

THE SCHOOL COMMUNITY

GISSV is a private, non-profit, coeducational international school founded in 2000 in Mountain View, CA. The school offers a multilingual, multicultural education to students from pre-school through 12th grade. The academic programs of the GISSV are created to meet the needs of American, German, and international families either living in the Bay Area. It is the only elementary and secondary school in the Western United States that meets the strict accreditation requirements of the German government, enabling entry into European as well as the American secondary and tertiary educational systems. GISSV has a 2nd campus in San Francisco which opened August 2011. Over 40 nationalities are represented in our diverse student body and faculty. 98% of all graduates pursue 4-year higher education.

ACCREDITATION

The GISSV is accredited by the Standing Conference of German Cultural Ministers, the German Foreign Office as well as the Western Association of Schools and Colleges (WASC) and the California Association of Independent Schools through 2022/23.

THE ACADEMIC PROGRAM

- Encompasses all the major disciplines of the arts and sciences, and meets both Germany's and California's official requirements.
- Unique focus on **bilingualism** and **independent learning**
- Two-year qualification phase in Grades 11 and 12 ends with **written and oral exams**.
- Project-based, cross-curricular, and independent learning opportunities complement more traditional classroom settings.
- New exam format colloquium focuses on **project-based and cross-curricular studies**
- Students earn both the California High School Diploma and the German International Abitur, Germany's highest college preparatory diploma

THE CORE CURRICULUM

Graduation Requirements	Years/Language of Instruction
German	4 years/German
English	4 years/English
French/Spanish	2-4 years/ French/Spanish
Mathematics	4 years/German
Chemistry	2-4 years/Bilingual
Biology	2-4 years/Bilingual
Physics	2-4 years/German
History	4 years/Bilingual
Art	4 years/German

Graduation Requirements	Years/Language of Instruction
Physical Education	4 years/German
Ethics	3 years/German
Music	1 year /German
American history	1 year/English
American Government	1 year/English
Geography	1 year/Bilingual
Economics *	1-4 year(s)/English
Programming*	1-4 year(s)/German

*Either/Or

Starting in grade 11, most classes are taught as Honors or AP classes. As a minimum, students have 10 classes and 33 periods per week.

ADVANCED PLACEMENT COURSES

AP courses are offered at the school for students who are considering the option of attending college in the United States. Current AP courses include: **English Language and Composition, English Literature and Composition, German Language and Culture, French Language and Culture, Spanish Language and Culture, Microeconomics, Chemistry, Calculus AB and Biology**. Enrollment in AP classes is based on a prerequisite grade in the previous semester, student performance, and teacher recommendation. Students in AP classes are encouraged to take the AP examinations.



German International School
of Silicon Valley

MAILING ADDRESS

310 Easy St,
Mountain View, CA, 94043

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SCHOOL ADMINISTRATION

Interim Head of School
Mr. Mario Cimiotti

Vice Principal
Ms. Jenny Jungeblut

Head of High School
Mr. Mario Cimiotti

High School Counselor
Ms. Jennifer Krejcik

College Counselor – Germany
Ms. Stefanie Wenk



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GRADES

The German International School of Silicon Valley does not calculate class rank. A cumulative GPA is calculated on course work completed in grades 9-12. All exams in 11th and 12th grade, including the final Abitur, are graded on a scale of 0 –15. Perfect scores are a rarity.

Grade Table

American Grades	German Grades (Points)	Verbal Grades	
A+	15/14/13	1	superior work, exceeds all expectations
A	12/11	2	excellent work, meets all expectations
A-	10		
B+ B	9/8	3	good work
B-	7		
C+	6	4	acceptable work; 4 points/C- in the Abitur is non-passing
C	5		
C-	4		
D	3/2/1	5	work does not meet requirements
F	0	6	work does not meet requirements

SPECIAL PROGRAMS

Exchange Program 3 months student exchange program between high school students from the Marie-Curie Gymnasium in Dresden, Germany. Shorter exchange programs take place with the German School of Valparaiso, Chile, and the Lycee Saint Joseph de Tivoli in Bordeaux, France.

Mentoring Program from 9th-12th grade

Internship week in the 10th grade

Career Counseling program for high school students

Research project junior year second semester

eSchool21 Blended-learning platform developed for GISSV

SECONDARY SCHOOL EXTRACURRICULAR ACTIVITIES

Sports: Girls Volleyball; Co-ed Soccer; Sailing; kayaking; paddle boarding

Language and Culture: Young Journalists; Yearbook

Service: Interact Club; GISSV TV; Eco School

Theater and Music: High School Drama; Youth Orchestra; Senior Orchestra; High School Sing

Strategy & Problem Solving: Programming; Entrepreneurship Club; Model United Nations

COLLEGES - GISSV STUDENTS HAVE BEEN ACCEPTED AT:

Universities in the US:

Boston University; U Boulder, Colorado; Chapman; Cornell; Columbia; Georgetown; Lewis and Clark; Menlo College; New York University; Pepperdine; Pomona; Stanford University; Temple University; Tufts University; UC Berkeley; UC Davis; UC Irvine; UC Los Angeles; UC Merced; UC Santa Barbara; UC Santa Cruz; UC San Diego.

Universities in Germany:

University of Aachen; RWTH Aachen; University of Augsburg; TU Berlin; University of Berlin; University of Constance; TU Darmstadt; TU Dresden; University Dresden; Goethe University of Frankfurt; University of Freiburg; University of Gottingen; University of Hamburg; University of Heidelberg; University of Hildesheim; Friedrich-Schiller University of Jena; Ped Hochschule Karlsruhe; University of Leipzig; TU Munich; Ludwig-Maximilian University, Munich; University of Munich; Reutlingen University; University of Stuttgart; University of Tübingen

Other European Universities:

University of Amsterdam, Netherlands; University of Basel, Switzerland; University of St. Gallen, Switzerland; University of Applied Science, Krems, Austria; University of Maastricht, Netherlands; University of Marseilles, France



German International School
of Silicon Valley

ENROLLMENT (2018-2019) school year

Mountain View Campus:
Preschool through 12th -
487 students.
78 students attend the high
school program.

San Francisco Campus:
K through 7h - 88 students

FACULTY

23 pre-school/Kindergarten
and 61 school teachers with
German and international
degrees and diplomas. 95% of
our high school faculty have
a Masters in Education or
another advanced degree.

PATTERN OF THE SCHOOL YEAR

Two semesters beginning mid-
August and mid- January with
a total of 180 school days



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