



AMERICAN COLLEGE ARCUS

cognitio libertas perfectio



HIGH SCHOOL PROFILE 2016/2017

HISTORY

American College Arcus® welcomed its first students in 2003. They were educated by highly-qualified teachers in small classes, in modern classrooms, surrounded by a quiet and clean environment. In addition to these factors, strict interior regulations, the constant dialogue with parents and the students' high personal motivation contributed to the achievements. These factors remain a vital part of the success of our students who have followed in their footsteps. Since 2005, scholarships have been offered which give candidates with high results in the spring competitions and admission exams the opportunity to become students in the college with a reduced tuition. In 2008, the school expanded its facilities by opening a modern dormitory for the needs of the students coming from outside Veliko Tarnovo. The administration and the faculty have been persistently ambitious in pursuing the highest quality education, and has resulted in achieving a great number of national and international accreditations during the past years.

Since the introduction of the obligatory matriculation exams in 2008, American College Arcus® has been among the best schools in the district rating of the Ministry of Education, and in 2009 the College achieved the highest average results in the district – Excellent 5.50. During the next academic years our students continued to achieve high results in the State Matriculation exams. For 3 consecutive years (2011, 2012 and 2013) they ranked first among the schools in the region of Veliko Tarnovo. Class of 2015 achieved the greatest success so far, taking 6th place in the Bulgarian Language and Literature exam in the whole country.

COMMUNITY

American College Arcus is currently enrolling students from 6 countries – Bulgaria, the UK, Russia, Syria and Ireland. Parents of our students work in business, government, and other professional backgrounds. This is not a mobile community and over 90% of the students remain with us for all the five years of their education.

ACADEMIC PROGRAM

The school offers a five-year course of study as it is licensed to teach students from Grades 8 through 12 by the Bulgarian Ministry of Education and Science. There are two major areas of concentration: "Foreign Languages" and "Information Technologies". The curriculum for the 8th grade preparatory year is the same for both areas of concentration. The chief aim of this first year at the College is to develop the English language proficiency necessary for students to successfully continue and complete their studies in grades 9 through 12, wherein English is the medium of instruction. After the first preparatory year a student is placed, based on the student's decision, in one of two areas of concentration: "Foreign Languages" or "Information Technologies". From Grade 9 most subjects are taught in English. Students are awarded a certificate upon the successful completion of Grade 9, and a Certificate for Secondary Education upon successful completion of the whole course of study.

As from 2007 the school offers the IB Diploma Program. After finishing grade 10 the students decide whether to continue with the National Curriculum or with the IBDP. Some students, who do the IBDP choose to take exams for the National Diploma, thus making it possible to apply to Bulgarian institutions of higher education, which at this point do not recognize the IB Diploma.

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FACULTY

The High School faculty consists of a Director, Deputy Director, College Admissions Counselor and 22 teachers. Over three quarters of the faculty hold advanced degrees. Faculty members represent 2 countries: Bulgaria and the UK. The student-teacher ratio is 7:1.

HIGH SCHOOL ORGANIZATION

The year consists of two terms, 18 weeks each (September - January, February - June) with a total of 180 school days. There are 6 or 7 45-minute lessons every day with classes meeting every Friday. The students also attend free elective classes according to their interests in order to gain additional knowledge and/or prepare for standardized tests and university admission examinations. Each class is assigned a class advisor from the teaching staff, whose responsibility is to facilitate communication between the school and the parents, to keep record of students' attendance and discipline and to complete the personal profile and characteristics of each student from the class.

GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS

The evaluation system in Bulgaria is based on the 6 (excellent) being the highest with 3 (fair) being the lowest passing grade for academic result. Students are required to take 18 subjects in order to graduate.

Compulsory subjects:

Bulgarian Language and Literature (grades 9 to 12)

English (grades 9 to 12)

German (grades 9 to 12)

Mathematics (grades 9 to 12)

Computer Science (grades 9 to 12)

IT (grades 9 and 10 for the Foreign Languages Profile and grades 9 to 12 for the IT profile)

History and Civilization (grades 10 to 12)

Geography and Economics (grades 10 to 12)

Psychology and Logic (grade 9)

Ethics and Law (grade 10)

Philosophy (grade 11)

World and Personality (grade 12)

Biology and Health Education (grades 10 and 11)

Physics and Astronomy (grades 10 to 12)

Chemistry and Environmental Protection (grades 10 and 11)

Music (grade 9)

Arts (grade 9)

Physical Education (grades 9 to 12)

The grading system is as follows:

6 (Excellent)	91.5-100%
5 (Very good)	80.5-91.4%
4 (Good)	70.5-80.4%
3 (Fair)	59.5-70.4%
2 (Poor)	0-59.4%

The students received the following GPA:

Class of 2009 – 5.48

Class of 2010 – 5.42

Class of 2011 – 5.58

Class of 2012 – 5.27

Class of 2013 – 5.45

Class of 2014 – 5.37

Class of 2015 – 5.52

Class of 2016 – 5.36

The students receive above average results in the TOEFL test, e.g. Class of 2012 – 97.5 points, Class of 2013 – 97.23, Class of 2014 – 98.30 and the Class of 2015 – 100. The average result in the SAT Reasoning test for the class of 2015 is 1886 (3 students) and on the German Test DaF – 17 (3 students).

COLLEGES AND UNIVERSITIES

Graduates from the American College Arcus have been accepted into the following universities:

Bulgaria

University of Veliko Tarnovo

University of Sofia

Varna Free University

Burgas Free University

University of National and World Economy, Sofia

D. A. Tsenov Academy of Economics, Svishtov
New Bulgarian University, Sofia
University of Economics, Varna
Technical University, Sofia
Medical University, Sofia
Medical University, Varna
Medical University, Pleven
Naval Academy, Varna
University of Architecture, Civil Engineering and
Geodesy, Sofia
University of Forestry, Sofia
University of Food Technology, Plovdiv
American University in Bulgaria

TheUK

Aberystwyth University
University of Manchester
Glasgow School of Art
Oxford Brookes University
University of Warwick
University of West London
London College of Communication
University of Wolverhampton
University of Aberdeen
University of Glasgow
University of Dundee
University of Salford
University of Birmingham
University of Edinburgh
University of Derby
London School of Economics and Political Science
King's College, University of London
Coventry University
University of Abertay Dundee
Royal Holloway University of London
Edinburgh Napier University
Queen Mary, University of London
University of Dundee
University of Aberdeen
University of Kent
Middlesex University
The University of Sheffield
Aston University, Birmingham
Lancaster University
Birmingham City University
Robert Gordon University
University of Bradford
Leeds Metropolitan University
University of Greenwich
University of Strathclyde

Ireland

Dublin City University, Ireland

Denmark

VIA University College, Denmark
Aarhus School of Business

TheNetherlands

Amsterdam Fashion Institute
The Hague University of Applied Sciences

Rotterdam School of Management, Erasmus
University Rotterdam
Fontys University of Applied Sciences
Stenden University of Applied Sciences
University of Groningen

Germany

Universität Bamberg
Jacobs University, Bremen
Bergische Universität Wuppertal
Universität Duisburg-Essen
Eberhard Karls Universität, Tübingen
Technische Universität München

Italy

Istituto Europeo di Design
Università Bocconi
Università Cattolica del Sacro Cuore

Israel

IDC Herzliya

Greece

City College, Thessaloniki
American College of Thessaloniki

Austria

University of Vienna
Wirtschaftsuniversität, Wien

USA

Harvard University
Berkeley College, NYC
New York University

Canada

University of British Columbia

Romania

Universitatea Titu Maiorescu

China

Guangzhou Academy of Fine arts, China

Australia

Raffles College of Design and Commerce