School Profile 2026–2027

About Us

German International School Boston (GISB) is a German school in the heart of Boston. We are an independent, non-profit, international school founded in 2001. The school offers a bilingual education to students from preschool through Grade 12. Of a total enrollment of 236 students, 32 students are in our high school. 32 nationalities are represented, and 18 languages are spoken by our diverse student body. All of our graduates are fluent in English and German and speak a third or fourth language. 84% of our faculty members come from Germany, and nearly 100% of our high school faculty hold advanced degrees. 100% of GISB graduates pursue higher education.

Academic Program

GISB follows a world-renowned curriculum approved by the Standing Conference of the Ministers of Education and Cultural Affairs (KMK) in Germany. Our rigorous bilingual curriculum prepares students for the German International Abitur (Deutsche Internationale Abitur or DIA). Science and mathematics are emphasized with 13–16 hours of instruction per week all four years. College-level mathematics, science, and history are required throughout high school. While not a standalone course, U.S. history topics are incorporated into the four-year history curriculum. All students take German and English Language & Literature, and at least one more world language is required from grade 6 through grade 10. A two-year program in grades 11 and 12 with 11 qualification and examination subjects culminates in final Abitur exams comprised of three written and two oral subject exams proctored by German educational officials. Detailed course descriptions that emphasize the breadth and depth of our curriculum are available on our website.

Accreditation

GISB is one of five German schools in the United States that meet the strict accreditation requirements of the German government. We are accredited by the Federal Republic of Germany, a member of the Association of Independent Schools of New England (AISNE), and a registered high school with the Massachusetts Department of Education.

Testing

All curriculum testing assesses three levels of thinking established by the State Ministries of Education of Germany:

1. Understanding of content and the ability to reproduce a text or mathematical problem
2. Analysis, exploration, and interpretation of materials
3. Ability to go beyond the text or mathematical problem to demonstrate or transfer knowledge to another context

Academic Assessment Reporting

GISB's calendar is divided into two semesters beginning in August with a total of 180 school days. GISB does not rank its students and does not weigh grades. The distribution of grades is not published due to the small number of students. Courses are not leveled. Our transcripts denote certain courses as Advanced based on the number of teaching hours. The College Board has authorized the use of the AP designation for our four-year German curriculum. Students may take the AP German Language and Culture exam as early as 10th grade if they feel comfortable doing so. We place the AP label on the 12th grade German course for consistency across students' transcripts.

GERMAN INTERNATIONAL SCHOOL | Boston

School Contacts

Head of School
Philipp Kraft

Assistant Head of School and Head of High School
Jan Christoph Hadenfeldt

College Counselor
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Address

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High School Curriculum (hours per week)

Subject	Language of Instruction	Grade 9	Grade 10	Grade 11	Grade 12
German	German	4	4	5	5
English	English	4	4	4	4
Math	German	4	4	4	4
Biology	English/German	2	2	3	3
Chemistry	German	2	2	3	3
Physics	German	2	2	3	3
History & Social Studies	English/German	4	4	3	3
Ethics	German	2	2	3	3
Music	German	1	1	0	0
Art	English/German	2	2	2	2
Physical Education	German	2	2	2	2

Electives (hours per week)

Spanish	Spanish	3 / 4*	3 / 4*	4	4
French	French	3 / 4*	3 / 4*	4	4
Computer Science	German	4	4	3	3

Students take either Spanish or French beginning in grade 6 and must continue with the same language for five years. Starting in grade 11, students choose four of the following subjects: French, Spanish, Biology, Physics, Chemistry, Computer Science.

*If the student started the language in 9th grade, they have four hours of instruction per week.

Secondary School Extracurricular Activities

Sports: Ski/Snowboarding (Ski Week), Volleyball, and Futsal
Clubs: Creative Writing, Yearbook, Library, Animal Welfare, Biochemistry, Artificial Intelligence, Gardening, Model UN, Programming & Robotics, and Peer Tutoring
Music & Arts: Private Flute, Piano, Violin, Viola, Cello, Trumpet, Saxophone, Guitar, and Voice lessons; GISB Symphony Orchestra and Drama Club

Partial List of College and University Acceptances 2016–2026

United States
American University
Bard College
Bates College
Bennington College
Boston University
DePaul University
Fordham University
Georgetown University
Harvard College
The New School
New York University
North Carolina State University
Northeastern University
Pennsylvania State University
Reed College
Sarah Lawrence College
Syracuse University
Trinity College
Tufts University
University of Colorado
University of Connecticut
University of San Francisco
Washington University in St. Louis
Wentworth Institute of Technology
Worcester Polytechnic Institute
UC Los Angeles
UC Berkeley
UC Davis
UC Santa Cruz
UMass Amherst Honors College

Worldwide
Groningen University
King's College London
Maastricht University
Oxford University
ETH Zurich
Technical University Berlin
Technical University Munich
Trinity College Dublin
University College London
University of Heidelberg
University of Toronto
University of Tübingen
University of Amsterdam
University of Edinburgh
University of Hamburg
University of Manchester
University of Münster
University of St. Andrews
Queen Mary University

CEEB Code: 220300

GERMAN INTERNATIONAL SCHOOL | Boston

School Overview

236 enrolled students
32 high school students
32 nationalities on campus
18 languages spoken by our diverse student body

Close to 100% of our high school faculty hold advanced degrees.

100% of GISB graduates are fully bilingual and speak at least one additional world language.

100% of GISB graduates pursue higher education.

DAS Deutsche Auslandsschulen International
Official German School Abroad

aisne ASSOCIATION OF INDEPENDENT SCHOOLS IN NEW ENGLAND