



American School in Taichung

An Independent School • Grades 1–12 • WASC Accredited • CEEB Code: 694310 • www.asttaichung.com

Kelly Konicki, Head of School (kkonicki@ast.tc.edu.tw) • Sarah Hall, Secondary Principal (shall@ast.tc.edu.tw) • Jenny Chen, School Counselor - Colleges & Guidance (jennychen@ast.tc.edu.tw) • Rebecca Hou, School Counselor - Guidance (rhou@ast.tc.edu.tw)

2025-2026 SCHOOL PROFILE

The American School in Taichung (AST) is a small, non-profit international school serving students in Grades 1–12 in central Taiwan. Established for expatriate and internationally mobile families, AST enrolls students holding foreign (non-ROC) passports and provides a seamless educational experience aligned with international school systems.

Fully accredited by the Western Association of Schools and Colleges (WASC), AST received a six-year accreditation in 2019, affirming its commitment to excellence and continuous growth. The school offers a rigorous American and international curriculum grounded in the Common Core, AERO, and Next Generation Science Standards, complemented by a strong Advanced Placement (AP) program in high school. AST emphasizes both academic achievement and personal growth, fostering belonging, language development, and individualized support within a close-knit, inclusive community. Its diverse faculty—representing the United States, Canada, the United Kingdom, and other countries—bring a wealth of global perspectives to teaching and learning. Located at the base of the Dakeng Scenic Area, AST's natural surroundings provide a calm, healthy setting that supports student well-being and outdoor learning, while its proximity to the city allows easy access to cultural and community engagement opportunities.

AST currently enrolls 277 students across three divisions: 104 in Elementary School, 90 in Middle School, and 83 in High School.



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 providing a rigorous, standards-based education that cultivates critical thinking, problem-solving, and collaboration. The curriculum builds from strong foundations in elementary and middle school to a broad range of high school offerings, including 13–15 Advanced Placement (AP) courses annually. Communication, a vital 21st-century skill, is emphasized across all subjects. With English as the primary language of instruction and Chinese required through high school, students develop as confident, articulate communicators in both languages. Daily English language arts and literature studies further strengthen this foundation.

To ensure each student thrives, AST offers comprehensive academic and emotional support through English as an Additional Language (EAL) services, school counseling, individualized academic plans, and peer tutoring. A balanced approach to academics and extracurriculars includes opportunities in the fine and performing arts, digital art, and wellness courses such as health, nutrition, and weight training. Over 90% of students participate in at least one varsity sport—including basketball, tennis, table tennis, swimming, badminton, ultimate frisbee, and volleyball—reflecting a strong sense of teamwork and school spirit.

AST's commitment to holistic education extends beyond the classroom. The standards-based advisory program, guided by ISCA and CASEL frameworks, promotes social-emotional learning, community care, and student well-being. The school's close-knit environment fosters empathy and global connection, strengthened by an active alumni network. Students contribute meaningfully through service and sustainability initiatives such as the Red Cross, Generation Service Club, Project C, VEX Club and VEX Outreach, and the Eco-School Club. Participation in Model United Nations, VEX Robotics competitions, and Student Government (STUGO) further develops leadership, collaboration, and civic responsibility. Through these experiences, AST students become compassionate, globally minded individuals who understand their shared responsibility in creating a sustainable future.



ROBOTICS VEX

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.



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



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.



SERVICE LEARNING

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
Total	28.0

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

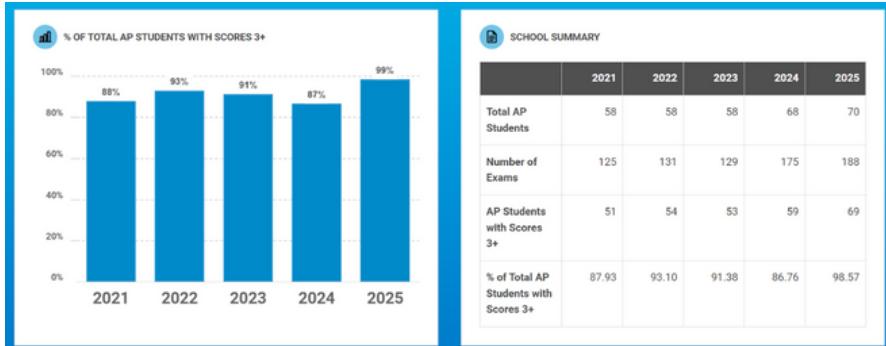
2025-26 AP Course Offerings

AST is committed to academic excellence through active learning and encourages students to embrace academic rigor by taking on challenging coursework, including Advanced Placement (AP) courses. Although our school's size can limit the range of on-campus offerings, we strive to provide approximately 13-15 AP courses each year. In addition, students may take accredited online AP or elective courses through an approved online learning program, enabling them to explore subjects not available on campus. These courses are completed in a supervised classroom setting to ensure structure and support. Semester grades from these courses are factored into students' overall GPA and appear on their official transcripts.

AST offers 19 AP courses in the 2025–26 school year:

- Art and Design
- Biology
- Calculus AB
- Calculus BC (Online)
- Chemistry
- Computer Science Principles
- English Language and Composition
- Environmental Science (Online)
- Human Geography
- Comparative Government & Politics
- Macroeconomics
- Microeconomics
- Physics 1 (Online)
- Physics C: Electricity & Magnetism (Online)
- Precalculus
- Psychology
- Statistics
- Seminar

AP Scholar Awards 2025:



AST students continue to excel in the College Board's AP Program. Of the 70 students who took 188 AP exams, 99% achieved scores of 3 or higher, and more than half of AP students received College Board AP Scholar recognitions, including: 18 AP Scholars, 10 AP Scholars with Honor, and 9 AP Scholars with Distinction. These distinctions underscore AST's strong academic culture and the school's success in preparing students for university-level rigor.

COLLEGE MATRICULATIONS FOR CLASS OF 2025

Celebrating its 35th 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.

UNITED STATES

Arizona State University
Baylor University
Binghamton University, SUNY
Boston University (EDx1, RDx2)
Brigham Young University
Case Western Reserve University (x3)
Drexel University
Emory University
Loyola Marymount University
Michigan State University (w/scholarship)
New York University (EDx2, RDx1)
Northeastern University (x6)
Ohio State University (x2)
Pennsylvania State University (x6) (1 w/scholarship)
Pepperdine University
Purdue University (x3)
Rutgers University (x4) (1 w/scholarship and Honors Program)
San José State University
Santa Clara University (x2)
St John's University (w/scholarship)
Stony Brook University, SUNY
Tufts University (EDx1)
UC Berkeley
UC Davis (x2) (1 w/scholarship)

UC Irvine (x5)
UC Los Angeles (x4) (1 w/scholarship)
UC Merced (x3)
UC Riverside
UC San Diego (x4) (1 w/scholarship and grant)
UC Santa Cruz
University at Buffalo, SUNY
University of Connecticut
University of Illinois-Urbana Champaign (x4) (1 w/scholarship)
University of Louisville
University of Maryland
University of Michigan-Ann Arbor
University of Pittsburgh
University of the Pacific
University of Washington - Seattle (x6) (1 w/scholarship and grant)
University of Wisconsin-Madison (x3) (1 w/scholarship and Honors Program)

UNITED KINGDOM

Durham University
Edinburgh University (x2)
Imperial College
London King's College London
University College London
University of Bristol
University of Edinburgh
University of Manchester

CANADA

McGill University (x2)
McMaster University
University of Toronto (x8)
University of British Columbia (x6)
University of Waterloo (w/100K scholarship)
York University (w/scholarship)

AUSTRALIA

Australian National University
Monash University
RMIT University (Royal Melbourne Institute of Technology)
University of Melbourne (x3)
University of New South Wales (x2)
University of Sydney (x4)

COLLEGE MATRICULATIONS FOR CLASS OF 2024

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)	Ohio State University (US)* - w/scholarships	University of Denver (US) - w/full scholarship
American University (US) - w/scholarships	Otis College of Art and Design (US)	University of Florida (US)
Arizona State University* (US)	Ontario College of Art and Design (US)	University of Glasgow (UK)
Babson College (US)	Oxford College of Emory University (US)	University of Illinois at Chicago (US)
Bates College (US)	Pennsylvania State University (US)*	University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign (US)*
Baylor University (US)	Pratt University (US)*	University of Leeds (UK)
Binghamton University (US)	Purdue University (US)*	University of Manchester (UK)
Boston University (US)	Queen Mary University (UK)	University of Maryland (US)
Brunel University (UK)	Queensland University of Technology (AU)	University of Massachusetts - Amherst (US)*
California College of the Arts CCA (US)*	Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute (US)	University of Massachusetts - Boston (US)
Case Western Reserve University (US)	Rotterdam University of Applied Sciences (NL)	University of Miami (US)
Chapman University (US)	Rutgers University (US)	University of Michigan - Ann Arbor (US)*
College of Wooster (US)	Santa Clara University (US)*	University of New South Wales (Kensington, AU)
Dalhousie University (CA)	Savannah College of Arts and Design SCAD (US)*	University of Nottingham (UK)
Delft University of Technology (NL)	School of Acupuncture and Traditional Chinese Medicine (NZ)	University of Pittsburg (US)
DePaul University (US)	School of the Art Institute of Chicago SAIC (US)*	University of Queensland (AU)
Drexel University (US)	School of Visual Arts SVA (US)*	University of Rochester (US)*
Durham University (UK)	Seton Hall University (US) - w/scholarship	University of San Francisco (US) - w/scholarship
Emory University (US)*	Simmons University (US) - w/scholarship	University of Sheffield (UK)
Fordham University (US)	SUNY - Stony Brook (US)	University of Southern California (US)*
Franklin & Marshall College (US)	Swinburne University of Technology (Melbourne, AU)	University of St. Andrews & College of William and Mary (Joint Degree Program) (US & UK)
Florida State University - Honors Program (US)	Swiss Hotel Management School SHMS (Switzerland)	University of the Pacific (US) - w/scholarship
Georgia Institute of Technology (US)	Temple University - Tokyo (Japan)	University of Toronto (CA)*
King's College London (UK)	The New School - Parsons (US)*	University of Utah (US)
Illinois State University (US) - w/scholarships	University of Arts, London (UK)	University of Victoria (CA)
Indiana University - Bloomington (US) - w/scholarships	University of Bristol (UK)	University of Virginia (US)
LaSalle College - Montreal (CA)	University of Britisch Columbia (CA)* - w/scholarships	University of Washington - Seattle (US)* - w/scholarship
Loyola Marymount University (US)	University of Britisch Columbia - Okanagan (CA)* - w/scholarships	University of Toronto - (CA)*
McMaster University (CA)	University of Birmingham (UK)	University of Wisconsin-Madison (US)*
Maryland Institute College of Art MICA (US)	University of California-Berkeley (US)	University of York (UK)
Massachusetts College of Art and Design (MassArt) (US)	University of California-Davis (US)*	Washington University in St Louis (US)*
McGill University (CA)*	University of California-Irvine (US)*	Waterloo University (CA) - w/scholarship
Melbourne University (AU)*	University of California-San Diego (US)	Wellesley College (US)
Michigan State University (US)* - w/scholarships	University of California-Santa Barbara (US)*	Western University (CA)
MCPHS (US) - w/scholarships	University of California-Santa Cruz (US)	Western Washington University (US)* - w/scholarship
New York University (US)*	University of Carolina Chapel Hill (US)	York University-Schulick School of Business (CA)
Northeastern University (US)*	University of Cincinnati (US)	

Rev. 2/2024

*2 or more students have matriculated.

