



**TARSUS
AMERICAN
COLLEGE**



High School Profile

2018-2019

“Leaders for Turkey;
Leadership for the World”



SCHOOL

Tarsus American College (TAC) is an academic, co-educational 9 - 12 high school which prepares students for higher education in Turkey and abroad. The school, which includes day and boarding students, was started by American philanthropists in 1888. Tarsus American College is governed by the SEV Health and Education Foundation. The same organization operates SEV American College (Istanbul), Üsküdar American Academy (Istanbul), and American Collegiate Institute (Izmir), along with three elementary schools, and a publishing company.

- **Accreditation:** Council of International Schools and the Turkish Ministry of Education.
- **Memberships:** CIS, ECIS, NACAC, OACAC
- Tarsus American College is also an authorized **International Baccalaureate World School** since 2005.

Motto: Leaders for Turkey; Leadership for the World.

Mission: The mission of the SEV American High Schools is to contribute to the growth in self-confidence and personal, social and environmental responsibilities of students accepted through a central examination. We aim to enable our students to be strong bilinguals in English and Turkish, well-educated adults, lifelong learners, and efficient communicators who have developed skills, accountability and attitudes for leading a fulfilling life and for serving their country and humanity.

ENROLLMENT

There are currently 550 students in grades Prep, 9, 10, 11 & 12. Of those, 74 are enrolled in the International Baccalaureate Diploma Program (grades 11 & 12) for the 2018-19 school year. All students who enter TAC are Turkish nationals who scored in the top of a rigorous, national high school entrance exam.

- 82 in the graduating class of 2019.
- 25% of students receive a scholarship or financial aid to attend TAC.
- 21% of TAC students live on school campus.



FACULTY

TAC employs 73 full-time and 7 part-time faculty members. The teaching staff is comprised of Turkish nationals as well as international educators, predominantly from the United States, UK, and Canada. On average, TAC teachers have 12 years of experience. The entire faculty has complete undergraduate degrees and 44% hold Master's degrees. The on campus teacher-student ratio is 1:7

CAMPUS AND FACILITIES

The TAC campus is a beautiful garden-like setting with buildings surrounding a central courtyard. Built on the original site from 1888, there is a combination of historic buildings and a brand-new elementary school, boarding facility, and auditorium. There is a well-equipped gymnasium and fitness center as well as a music room, art studio, and library. Each classroom is equipped with a smartboard and all classrooms have wireless capacity.

CURRICULUM – Class of 2019

Our students follow a FIVE-YEAR high school program. All students enter a preparatory year, following grade 8. The aim of this year is to guarantee a sufficient level of English to enable students to continue their study in all science and math courses, which are taught in English. When students of the Class of 2019 began their study at TAC, weekly instruction included 20 hours of English, 2 hours each of math and science (taught in English) and 10 hours divided between Turkish, Music, Second Foreign Language and Physical Ed.

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

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. Turkish Literature and Turkish Language Arts are required in both grades 11 and 12, yet the number of hours depends upon the student's future university plans.

Beginning in Grade 11, students can also choose to pursue the **International Baccalaureate Diploma** in conjunction with the national MEB Program. This combination results in a very demanding course load for high-achieving students, allowing the opportunity for bilingual diplomas in English and Turkish. IB students are also enrolled in TOK for two hours per week.

Average IB Diploma score (2015-18): 31.25
Class of 2019 IELTS average score: 6.73 (April 2018)

ACADEMIC GRADING SYSTEM

TAC does not report class rank. The grading system is set by the Turkish Ministry of Education. Grades are based on a 100 point scale in which a passing grade is 50 or higher. Grade point average is weighted according to the course hours per week. The highest GPA in the Class of 2019 is 95.72 %.

Class of 2019	TAC's 100 Point Scale	Number of Students	% of Students
High Honors	90-100	19	23
	85-89.99	22	27
Honors	80-84.99	20	24
	75-79.99	13	16
	70-74.99	4	5
	65-69.99	2	3
	60-64.99	1	1
	50-59.99	0	0

STRENGTHS OF A TAC STUDENT

- Comfortable in dual language instruction
- Involved in social service activities
- Self-confident, open minded, and globally aware
- Understands the value of community cooperation
- Willing to question and demonstrate leadership



ACTIVITIES

Participation in extra-curricular activities is a mandatory part of TAC school life. This well-balanced program of activities ranges from the history excursion club to fitness to the performing arts. Additionally, the school offers opportunities to participate in student government and sports (fencing, archery, dance, tennis, soccer, volleyball and basketball). Participating in organizations such as European Youth Parliament, Model United Nations, International Schools Theatre Association, and Destination Imagination are also of high importance. All students are also expected to perform at least 20 hours of community service each year. Those who contribute more than 35 hours are recognized for their efforts. Some volunteer their time tutoring English and math, offering drawing or dance lessons, and playing basketball with the local children. Others regularly visit local animal shelters and homes for senior citizens.



LOCATION and VISITS

The school is located in southern Turkey, near the Mediterranean coast, north of Cyprus. There are daily flights from Istanbul that take just over an hour to reach the local airport in Adana, which is located 40 km from Tarsus. The school is pleased to assist with local pick-up and drop-off services for academic visitors.



OVERSEAS UNIVERSITY PLACEMENT

Nearly all TAC graduates continue onto university education either in Turkey or overseas. Graduates from 2016-2018 received acceptances from the institutions listed below. 2018 Matriculations are in bold. Numbers in parenthesis indicate the number of matriculated students.

Worldwide

Corvinus University

FIDI - Florence Institute of Design
Hankuk University of Foreign Studies
International Medicine School Milano
John Cabot University
Metropolitan University of Budapest
Politecnico di Torino
Universita Bocconi
University of Pécs
Universtia Cattolica del Sacro Cuore

Netherlands

HZ University of Applied Sciences
Maastricht University
Technische Universiteit Eindhoven
Tilburg University
TU Delft
University of Amsterdam (2)
University of Groningen
University of Twente
University of Utrecht
Vrije Universiteit Amsterdam

Canada

Alexander College
Carleton University
Huron University College
McGill University
McMaster University
Ryerson University (2)
Simon Fraser University
The University of Ontario Institute of Technology
University of Alberta
University of British Columbia (3)
University of British Columbia- Vantage One Program
University of Guelph
University of Toronto
University of Western Ontario
Western University
York University

USA

Agnes Scott College
Baruch College of the CUNY
Boston Architectural College
Boston University
Cal State University Long Beach
California College of the Arts
California Institute of the Arts
Colorado State University
Columbia College Chicago
Denison University
Duke University

Florida Atlantic University
Florida Institute of Technology
Fordham University
Full Sail University
HULT Business School
Iowa State University
Lawrence University
Lynn University
Marist College
Maryland Institute College of Art
Marymount Manhattan College
Merrimack College
Michigan State University
New York University
Northeastern University
Pace University
Pacific University
Pennsylvania State University - Behrend College
Pratt Institute
Purdue University
Quinnipiac University
Rochester Institute of Technology
Savannah College of Art and Design
School of the Art Institute of Chicago
Seattle University
Seton Hall University
St. Edwards University
Stony Brook University
Syracuse University
The New School
The New School - Parsons
The University of Arizona
Trinity University
U of IL Urbana-Champaign
University of Arkansas
University of California, Davis
University of California, Los Angeles
University of California, San Diego
University of California, Santa Barbara
University of Colorado Boulder
University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign
University of Massachusetts, Amherst
University of Massachusetts, Boston
University of Oregon
University of Southern California
University of Tampa
University of the Arts US
University of Vermont
Wentworth Institute of Technology
Worcester State University

UK

Architectural Association School of Architecture
Brunel University- Foundation
Brunel University London
Cardiff University

City, University of London

City, University College London- Foundation
Durham University
King's College London
King's College London - Foundation (3)
Lancaster University
Newcastle University
Nottingham Trent Univ
Queen Mary University of London
Surrey- Foundation
Swansea University
Merrimack College London
University College London- Foundation
University of Bath
University of Bath -Foundation
University of Bradford
University of Bristol
University of Durham
University of Edinburgh
University of Essex
University of Exeter
University of Exeter- INTO
University of Hertfordshire
University of Hertfordshire- Foundation
University of Kent
University of Leeds
University of Leeds - Foundation
University of Leicester
University of Manchester (2)
University of Nottingham
University of Sheffield
University of Southampton
University of Surrey
University of York
University of York - Foundation

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