THE ARTS

Intro to Drawing
Intro to Painting
Intro to Ceramics
Intro to Photography
Intro to Sculpture
Intro to Music
Intro to Theatre
IB Visual Arts HL & SL
IB Music HL & SL
IB Theatre Arts HL & SL



MAY 2016 IB RESULTS SUMMARY

CLASS OF 2017 GRADE DISTRIBUTION, 3RD TRIMESTER 2016

34

Students were registered as IB students in the May 2016 Exam Session

26

Of the IB students were Diploma Candidates

4.91

Was the average grade of candidates who passed the diploma

24

Diploma candidates successfully achieved the diploma

92%

Pass rate

30

The average points scored by candidates who passed the diploma

38

The highest diploma points total awarded to a candidate

90%

The percentage of all subject results in the 4-7 range

57%

The percentage of subjects in which the average score met or exceeded the world average



COURSE	A	A-	B+	B	B-	C+	C	C-	D+	D
IB English A HL I	2	2	1	3	1					
IB English A SL II		1	1	5	3		1			
English Lit2				2						
IB French HL 1	1					1				
IB Spanish B ab initio SL 1	3								1	
IB Spanish B ab initio SL 2	1	1	1	1	1		1			
IB History HL		1			1					
IB History SL	1	3	1	3						
IB Social & Cultural Anthropology HL		2	1	3						
IB Biology HL 1	1	3	1	5	3		2	1		
IB Environmental Sys & Soc SL				1	1			1	1	1
IB Mathematics HL	2	2		2	2					
IB Mathematics SL		2	2	3	1	1	1	1	1	1
IB Math Studies SL		2	2	3	1	1	1	1	1	1
IB Visual Arts HL	3	1								
IB Visual Arts SL	2									
IB Music HL	1	1	1							
IB Music SL		3	1						1	
IB Theatre Arts HL	1	1		1						
IB Theatre Arts SL		1		1						

SELECTION OF RECENT COLLEGE ADMITTANCES

Amherst College	Colgate University	Kenyon College	University of California, Los Angeles
Augustana College	Dartmouth College	Middlebury College	University of California, San Diego
Babson College	Davidson College	Mount Holyoke College	UMass Amherst
Bates College	Dickinson College	Ohio State University	University of Michigan
Berklee College of Music	Drexel University	Reed College	University of Puget Sound
Boston College	Embry University	Rhode Island School of Design	University of St. Andrews, Scotland
Bryn Mawr College	Grinnell College	Rice University	Vanderbilt University
Brown University	Gustavus Adolphus College	Smith College	Vassar College
California Polytechnic State University	Hampshire College	Stanford University	Warren Wilson College
Carleton College	Humboldt State University	St. Mary's College of California	Wesleyan University
Claremont Mckenna College	Indiana University	United States Navel Academy	Whitman College
Columbia University	Johns Hopkins University	University of California, Berkeley	Willamette University

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