AMERICAN SCHOOL OF MADRID

We empower lifelong learners to take on challenges and thrive, care for others in our diverse international community and think globally and creatively toward a better future.

Upper School Standards-based Teaching, Learning & Assessment - Guiding Principles

- All Upper School students learn towards a clear set of common standards across all courses in each department. Given the diversity of academic disciplines in the Upper School, each academic department has a unique set of standards.
- These department standards are the foundation of teaching and learning.
- All feedback on learning progress is given in alignment with these standards. Assessments are designed to allow students to demonstrate their progress toward mastery of the standards.
- Teachers use standard-based rubrics to determine student achievement levels on individual assessments to align with best assessment practices. A letter grade is assigned to the assessment to help parents gauge student progress.
- Letter Grades are determined using a logic rule to move from standards to letter grades. Due to the diversity of courses offered in the Upper School, the logic rules for each department will be different, but within departments, they are common and consistently applied.
- Students are provided with these logic rules at the beginning of the academic year.
- Students do have the opportunity to be reassessed against standards after there is evidence that new learning has taken place. Again, due to the diversity of academic courses in the Upper School, each department has a unique reassessment policy that outlines the process for reassessment against standards.
- Teachers determine the end-of-year grade (in the form of a letter grade A-F) based on all the standards-based assessment evidence collected throughout the academic year. End-of-year grades are not calculated through averages.
- Only end-of-year grades are transferred to students' transcripts (official permanent records of achievement).
- IB grading scales (1-7) are used for IB courses. Only end-of-year grades 1- 7 are transferred to student transcripts.

The American School of Madrid does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, gender identity, sexual orientation, national origin, religion, or marital status.