



GISSV

German International School
of Silicon Valley

DIAP – The Path to the Finest German Universities

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September 2014

www.gissv.org





Philosophy DIAP

Since the GISSV had the first graduates worldwide of the *Deutsches Internationales Abitur* in 2009, the DIAP has distinguished itself as a outstanding diploma which successfully combines the **education towards global citizenship** with the **challenging expectations of the German Abitur**



Philosophy

- Unique focus on **bilingualism** and **independent learning**
- Outstanding educational program ending with **written, oral exams**
- Integration of country-specific requirements, exams, and diplomas
- New exam format colloquium focuses on **project-based** and **cross-curricular studies**



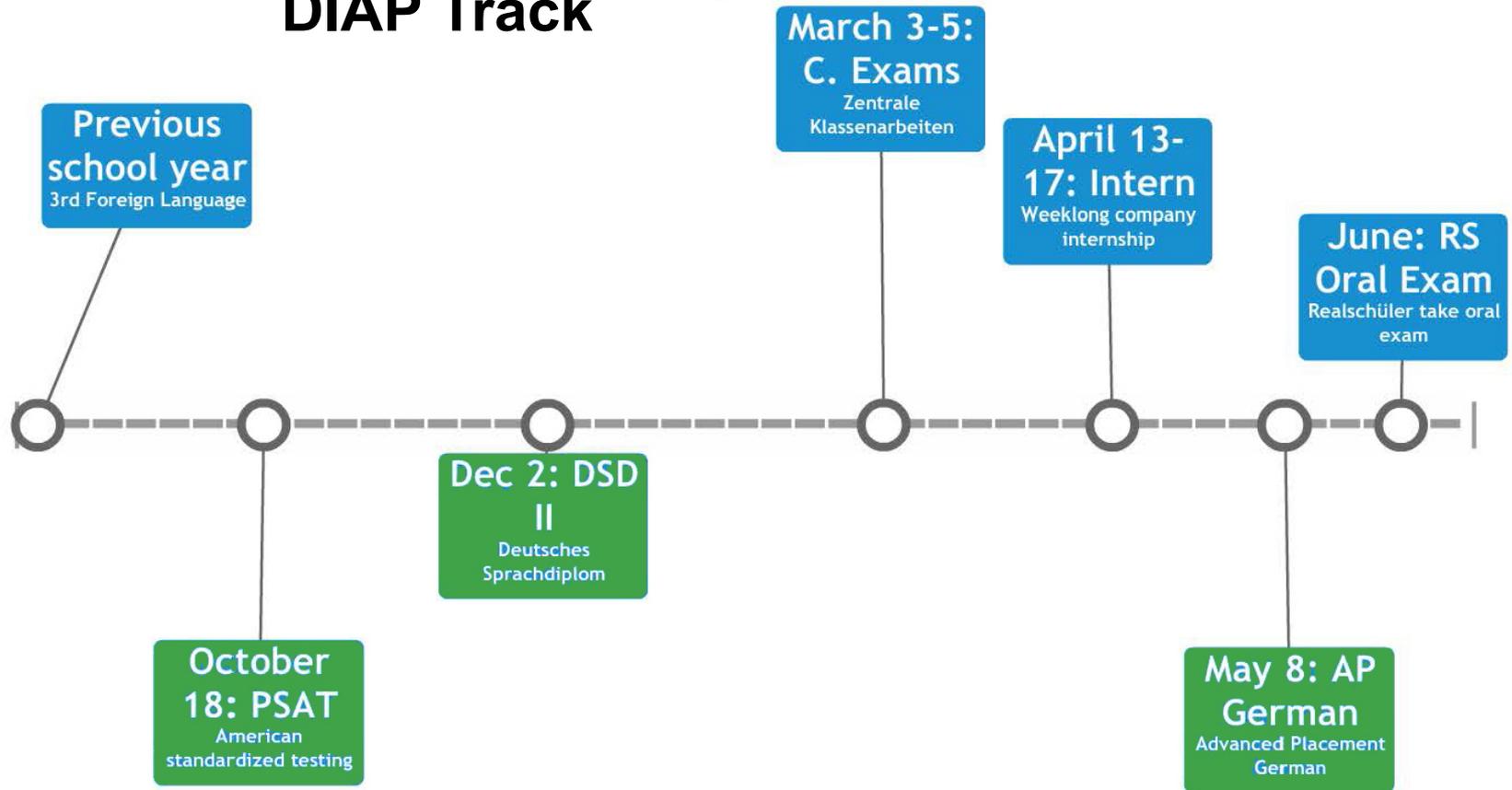
Anforderungsbereiche

- **Students are taught and tested based on three performance levels**
- *Anforderungsbereich I: **Understanding*** of the given material and the ability to reproduce it
- *Anforderungsbereich II: **Reorganisation*** of the given material, e.g. analysis and interpretation
- *Anforderungsbereich III: **Transfer and critical evaluation***- the ability of the student to go beyond the text or problem to demonstrate and apply knowledge in another context.



Grade 10: Introductory Phase

DIAP Track



American Track



Zentrale Klassenarbeiten

- Part of the official requirements to enter the qualification phase
- Sent by Germany, graded by GISSV teachers according to set expectations
- Written exams in all three core subjects: German (150 min), Math (135 min), English (135 min)
- Count twice as much as a regular exam



Realschulabschluss

- German exit diploma after 10th grade
- Centralized written exams in two of the three core subjects in March (2015: German (135 min) and Math (120 min))
- One oral exam (approx. 20 minutes) in June during the DIAP oral exam week
- The final grading in the three exam subjects is 50 % exam related and 50 % related to the grade for the school year



From *Realschule* to *Gymnasium*

Requirements

- not have a 5 (= “Mangelhaft”) in one of the three core subjects (German, Math, English)
- have an average of 3.0 in the three core subjects
- have an average of 3.0 in all subjects

Students repeat grade 10 on “Gymnasium” level, including a second foreign language

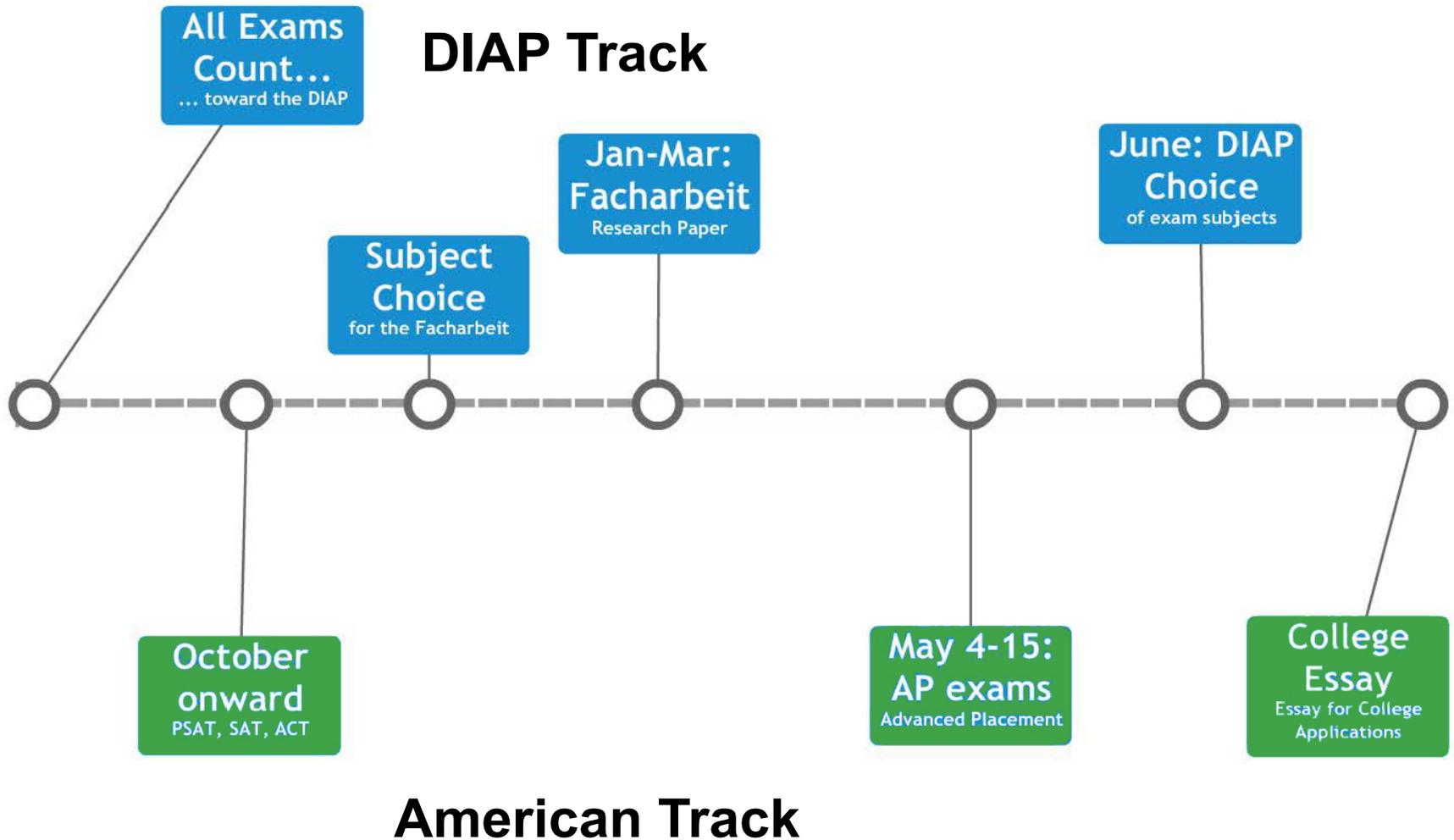


Internship

- **Objective: to gain insight into the professional world and different job specifications as well as become aware of their own interests and abilities**
- Weeklong internship from April 13-17 (there is the possibility to use the spring break)
- Students organize their internship themselves
- Support and information provided by Frau Wenk (swenk@gissv.org)
- Presentation on April 22



Grade 11: Qualification Phase





DIAP Requirements

1. German
2. Math
3. Four subjects from the subject areas of
 1. foreign languages (English, French, Spanish)
 2. sciences (Physics, Chemistry, Biology)
4. History
5. Art
6. Physical Education

For high school diploma:

1. English
2. Economics
3. American History / American Government



Languages of Instruction

German	English	Bilingual
German	English	Biology
History	Economics	Chemistry
Math	American History/Gov.	
Physics		
P.E., Art		Other
		French Spanish



Grading Scale

- Grading system von 0-15 points

Point System	15-13	12	11	10	09	08	07	06	05	04	03-01	00
German Grades	1	2+	2	2-	3+	3	3-	4+	4	4-	5	6
American Grade	A+	A		A-	B+	B	B-	C+	C	C-	D	F



Facharbeit

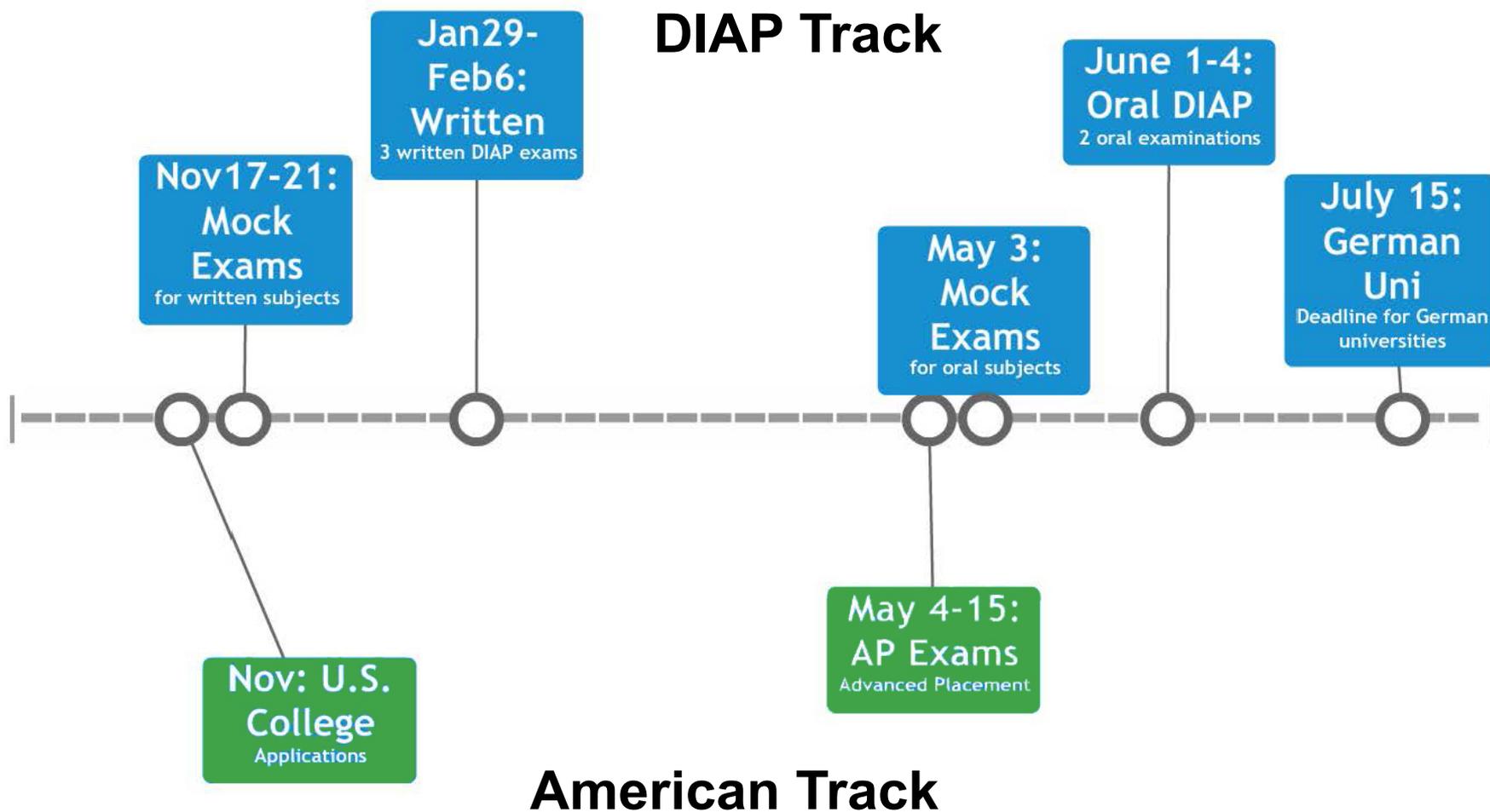
- **The research paper combines an involved process of research, critical thinking, source evaluation, organization, and composition**
- written in a subject of the student's choice
- Subject teacher advises on topic and grades the paper
- duration: 8 weeks (Jan 20 - March 17)
- replaces the exam in that subject in the first half of the second semester



Experts in the Classroom

- Unique subject for grades 11-12 that introduces the students to experts from various fields
- Students explore different career possibilities, perform job and IQ tests, prepare their resumes, LinkedIn profiles, portfolios, etc.
- Individual counseling for studying in Germany, e.g. different forms of colleges in Germany (university; *Fachhochschule*; dual studies; “Erasmus”)
- Individual help with special showcase portfolios which might be needed for certain subjects

🌟 Grade 12: Qualification Phase and DIAP





DIAP Exam Subjects

- **The DIAP consists of 3 written and 2 oral Abitur examinations**
- All three subject areas have to be covered: Languages, Natural and Social Sciences
- German is a mandatory written subject
- The other exam subjects could be
 - Math
 - English, French or Spanish (five years of instruction)
 - History or Economics
 - Physics or Biology or Chemistry

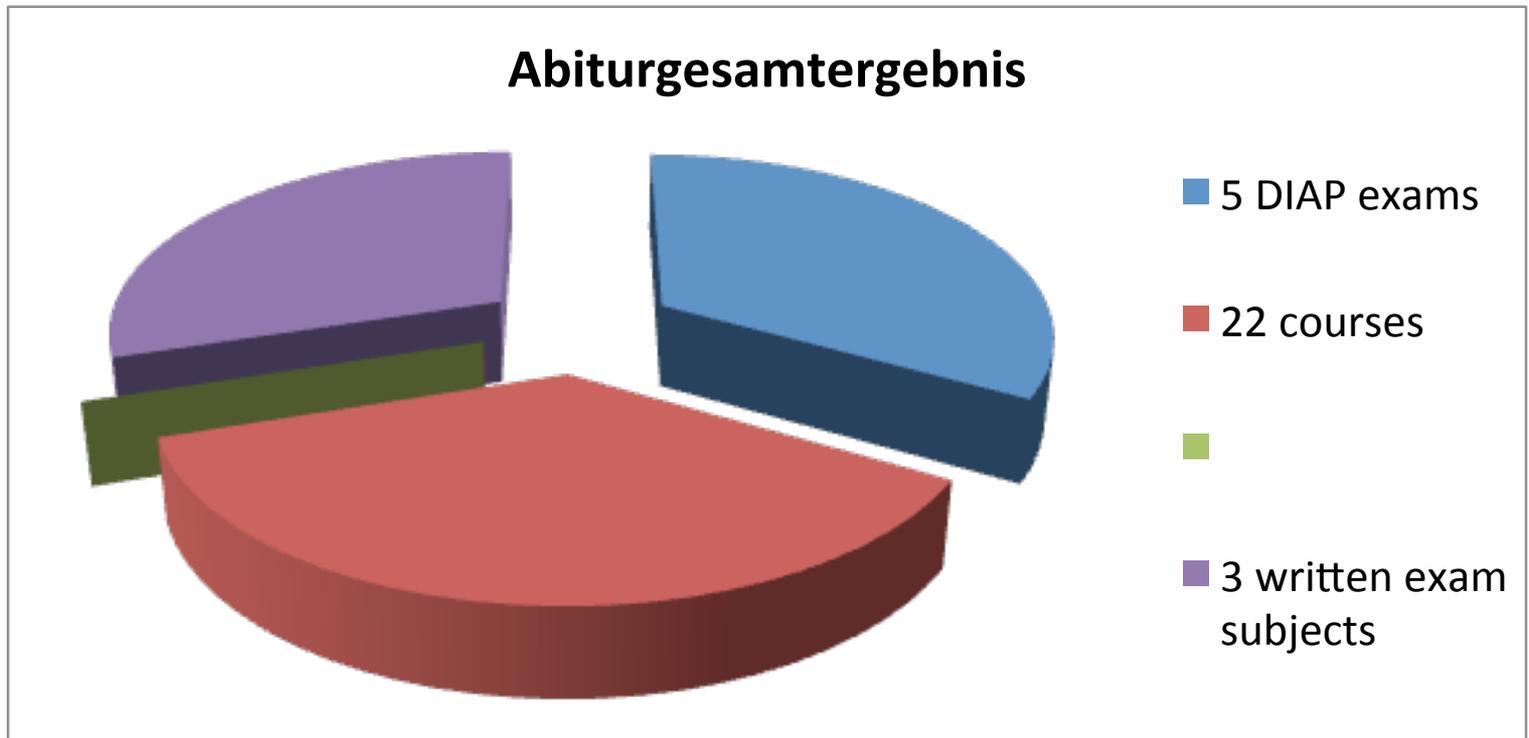


DIAP Oral Exams

- One oral exam must be a subject taught in German
- 4th subject: 20 minute oral exam
- **5th subject: colloquium (20 min)**
 - Students define and structure their topic themselves
 - The presentation marks the pinnacle of an independent, cross-curricular and project-based learning process



DIAP Breakdown





Paving the Way

GISSV prepares the students for universities all over the world:

- Germany and Europe with the bilingual DIAP Abitur format
- USA with High School diploma, standardized tests plus rigorous coursework



Paving the Way

- **Wide academic college and university preparation** in both worlds (WASC accreditation, “excellent German School abroad” by the German BLI)
- **Focus on languages and sciences**
- Truly **bilingual** education at the level of native speakers in an **intercultural** environment



Partners

- A cooperation program with *TU9* exists. TU9 is the association of the nine biggest and most influential technical colleges in Germany (a partnership between GISSV and TU9 was signed in Sept 2011).
- Cooperation with the *DAAD* (German academics exchange program): **info night @ GISSV in November**



German Scholarships

- *Studienstiftung des Deutschen Volkes* (recommendation of the one or two most successful students per year)
- *DAAD Vollstipendium* (for students at German schools abroad who are not German citizens – the two best students per year can be nominated)
- Scholarships of the UAS7 (for students from GISSV, DSNY, DSW – 300 € / month)



Where are GISSV Alumni?

- **Germany:** Munich, Berlin, Hamburg, Stuttgart, Jena, Heidelberg, Hannover, Frankfurt, Karlsruhe, Cologne, Aachen
- **US:** UC Berkeley, Boulder University (Colorado), NYU, SCU, Tufts, Stanford, Menlo College of Business, UC Davis, Santa Barbara City College; graduate studies at Cornell
- **Other:** University of Vienna, Austria; Marseille, France; start-up



Information Channels

- Jenny Jungeblut & Jennifer Krejcik
Head of High School & High School College Counselor
- DAAD and German universities information night **in November**
- German universities counselor: Hanni Geist, DAAD San Francisco:
- Experts in the classroom (E.i.U.) every week
- Brochures in the library

- College Fairs and college visits



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