



GRACE INTERNATIONAL SCHOOL
Chiang Mai, Thailand
2025-2026

Middle School
Academic Program Handbook

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Middle School Principal: Mr Martin Choi

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MISSION STATEMENT

Grace International School is a quality, affordable Christian school in Chiang Mai, Thailand. GIS exists so that international Christian workers are enabled to remain abroad due to the educational and spiritual needs of their children being met. These needs include access to distance education support, adaptive instruction, and tools that enable students to grow in their personal faith journey with the Lord.

VISION STATEMENT

The Vision of Grace International School is that every student will know who they are in Christ, that they will experience a quality education in an inspiring learning environment, and that they will be equipped with a Biblical worldview to impact the world for Christ.

CORE VALUES

To Follow Jesus

To Pursue Excellence

To Cultivate Community

To Partner with Parents

To Enable International Christian Workers

ACCREDITATION

Western Association of Schools and Colleges
Member since 2005



Association of Christian Schools International
Member since 2005 Accreditation #20935



Table of Contents

[MISSION STATEMENT](#)

[VISION STATEMENT](#)

[CORE VALUES](#)

[ACCREDITATION](#)

[Academic Testing](#)

[Middle School Course Requirements](#)

[Grade 6 Course Descriptions](#)

[Advisory](#)

[Religious Studies 6](#)

[Language Arts 6](#)

[Math 6](#)

[Science 6](#)

[Ancient Civilizations](#)

[Grade 7 Course Descriptions](#)

[Advisory](#)

[Religious Studies 7](#)

[Language Arts](#)

[Math 7](#)

[Pre-Algebra](#)

[Science 7](#)

[World Civilizations](#)

[Grade 8 Course Descriptions](#)

[Advisory](#)

[Religious Studies 8](#)

[Language Arts 8](#)

[Pre-Algebra](#)

[Algebra](#)

[Science 8](#)

[World Geography](#)

[Middle School Electives and Thai Requirements](#)

[Middle School Thai Language Requirement](#)

[National Thai](#)

[Thai I](#)

[Thai II](#)

[Thai III](#)

[Middle School Technology Requirement](#)

[Technology and Digital Citizenship](#)

[Project Based Learning \(PBL\) Electives](#)

[Art I](#)

[Art II](#)

[Beginner Band](#)

[Intermediate Band](#)

[Choir 1](#)

[Choir II](#)

[Physical Education I](#)

[Physical Education II](#)

[Yearbook](#)

[Agroecology Elective](#)

[Project-Based Learning \(PBL\) Elective Expo](#)

[Middle School Educational Support \(ES\)](#)

[ES Guided Study Hall](#)

[Middle School Teaching English to Speakers of Other Languages \(TESOL\)](#)

[TESOL Guided Study Hall](#)

[Schedule Corrections and Changes](#)

Academic Testing

MAP Assessments: Grade 6 - 8 students will take this standardized test during a designated school day. It will cover the following content areas: Math and Reading/Comprehension Language Arts in an adaptive testing format using [NWEA's MAP](#) Assessment. This testing does not affect students' GIS Academic Grades but informs educators how to best support students through data analysis.

Semester Assessment(s): All Grades 6-8 core classes (Language Arts, Math, Social Studies, and Science) will have a semester assessment (final) at the end of each semester (during the last week of classes). The first-semester assessment for Grades 6-8 will be on material covered during the second quarter (October-December) for that particular core academic class. The second-semester assessment for Grades 6-8 will be cumulative including material covered only in the third and fourth quarters (January-May) for that particular core academic class. Semester assessments are designed to assess the student's progress, prepare the student for high school exams, and directly reflect the taught and tested curriculum.

Middle School Course Requirements

Grade 6	Grade 7	Grade 8
Advisory	Advisory	Advisory
Religious Studies 6 <i>(full year)</i>	Religious Studies 7 <i>(full year)</i>	Religious Studies 8 <i>(full year)</i>
Language Arts 6 <i>(full year)</i>	Language Arts 7 <i>(full year)</i>	Language Arts 8 <i>(full year)</i>
Math 6 <i>(full year)</i>	Math 7 or Pre-Algebra <i>(full year)</i>	Pre-Algebra or Algebra 1 <i>(full year)</i>
Science 6 <i>(full year)</i>	Science 7 <i>(full year)</i>	Science 8 <i>(full year)</i>
Ancient Civilizations <i>(full year)</i>	World Civilizations <i>(full year)</i>	World Geography <i>(full year)</i>
Thai (1 semester) or National Thai* (full year)	Thai (1 semester) or National Thai* (full year)	Thai (1 semester) or National Thai* (full year)
PBL Elective (1 semester)	PBL Elective (1 semester)	PBL Elective (1 semester)
PBL Elective (1 semester)	PBL Elective (1 semester)	PBL Elective (1 semester)
PBL Elective (1 semester)	PBL Elective (1 semester)	PBL Elective (1 semester)

[Click here](#) for more details about Elective and Thai Requirements (Page 13)

Grade 6 Course Descriptions

Advisory

ND065

Length: Year-long

Grade: 6

Advisory is a weekly time set aside to help you grow in every part of your life—academically, emotionally, and spiritually. In this supportive environment, we'll focus on social-emotional learning, goal setting, and regular wellness check-ins. You'll also have the chance to reflect on current events through a biblical worldview, learning how God's truth helps guide us in today's world. Advisory gives you the tools and encouragement you need to thrive both in and out of the classroom.

Religious Studies 6

RS065

Length: Year-long

Grade: 6

Religious Studies 6 invites you into a deeper relationship with God through spiritual practices such as prayer and guided scripture reading. You'll learn how to study the Bible for yourself, exploring its overarching story, cultural context, and a variety of genres. Together, we'll develop skills for interpreting and applying Scripture in meaningful ways. This course helps you grow as a faithful disciple, equipping you for a lifelong pursuit of God through His Word.

Language Arts 6

LA065

Length: Year-long

Grade: 6

Language Arts 6 helps you become a confident reader, writer, and thinker. Through novels, short stories, poetry, and nonfiction texts, you'll explore different genres and voices while learning to identify themes, analyze point of view, and interpret language. In writing, you'll develop clear and well-organized essays—argumentative, informational, and narrative—using the MLA format. You'll also build vocabulary through our readings and the study of Greek and Latin roots. Grammar and writing conventions are woven throughout to support your growth as a strong communicator.

Math 6

MA065

Length: Year-long

Grade: 6

Math 6 lays the foundation for future success in mathematics by helping you understand numbers and how they work in real-life situations. You'll start with numerical expressions and factors, then move on to fractions, decimals, and percentages. You'll explore ratios, rates,

and proportional reasoning, as well as algebraic expressions and equations. In geometry, we'll study shapes, area, surface area, and volume. You'll also learn about integers, coordinate planes, and basic statistics. Throughout the year, you'll solve problems, think critically, and see how math connects to the world around you.

Science 6

SC065

Length: Year-long

Grade:

Science 6 invites you to explore the wonders of God's creation through hands-on learning and inquiry. We begin by asking, "What is life?" and look at how this question connects to biblical truth. You'll use microscopes to uncover the amazing details of cells and study how life is organized into domains. We'll explore plant systems, trait variation, and the vast diversity of life God created. As we move into systems biology, you'll learn how different parts of the body work together and reflect God's design. Our study of weather, air pressure, and the water cycle reveals God's power in the natural world. Throughout the course, you'll see science as a way to marvel at and care for the world God has made.

Ancient Civilizations

SS065

Length: Year-long

Grade: 6

In Ancient Civilizations, you'll travel back in time to explore the fascinating cultures of Mesopotamia, Egypt, China, and Greece. Through the lens of geography, religion, philosophy, and innovation, you'll discover what made these civilizations unique and how their legacies still influence our world today. Using the HMH textbook, you'll build historical thinking skills and gain a richer understanding of global cultures and their contributions to history.

Grade 7 Course Descriptions

Advisory

ND075

Length: Year-long

Grade: 7

Advisory offers a safe and supportive environment for students to grow academically, emotionally, and spiritually. We will focus on social-emotional learning, goal setting, and wellness check-ins to help students achieve success in all areas of life. We will also address current events from a biblical worldview, exploring how God's truth can guide us in navigating the world around us. With Advisory, students are equipped with the tools and support they need to thrive both inside and outside the classroom. Advisory meets once a week.

Religious Studies 7

RS075

Length: Year-long

Grade: 7

In Religious Studies 7, students are equipped to analyze beliefs while integrating biblical truths. They will explore the concept of absolute truth and learn to identify and confront lies originating from Satan, grounding their faith beyond fleeting emotions. From worshipping God to critically evaluating naturalism and postmodernism, students learn to examine worldviews through a biblical lens. Key topics include creationism, identity as God's image-bearers, and moral discernment. This course fosters critical thinking as students engage with literature, media, and culture, emerging as confident ambassadors of biblical truth.

Language Arts

LA070

Length: Year-long

Grade: 7

Language Arts 7 provides students with a rich exploration of various genres, styles, and authors' voices through a combination of textbook selections, novels, and supplemental materials. Students will read and analyze short stories, informational texts, poetry, and speeches both independently and collaboratively. Writing units include researched informative essays, narrative fiction, and argumentative writing. Students will continue learning how to use MLA format and how to evaluate credible internet sources. A structured grammar program is integrated into the writing process. Vocabulary instruction is embedded within the context of literature and includes the study of Greek and Latin roots and affixes.

Math 7

MA070

Length: Year-long

Grade: 7

A placement test will determine whether students are placed in Math 7 or Pre-Algebra.

Math 7 extends and strengthens arithmetic skills while preparing students for future algebraic thinking. Students will explore topics such as ratios, percentages, equations, inequalities, geometry, graphing, and probability. The course begins with proportional relationships and unit rates, including those involving lengths, areas, and other measurable quantities. Students will also deepen their understanding of rational numbers and apply operations involving these values. Additional topics include linear expressions, geometry concepts such as scale drawings and circles, and statistical reasoning using random samples. This course emphasizes critical thinking and problem-solving skills.

Pre-Algebra
MA070
Length: Year-long
Grade: 7–8

Prerequisite: Math 6 or Math 7 (MAP scores and course grade); placement test available.

Pre-Algebra equips students with foundational skills needed for success in Algebra I. Topics include solving simple and multi-step equations, transformations, angles and triangles, graphing and writing linear equations, and systems of linear equations. Students will also explore data analysis, functions, exponents and scientific notation, real numbers and the Pythagorean Theorem, and geometric concepts such as volume and similar solids. Emphasis is placed on mathematical reasoning and solving real-world problems.

Science 7
SC070
Length: Year-long
Grade: 7

Science 7 encourages continued development in science literacy through engaging, hands-on investigations. Students will build collaborative skills and explore major science themes including Earth History (geology), Chemical Interactions (properties of matter), and Populations and Ecosystems (biology/ecology). Students will also be introduced to maintaining a science notebook and writing reports based on laboratory investigations. The course fosters inquiry-based learning and curiosity about the natural world.

World Civilizations
SS071
Length: Year-long
Grade: 7

World Civilizations is a survey course that explores both ancient and modern cultures through the HMH World Civilizations textbook. Students will study significant events and developments that have shaped civilizations and analyze their contributions. By examining a range of cultures and time periods, students will gain a broader understanding of the diversity and interconnectedness of human history.

Grade 8 Course Descriptions

Advisory
ND085
Length: Year-long
Grade: 8

Advisory is a weekly opportunity to grow academically, emotionally, and spiritually in a safe and encouraging environment. You'll focus on goal setting, social-emotional learning, and regular wellness check-ins designed to support your success in every area of life. Together, we'll also explore current events through a biblical worldview, learning how God's truth can

guide our decisions and shape how we engage with the world. Advisory provides the space, support, and tools you need to thrive—both inside and outside the classroom.

Religious Studies 8

RS080

Length: Year-long

Grade: 8

Religious Studies 8 invites you to think deeply and biblically in a world filled with competing ideas. Through engaging Christian practices and Foundation Worldview’s “Careful Thinking” curriculum, you’ll build skills in discernment, logic, and critical thinking. We’ll explore the difference between objective and relative truth, how to evaluate emotional reasoning, and how to speak truth in love. This course helps you engage with culture and ideas in a way that reflects confidence, integrity, and compassion as a follower of Christ.

Language Arts 8

LA080

Length: Year-long

Grade: 8

Language Arts 8 builds on the skills that were developed in the previous year’s course, Language Arts 7. Students will read multiple short stories, poems, non-fiction texts, and novels. Students will read and analyze a variety of texts—including short stories, poetry, nonfiction, and novels—through meaningful class discussions and writing assignments. Writing projects include creative pieces, argumentative essays, research writing, and literary analysis. Sequential grammar instruction continues, with a focus on applying these skills to strengthen written expression. Vocabulary is studied regularly, with new words learned in the context of the literature and texts students explore throughout the year.

Pre-Algebra

MA081

Length: Year-long

Grades: 7–8

Prerequisite: Math 6 or Math 7

Pre-Algebra is designed to bridge the gap between middle school math and Algebra I. You’ll develop key skills in solving equations, graphing, and understanding geometric relationships. Topics include linear equations, functions, data displays, exponents, scientific notation, the Pythagorean Theorem, and volume. Throughout the course, you’ll work on solving word problems and applying mathematical concepts in meaningful ways. This course builds the strong foundation you’ll need for success in high school math.

Algebra
MA090
Length: Year-long
Grades: 8

Credit: 1.0 High School Math Credit

Prerequisite: Pre-Algebra

Algebra I sets the foundation for all future high school math courses. You'll explore variables, equations, and functions, while learning to solve word problems and apply algebraic thinking to real-world situations. Key topics include ratios and proportions, exponents and roots, linear and quadratic equations and inequalities, and systems of equations. You'll also be introduced to graphing technology and tools that support problem-solving. By the end of the course, you'll be prepared to take on more advanced math with confidence. Students are required to have a scientific calculator for this course.

Science 8
SC080
Length: Year-long
Grade: 8

Science 8 offers exciting, hands-on learning opportunities designed to deepen your understanding of the world and your role in it. You'll explore major topics including Planetary Science (astronomy), Gravity and Kinetic Energy, Waves, Heredity and Adaptation (biology), and Electromagnetic Forces. Through labs, investigations, and collaborative learning, you'll continue developing your science notebook and lab reporting skills. This course equips you to see the order and beauty of God's creation while building scientific thinking for the future.

World Geography
SS081
Length: Year-long
Grade: 8

World Geography helps you understand how physical and human geography shape our world. You'll learn to read and interpret maps, study climate patterns and landforms, and examine how governments and cultures are influenced by geography. These concepts will be applied to regions including the Americas, Europe, Asia, Africa, the Middle East, and the Pacific. This course encourages global awareness and helps you connect the study of geography to real-world events and decisions, equipping you with a strong foundation for future studies.

Middle School Electives and Thai Requirements

Grade 6	Grade 7	Grade 8
Advisory and Homeroom <i>(full year)</i>	Advisory and Homeroom <i>(full year)</i>	Advisory and Homeroom <i>(full year)</i>
Religious Studies 6 <i>(full year)</i>	Religious Studies 7 <i>(full year)</i>	Religious Studies 8 <i>(full year)</i>
Language Arts 6 <i>(full year)</i>	Language Arts 7 <i>(full year)</i>	Language Arts 8 <i>(full year)</i>
Math 6 <i>(full year)</i>	Math 7 or Pre-Algebra <i>(full year)</i>	Pre-Algebra or Algebra 1 <i>(full year)</i>
Science 6 <i>(full year)</i>	Science 7 <i>(full year)</i>	Science 8 <i>(full year)</i>
Ancient Civilizations <i>(full year)</i>	World Civilizations <i>(full year)</i>	World Geography <i>(full year)</i>
Thai <i>(1 semester)</i> OR National Thai* <i>(full year)</i>	Thai <i>(1 semester)</i> OR National Thai* <i>(full year)</i>	Thai <i>(1 semester)</i> OR National Thai* <i>(full year)</i>
PBL Elective <i>(1 semester)</i>	PBL Elective <i>(1 semester)</i>	PBL Elective <i>(1 semester)</i>
PBL Elective <i>(1 semester)</i>	PBL Elective <i>(1 semester)</i>	PBL Elective <i>(1 semester)</i>
PBL Elective <i>(1 semester)</i>	PBL Elective <i>(1 semester)</i>	PBL Elective <i>(1 semester)</i>

Elective Requirements if entering GIS in Grade 6

3 semesters: Thai Language* *(1 semester each school year)*
1 semester: Technology and Digital Citizenship

Elective Requirements if entering GIS in Grade 7

2 semesters: Thai Language* *(1 semester each school year)*
1 semester: Technology and Digital Citizenship

Elective Requirements if entering GIS in Grade 8

1 semester: Thai Language*
1 semester: Technology and Digital Citizenship

*National Thai students are required by the Ministry of Education to be enrolled in a full year of Thai Language (2 semesters) in Grades 6-8.

Middle School Thai Language Requirement

See [elective requirements](#) above

National Thai

LS071

Length: Year-long

Grades: 6-8

Prerequisite: Thai National

The placement in Thai I, II, and III will be determined based on proficiency levels and placement testing.

National Thai is a comprehensive language and cultural course designed specifically for Thai nationals in middle school. Delivered as part of a three-year cycle, this course supports the development of reading, writing, speaking, and listening skills in Thai. Students will explore a variety of topics including modern short stories, Thai law, domestic economy, biographies of national figures, current events, literature, folk tales, history, and culturally adapted psychology. Writing assignments include essays, news articles, poems, stories, and reports. In addition to language learning, students will engage in cultural activities such as Thai cooking, traditional games, arts and crafts, and celebrations of important Thai holidays like Parent's Day, Loy Krathong, and Songkran. The course emphasizes the preservation of Thai heritage while fostering language fluency.

Thai I

LS076

Length: One-semester

Grades: 6-8

Prerequisite: Placement test (Instructor Approval)

Thai I is an introductory course designed for non-Thai students with little or no prior experience in the Thai language. The focus is on developing basic listening and speaking skills through everyday vocabulary and conversational practice. Topics include greetings, numbers, colors, animals, family, food, occupations, and places, along with foundational Thai etiquette. Students will also explore Thai culture through weekly hands-on activities, such as cooking, crafts, traditional games, music, dance, and brief history lessons. The course culminates with participation in Thai cultural celebrations like Loy Krathong and Songkran Day.

Thai II

LS077

Length: One-semester

Grades: 6-8

Prerequisite: Thai I and/or placement test (Instructor Approval)

Thai II is designed for non-Thai students who have completed Thai I or possess basic Thai language knowledge. This course builds on listening and speaking skills while introducing reading and writing using the National Thai 1st Grade Thai Language Textbook. Students will begin learning 16 consonants and 6 vowels, enabling them to recognize familiar words in Thai script. Weekly cultural activities deepen students' appreciation of Thai traditions, cuisine, crafts, music, and games. Cultural celebrations such as Loy Krathong, and Songkran further enhance students' understanding of Thai heritage.

Thai III

LS078

Length: One-semester

Grades: 6-8

Prerequisite: Thai II and/or placement test (Instructor Approval)

Thai III continues the development of Thai language skills for non-Thai students. Emphasis is placed on listening, speaking, reading, and writing, with students advancing their understanding of Thai script. Building on Thai II, learners will study 5 additional consonants and 4 more vowels, and begin forming sentences using newly acquired vocabulary. Weekly cultural activities provide immersive experiences in Thai traditions, from food and crafts to music and dance. As in previous courses, students will take part in national celebrations, including Loy Krathong, and Songkran, deepening their connection to Thai culture.

Middle School Technology Requirement

See [elective requirements](#) above

Technology and Digital Citizenship

CS071

Length: One-semester

Grade: 6-8

Required

Technology and Digital Citizenship introduces students to essential digital skills for success in today's connected world. Students will learn to navigate and utilize Google Apps effectively for academic purposes, explore the basics of computer science and programming, and develop the knowledge and habits of a responsible digital citizen. The course emphasizes safe, ethical, and productive use of technology while fostering critical thinking and creativity. Through hands-on activities and interactive lessons, students will build a strong foundation for using technology to support learning, collaboration, and effective communication.

Project Based Learning (PBL) Electives

See [elective requirements](#) above

Art I

PB060

Length: One-semester

Grades: 6-8

Art I invites students to explore and express their creativity through two-dimensional art. Building on foundational skills from elementary art, students will deepen their understanding of the Elements of Art and Principles of Design through the study of artists and art movements. A variety of materials and techniques will be introduced, and students will learn to evaluate both their own work and the work of others using appropriate art vocabulary. This course encourages confidence in creative expression and culminates in a display of student artwork at the PBL Elective Expo.

Art II

PB070

Length: One-semester

Grades: 6-8

Prerequisite: Art I

Art II builds on the skills developed in Art I, encouraging students to express deeper ideas and emotions through their work. Students will continue to apply the Elements of Art and Principles of Design, while drawing inspiration from personal experience, memory, and imagination. The course also explores how art reflects identity—personal, group, and social—and includes opportunities for students to respond to and analyze artworks. Students will produce a portfolio of work to be featured in the PBL Elective Expo and Visual Arts, building confidence in both technique and creativity.

Beginner Band

PB071

Length: One-semester

Grades: 6-10

Beginner Band provides the foundational skills needed for successful participation in Intermediate Band. Students will learn how to assemble and care for their instruments, master music fundamentals, and develop instrument-specific techniques. Sight-reading, rhythm, and tone production are practiced through structured lessons and individual weekly practice. Students will perform concert band pieces at the 1–1.5 level and gain valuable experience in performance etiquette during a formal concert at the end of the semester.

Intermediate Band

PB071

Length: One-semester

Grades: 6–10

Prerequisite: Beginner Band and/or Instructor Approval

Intermediate Band builds on skills learned in Beginner Band, challenging students with classic band literature and popular music at a more advanced level. Students will refine their technique, develop stronger sight-reading skills, and deepen their understanding of music theory. Weekly practice and playing tests are required. Students will perform concert band pieces at the 1.5–2.5 level and are expected to demonstrate proper concert decorum and performance etiquette.

Choir 1
PB062
Length: One-semester
Grades: 6–8

Choir I introduces students to proper vocal technique and foundational music skills. Students will learn to read music, develop their ear through aural training, and gain confidence in sight-singing and group performance. Music from a variety of styles and historical periods will be explored. This course culminates in a performance where students will showcase what they've learned, including concert etiquette. Students may re-enroll in Choir I before progressing to Choir II.

Choir II
PB072
Length: One-semester
Grades: 6–8

Prerequisite: Choir I and/or Instructor Approval

Choir II continues to build on the vocal and musical foundation laid in Choir I. Students will refine their technique, grow in confidence as independent singers, and develop greater proficiency in sight-singing and aural skills. A final concert performance allows students to demonstrate their musical growth and understanding of proper performance etiquette.

Physical Education I
PB065
Length: One-semester
Grades: 6–8

Physical Education I exposes students to a variety of games and traditional team sports such as basketball, football, soccer, and volleyball. Students will learn rules, strategies, and teamwork skills, while also developing physical fitness and social interaction through play. A unique feature of this course is the student-designed game project presented at the PBL Elective Expo. Students will research game theory, create original rules, and develop methods of training and implementation. PE uniform and athletic footwear are required.

Physical Education II
PB066
Length: One-semester
Grades: 6–8

Physical Education II takes a deeper dive into personal fitness and health. Students will learn how to apply fitness principles and develop sustainable habits that support lifelong well-being. Topics include body systems, nutrition, and the connection between physical activity and a joyful, healthy lifestyle. Whether in the classroom or on the field, students will be encouraged to see fitness as a way to glorify God through the care of their bodies. Students will showcase their knowledge at a presentation at the PBL Elective Expo.

Yearbook**PB081****Length: Year-long****Grades: 8**

Yearbook is a collaborative, creative course where students become storytellers, designers, and photographers. Together, the class will choose a theme, establish a design style, and build the school's yearbook from start to finish. Students will develop skills in layout design, photography, journalism, and branding—all while capturing the memories and spirit of the school year. As students reflect on God's faithfulness and goodness, they'll create a lasting legacy that will be unveiled and shared with the school community in May.

Agroecology Elective**PB067****Length: One-semester****Grades: 7-8**

Agroecology invites students to get their hands dirty while learning how to care for the earth through hands-on land stewardship. This course combines science, environmental studies, and practical agriculture skills through outdoor projects and classroom learning. Students will learn how to improve soil health, grow plants, and care for animals, all while exploring God's design in nature. With a strong focus on biblical stewardship, students will engage in short-term projects on campus, practicing collaboration, inquiry, and responsible care for creation as an act of worship. Students will showcase their knowledge at a presentation at the PBL Elective Expo.

Project-Based Learning (PBL) Elective Expo

This PBL 'Exposition' event will be a showcase and exhibition of all Middle School Project Based Learning (PBL) Elective courses at the end of each semester. The showcase will include the performances of our Middle School Band and Choir. The Expo will also include displays and presentations of artwork, participation in a physical education activity, as well as exhibits from agroecology and technology and digital citizenship.

Middle School Educational Support (ES)

Courses listed under this section are available by special arrangement with the Educational Support Division and the academic counselor. At this time, they will not appear as choices in the online course requests in GIS FamilyWeb. Those needing to enroll in one or more of these courses will be scheduled manually.

ES Guided Study Hall**SN089****Length: Year-long****Grades: 6-8**

Prerequisite: Recommendation of Educational Support Director

A course designed to support student learning in a variety of ways. Students will receive focused intervention towards individual learning goals, re-teaching of classroom content in cooperation with the classroom teacher, and executive function coaching. Students will also have the opportunity to complete classroom assignments in a structured and monitored environment with the aid of an Education Support Teacher. Students with Grace Accommodation Plans will learn how to advocate for and access the accommodations granted in their GAP. Students enrolled in Guided Study Hall will be exempt from the Thai language requirement for that academic year.

Middle School Teaching English to Speakers of Other Languages (TESOL)

Courses listed under this section are available by special arrangement with the Teaching English to Speakers of Other Languages (TESOL) Division and the Academic Counselor. At this time, they will not appear as choices in the online Course Requests in GIS FamilyWeb. If you feel your student might need to enroll in one or more of these courses in lieu of the equivalent grades 6-8 courses, please contact the TESOL Division. Those needing to enroll in one or more of these courses will be scheduled manually by the Academic Counselor. For students requiring English for Speakers of Other Languages (ESOL) support, tests for incoming and returning students will be used to determine appropriate levels of support, and students will also be scheduled manually.

TESOL Guided Study Hall

Length: Year-long

SN089

Grades: 6-8

Prerequisite: Recommendation of TESOL Director

This course is designed to develop students' English language proficiency in reading, writing, speaking, and listening. Through various activities and units of study, students will expand their academic English vocabulary and usage, become familiar with social idiomatic expressions, and master necessary grammar topics for this level of English development. Grammar topics will include upper-intermediate levels of nouns, adjectives, subject-verb agreement, phrasal verbs, tense, conjunctions, articles, and transition words. Students will improve their essay writing skills such as paragraph writing, outlines, note taking, research, and thesis statements. In class, students will be given time to work on homework and receive support as needed, both inside and outside of the classroom. The goal is for students to improve and learn new English knowledge and skills that will benefit them in their other classes. It is the student's task to practice applying these helpful skills regularly every week.

Schedule Corrections and Changes

Students and parents should consider course selections carefully before entering schedule requests into FamilyWeb. ***Schedule corrections are not intended for these reasons:***

changing your mind, wanting the class during a different period, wanting a different teacher, wanting to take a class with your friends, and/or requesting a specific semester.

Schedule corrections are for these reasons only:

- Incomplete schedule, without full course load.
- Failure to meet a class prerequisite.
- Incorrect placement or missing a required course (scheduling errors only; **changing your mind is not an acceptable reason**).
- Teacher recommendation for class-level change.

The courses offered at GIS and the number of course sections are based on initial student course requests in FamilyWeb. Courses chosen determine staffing, number of textbooks required, and other factors vital to the school's functioning. Once the courses, class sizes and number of sections are determined, changes in student course selections are limited. The Middle School Principal will attempt to accommodate any schedule correction request; however, **we reserve the right to deny any request based on school-wide needs.**

→ **Up to two days prior to the first day of the school year:**

You may request a schedule correction for the first and/or second-semester classes up to two days prior to the first day of the first semester of the school year for any one of the reasons listed above. Email the Middle School Principal to make a request. Once your schedule correction is determined to meet our acceptable course correction criteria and no scheduling conflicts are found, the Middle School Principal will make the course change.