



# American School in Taichung

An Independent School • Grades 1–12 • WASC Accredited • CEEB Code: 694310 • [www.astaichung.com](http://www.astaichung.com)

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## 2024-2025 SCHOOL PROFILE

The American School in Taichung (AST) serves students in grades 1 through 12 who hold foreign (non-Taiwan ROC) passports. As a non-profit international school, AST is dedicated to providing quality education for expatriate and internationally-mobile families in Taichung, Taiwan. The school offers an American-based curriculum, facilitating seamless transfer between AST and other international school systems. Fully accredited by the Western Association of Schools and Colleges (WASC), AST was granted an additional six-year accreditation in 2019, affirming its commitment to high educational standards. In Fall 2022, AST enrolled 277 students across three divisions: 102 in Elementary School, 88 in Middle School, and 83 in High School. Our diverse faculty comes from a wide range of countries, including the United States, Canada, the United Kingdom, and several others, enriching our school community with global perspectives.



### OUR VISION and MISSION

**Vision:** To inspire lifelong learners to make a positive impact on our world.

**Mission:** American School in Taichung is an international school which develops global citizens who strive for personal excellence, demonstrate compassion, and live with integrity.

### CORE VALUES

As lifelong learners and global citizens dedicated to personal excellence, we value:

**Integrity** - Act ethically and responsibly. Stand up for what you believe.

**Courage** - Accept challenges, take risks, and persevere through adversity.

**Compassion** - Be mindful, empathetic and helpful.

**Contribution** - Collaborate and lead to serve our communities and planet.

## EDUCATIONAL PHILOSOPHY AND COURSE OFFERINGS

AST is committed to delivering a rigorous, American standards-based education that fosters critical thinking, problem-solving, and collaboration. Our curriculum spans foundational courses in elementary and middle school and offers a diverse selection of courses in high school, including **13 to 15 AP classes annually**. A strong focus on communication, recognized as a vital 21st-century skill, is woven into our instruction. With English as the primary medium and Chinese as a required course from elementary through high school, AST students become articulate communicators in both languages. Daily English language arts and literature studies in elementary and middle school further solidify their foundation in English.

Our comprehensive support program includes EAL support across all grade levels, school counseling, individualized academic plans, and complimentary peer tutoring. We emphasize a balanced approach to academics and extracurriculars, offering fine and performing arts, digital art, physical education, health, nutrition, and weight-training classes. Over 90% of our students participate in at least one varsity sport, with options like basketball, tennis, table tennis, swimming, badminton, ultimate frisbee, and volleyball.

Beyond academics, AST prioritizes the well-being of its community through a standards-based advisory program informed by ISCA and CASEL frameworks, promoting social-emotional learning and community care. Our tight-knit community extends to alumni worldwide, fostering a culture of empathy and global connection. AST students actively engage in volunteer work and sustainability initiatives through clubs like the Red Cross, Generation Service Club, Project C, VEX Outreach, Eco-School Club, and Gender and Sexuality Alliance Club, learning to give back through on-campus activities and off-site volunteerism. With active participation in Model United Nations, VEX competitions, and student government (STUGO), AST cultivates lifelong learners who understand the collective effort needed to create a sustainable future.



AST's Robotics VEX club was first established in 2016, quickly attracting many students interested in robotics to participate and train to eventually join national and international competitions. In 2018, a school team was formed to compete in the FLL competition and VEX Robotics competitions. AST promotes VEX Robotics as an academic sport that is used as a platform to enrich and enhance science, technology, engineering, and mathematics (STEM) courses. Through VEX, our students have learned to design, code, teamwork, and gone on to earn many awards. AST-onishing Robotics V5 teams have won competitions over the years, including the Energy Award at the World Championship in Texas, USA. AST will continue to conquer the robotics world and win more championships.

### List of Achievements in 2022-24 (shortlisted by team)

#### Team 66799G

- Energy Award (VEX Robotics World Championship)
- Excellence Award, Tournament Champions (TAIVEX, HS League) - Qualified for World Championship
- Design Award (PAS VEX Open Spin Up)
- Tournament Finalist (VEX V5 Taiwan Open)

#### Team 66799x

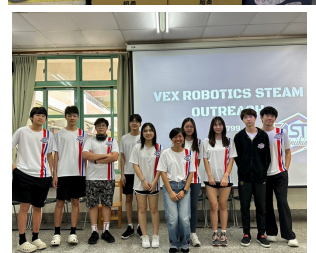
- Design Award (TAIVEX, HS League Over Under)
- Tournament Finalists and Innovate Award (PAS-VEX VRC Signature Event (HS, MS))
- Judges Award (VEX V5 Taiwan Open, HS Cohort)
- Tournament Champions, Robot Skills Champion, Create Award (VEX V5 Taiwan Open, HS Cohort) - Qualifies for World Championship



**TAIMUN, Taiwan's first-ever Model United Nations** program, was established by AST and proudly celebrates its **23rd anniversary** this year. In honor of its legacy, AST invites middle school students to join the weekly MUN mock debate club and engage in both national and international conferences. Held annually, TAIMUN is entirely student-led and student-run, bringing together over 300 participants from schools around and outside of Taiwan each year. This program nurtures critical thinking and presentation skills, immersing AST students in pressing global issues. Through TAIMUN, students cultivate problem-solving abilities and active citizenship, preparing them to address and resolve complex challenges on the world stage.

AST is dedicated to fostering a culture of community service, encouraging students to engage in meaningful, student-led initiatives that give back to society. Various clubs, including **Eco-School**, **Handmade for Help**, **Generation Service**, **Project C**, **VEX Outreach**, and the **Red Cross**, collaborate with the local community, instilling a strong sense of responsibility and impact among students. The Eco-School Club promotes sustainability through school-wide efforts like Book Swap, green classroom initiatives, and gardening projects. Handmade for Help raises funds to support animal shelters, while Generation Service (GenServ) organizes volunteer opportunities with special needs organizations and elderly care homes. Project C and VEX Outreach collaborate with under-resourced rural schools to teach basketball, English, and robotics.

The Red Cross plays an essential role at AST, involving students in first-aid certification, local charity support, food donations, and environmental stewardship for indigenous groups. Additionally, our **Day of Service**, held in partnership with the local **Special Education School in Taichung** and **Taiwan Sunshine** organization, brings together the entire secondary school to support students with disabilities in a sports day experience. Through these projects, AST students learn the importance of service and build lasting connections with their community.



## GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS AND GRADING SCALE

### GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS

Subject	Credits Required
English	4.0
Social Studies	3.0
Mathematics	3.0
Science	3.0
Modern Language	2.0
Physical Education / Health	2.0
Fine / Performing Arts	2.0
Electives	9.0
<b>Total</b>	<b>28.0</b>

Students take between **six (minimum) and eight (maximum) courses** per semester. All students must take the required core and elective subjects to earn a minimum of **twenty-eight credits to graduate**. AST's computer science and robotics courses are currently listed under the Mathematics category. AST **does not rank** students. AST follows the traditional grading scale for the high school program.



### SECONDARY GRADING SCALE

Percentage	Grade	Standard Classes	Advanced Classes
93 - 100	A	4.00	4.50
90 - 92	A-	3.67	4.17
87 - 89	B+	3.33	3.83
83 - 86	B	3.00	3.50
80 - 82	B-	2.67	3.17
77 - 79	C+	2.33	2.83
73 - 76	C	2.00	2.50
70 - 72	C-	1.67	2.17
67 - 69	D+	1.33	1.83
63 - 66	D	1.00	1.50
60 - 62	D-	0.67	1.17
Below 59	F	0.00	0.00

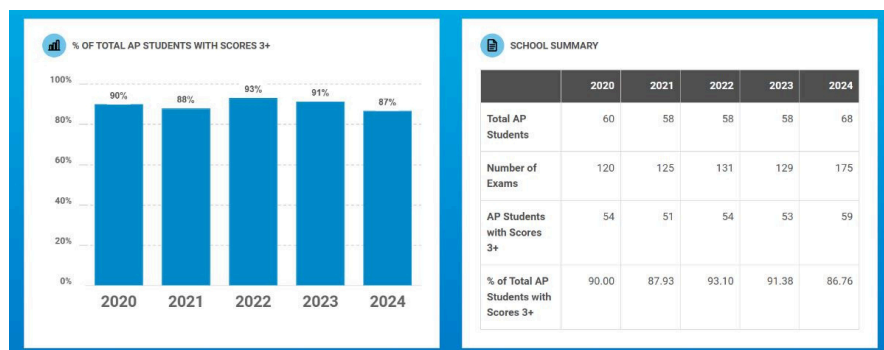
\*Required community service hours: 60 hrs

### 2023-24 AP Course Offerings

AST is committed to academic excellence through active learning, encouraging students to embrace academic rigor by taking on challenging coursework, including AP courses. While our size can limit the range of on-campus courses, we strive to offer approximately **13 - 15 AP courses each year**. Additionally, students have access to an Approved Online Elective option, allowing them to take accredited online AP courses and electives that expand their academic exploration in areas not offered at AST. These online courses are completed in a supervised classroom setting, ensuring structured support. Semester grades from these courses are factored into students' overall GPA and included on their transcripts.

AST offers **19 AP courses this year (2024-25)**:

- Art and Design
- Biology
- Calculus AB
- Calculus BC
- Chemistry
- Computer Science Principles
- Computer Science Advanced
- English Language and Composition
- Environmental Science (Online)
- Human Geography
- Macroeconomics
- Microeconomics
- Physics 1 (Online)
- Physics C Mechanics (Online)
- Precalculus
- Psychology
- Spanish (Online)
- Statistics
- World History (Online)

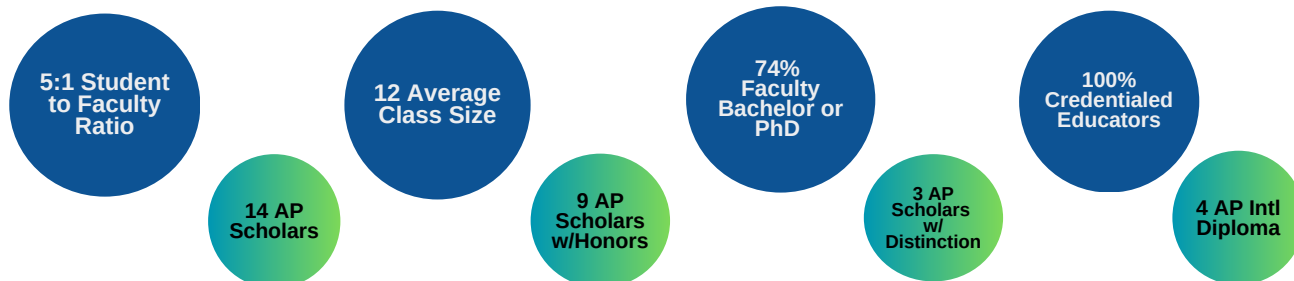


AST's AP Five Year Score Summary report shows consistent high performance from our students, with the past two years averaging above 89% students with scores of 3+ on the AP exams. For the SY2023-24, 87% of the students have earned scholar recognition, with 19 AP Scholars, 10 AP Scholar with Honor, 4 AP Scholar with Distinction, and 4 AP International Diploma.



## CLASS OF 2025

The Class of 2025 is comprised of 19 students, 15 of whom plan to matriculate into US colleges and universities. **100% of our graduates matriculate** to in tertiary education around the world, with Canada, UK, the Netherlands, and Australia being popular destinations. Others plan to enroll in Singapore, Italy, or Korean schools. **AST students typically submit an average of 10-15 applications for admission consideration.** AP exam performance for Class of 2025 up to their junior year, 80% received a score of 3 or higher, with 70% of students receiving a score of 4 or 5s.



## COLLEGE MATRICULATIONS FOR CLASS OF 2024

Celebrating its 34th year, AST has provided high-quality education to generations of students, with graduates pursuing higher education predominantly in North America and a few choosing to study in Taiwan. Graduates attend prestigious universities across multiple continents and often advance to graduate programs.

Arizona State University (US)  
Berklee College of Music - w/scholarship (US)  
BIMM University (UK and Berlin)  
Boston University (US)  
California College of the Arts CCA (US)  
Emily Carr (CA)  
Florida Gulf Coast University (US)  
Iowa State University (US)  
Indiana University - Bloomington (US)  
Northeastern University - Loyola Marymount (US)  
Michigan State University (US)  
Monash University (AUS)  
New York University (US)  
Ohio State University (US)  
OTIS College of Art and Design -w/scholarship (US)  
Pratt Institute -w/Presidential Merit Scholarship (US)  
Pennsylvania State University (US)  
Purdue University (US)  
Royal Holloway University of London (UK)  
School of the Art Institute of Chicago SAIC (US)

Savannah College of Art and Design SCAD - w/scholarship (US)  
School of Visual Arts SVA (US)  
The Emirates Academy of Hospitality Management (UAE)  
The New School Parsons - w/scholarship (US)  
University of British Columbia (CA)  
UC Davis (US)  
UC Irvine (US)  
UC Merced (US)  
UC Riverside (US)  
UC Santa Cruz (US)  
University of Colorado Boulder (US)  
University of Florida (US)  
University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign UIUC (US)  
University of Kansas (US)  
University of Leeds (UK)  
University of Toronto (CA)  
University of Washington (US)  
University of Wisconsin-Madison (US)  
University of Melbourne (AUS)



## COLLEGE MATRICULATIONS FOR 2021-2023 AMERICAN SCHOOL IN TAICHUNG HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATES

Adelphi University (US)  
 American University (US) - w/scholarships  
 Arizona State University\* (US)  
 Babson College (US)  
 Bates College (US)  
 Baylor University (US)  
 Binghamton University (US)  
 Boston University (US)  
 Brunel University (UK)  
 California College of the Arts CCA (US)\*  
 Case Western Reserve University (US)  
 Chapman University (US)  
 College of Wooster (US)  
 Dalhousie University (CA)  
 Delft University of Technology (NL)  
 DePaul University (US)  
 Drexel University (US)  
 Durham University (UK)  
 Emory University (US)\*  
 Fordham University (US)  
 Franklin & Marshall College (US)  
 Florida State University - Honors Program (US)  
 Georgia Institute of Technology (US)  
 King's College London (UK)  
 Illinois State University (US) - w/scholarships  
 Indiana University - Bloomington (US) - w/scholarships  
 LaSalle College - Montreal (CA)  
 Loyola Marymount University (US)  
 McMaster University (CA)  
 Maryland Institute College of Art MICA (US)  
 Massachusetts College of Art and Design (MassArt) (US)  
 McGill University (CA)\*  
 Melbourne University (AU)\*  
 Michigan State University (US)\* - w/scholarships  
 MCPHS (US) - w/scholarships  
 New York University (US)\*  
 Northeastern University (US)\*

Ohio State University (US)\* - w/scholarships  
 Otis College of Art and Design (US)  
 Ontario College of Art and Design (US)  
 Oxford College of Emory University (US)  
 Pennsylvania State University (US)\*  
 Pratt University (US)\*  
 Purdue University (US)\*  
 Queen Mary University (UK)  
 Queensland University of Technology (AU)  
 Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute (US)  
 Rotterdam University of Applied Sciences (NL)  
 Rutgers University (US)  
 Santa Clara University (US)\*  
 Savannah College of Arts and Design SCAD (US)\*  
 School of Acupuncture and Traditional Chinese Medicine (NZ)  
 School of the Art Institute of Chicago SAIC (US)\*  
 School of Visual Arts SVA (US)\*  
 Seton Hall University (US) - w/scholarship  
 Simmons University (US) - w/scholarship  
 SUNY - Stony Brook (US)  
 Swinburne University of Technology (Melbourne, AU)  
 Swiss Hotel Management School SHMS (Switzerland)  
 Temple University - Tokyo (Japan)  
 The New School - Parsons (US)\*  
 University of Arts, London (UK)  
 University of Bristol (UK)  
 University of British Columbia (CA)\* - w/scholarships  
 University of British Columbia - Okanagan (CA)\* - w/scholarships  
 University of Birmingham (UK)  
 University of California-Berkeley (US)  
 University of California-Davis (US)\*  
 University of California-Irvine (US)\*  
 University of California-San Diego (US)  
 University of California-Santa Barbara (US)\*  
 University of California-Santa Cruz (US)  
 University of Carolina Chapel Hill (US)  
 University of Cincinnati (US)

University of Denver (US) - w/full scholarship  
 University of Florida (US)  
 University of Glasgow (UK)  
 University of Illinois at Chicago (US)  
 University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign (US)\*  
 University of Leeds (UK)  
 University of Manchester (UK)  
 University of Maryland (US)  
 University of Massachusetts - Amherst (US)\*  
 University of Massachusetts - Boston (US)  
 University of Miami (US)  
 University of Michigan - Ann Arbor (US)\*  
 University of New South Wales (Kensington, AU)  
 University of Nottingham (UK)  
 University of Pittsburg (US)  
 University of Queensland (AU)  
 University of Rochester (US)\*  
 University of San Francisco (US) - w/scholarship  
 University of Sheffield (UK)  
 University of Southern California (US)\*  
 University of St. Andrews & College of William and Mary (Joint Degree Program) (US & UK)  
 University of the Pacific (US) - w/scholarship  
 University of Toronto (CA)\*  
 University of Utah (US)  
 University of Victoria (CA)  
 University of Virginia (US)  
 University of Washington - Seattle (US)\* - w/scholarship  
 University of Toronto - (CA)\*  
 University of Wisconsin-Madison (US)\*  
 University of York (UK)  
 Washington University in St Louis (US)\*  
 Waterloo University (CA) - w/scholarship  
 Wellesley College (US)  
 Western University (CA)  
 Western Washington University (US)\* - w/scholarship  
 York University-Schulich School of Business (CA)

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\*2 or more students have matriculated.

