



On the move!

As Acacia transitions from Cambridge A-levels to a US curriculum with Advanced Placements, here's the plan

Over the next three years in Grades 11 and 12, Acacia will shift to an American curriculum with Advanced Placement courses. We are super excited about this as it will enable us to provide a richer and more targeted academic program. In this document we spell out the transition plan. We trust you will begin to share this vision and our sense of anticipation as we look to the next chapter of "educating and inspiring servant-leaders for Christ".

It bears repeating that we are keeping the Cambridge IGCSEs and we will continue to use them in 9th and 10th Grade going forward. The change is for our "Sixth Form" or Grade 11 and 12. In Grade 9 and 10 parents and students you can expect to see modest adjustments in report cards and grading. You will be asked to consider the graduation requirements in selecting your IGCSEs in Grade 9 and 10. Apart from that, there are no major changes in the Grade 9 and 10 course offering. The fun begins in Grade 11.

"Many of us are familiar with the A-Level system, but the US system with APs in conjunction with SATs or ACTs is also a strong route to universities around the globe. In fact, the breadth of subjects corresponds to most other education systems, including Australia, Canada, most European countries and South Africa and it is similar to the requirements for the IB. So while A Levels and APs are both strenuous, the flexibility of the American system allows for greater choice for students and it means that Acacia will be able to support a wider range of individuals."

Shona Voltrath
Careers Guidance Advisor



Year	2022-2023	2023-2024	2024-2025
Grade 12	A-Levels	A-Levels	US/APs
Grade 11	A-Levels	US/APs	US/APs
Grade 10	IGCSE	IGCSE	IGCSE
Grade 9	IGCSE	IGCSE	IGCSE

Why are we so excited?

This move will help us improve the quality of academic provision for students of all abilities. Improving Acacia always makes us excited. By adopting a rich selection of AP classes we will continue to stretch and challenge our many academically gifted students. This new curriculum also offers a broad selection of subject choices for students who are less academic or those who are less keen in certain subject areas. These courses will be appropriately geared to foster growth.

The American system offers more concise classes with a broader range of subjects, so students will continue to develop in Math, Science, Writing and the Arts. Even if they may not end up using this knowledge and skills directly in their university studies or careers, we believe our graduates will be more well-rounded and balanced people through this curriculum and ready for a life of Christian service.

What are Advanced Placements?

Advanced Placements are college level courses which are externally tested through the US-based College Board. They are recognized around the globe for their rigor and they are tough! Many students attempt only one or two subjects in their areas of strength or none at all. They are not required for graduation. If you are successful in your AP exams you will get college credit at US and other International Universities as well.

What about University Admissions?

In the US system, students need to graduate from high school which means meeting the school's graduation requirements. The GPA, grade point average, is really important for admissions. That's the average grades on all your High School classes. The SAT and ACT standardized tests, also form part of your university application. AP scores, if students take them, are a plus in admissions too. Universities all over the globe recognize an American High School diploma.





Graduation Requirements

Acacia students must pass a minimum number of classes in each department in high school. English and Mathematics are required every year. The combined grades for all classes in high school give a GPA which is important for university admissions.

While at Acacia, Bible and PE classes are required. Students transferring part way through high school are not required to make up missing Bible or PE credits.

English	4
Mathematics	4
Foreign Language	2
Science (Biology, Chemistry, Physics, etc)	3
Social Sciences (History, Business, etc)	2
Fine Arts (Art, Music, Yearbook)	1
Bible (0.5 credits required each year at Acacia)	2
Physical Education (0.5 credits required each year at Acacia)	2
Elective	3
Total Minimum requirements	23

"Acacia is making the right decision at the right time to move to A.Ps. They offer the rigour parents want, are internationally recognized and are very accessible. They will really build on and strengthen the already strong provision that IGCSE offers"

Claire Gibson

Acacia Senior School Principal 2014-19



Courses Offered 2023-2025

Grade 9 (FRESHMEN)

IGCSE English Language and Lit (0500/0475)
IGCSE Mathematics (0580)
IGCSE Core Mathematics (0580)
IGCSE Additional Mathematics (0606)*
IGCSE Biology (0610)*
IGCSE Chemistry (0620)*
IGCSE Physics (0625)*
IGCSE Geography (0460)
IGCSE Business Studies (0450)*
IGCSE History (0470)
IGCSE Art & Design (0400)
IGCSE Music (0410)
IGCSE French Foreign Language (0520)
IGCSE Information & Communication Tech (0417)*
IGCSE Physical Education (0413)*
G9 Physical Education*
G9 Bible: Ethics & Morality*

Grade 10 (SOPHOMORES)

IGCSE English Language and Lit (0500/0475)
IGCSE Mathematics (0580)
IGCSE Core Mathematics (0580)
IGCSE Additional Mathematics (0606)*
IGCSE Biology (0610)*
IGCSE Chemistry (0620)*
IGCSE Physics (0625)*
IGCSE Geography (0460)
IGCSE Business Studies (0450)*
IGCSE History (0470)
IGCSE Art & Design (0400)
IGCSE Music (0410)
IGCSE French Foreign Language (0520)
IGCSE Information & Communication Tech (0417)*
IGCSE Physical Education (0413)*
G10 Physical Education*
G10 Bible: Engaging the World*

Grade 11 (JUNIORS)

AP English Literature and CompositionB
Grammar and Composition
AP StatisticsB
Statistics Across the Curriculum
AP BiologyB
Environmental Science
AP European HistoryB
Business & management
African Cultures
Economics
AP Art & DesignB
Music Technology
French Three
Kiswahili
Teacher Assistant*
Yearbook*
Choir *
Band *
G11 Bible: Jesus and the Meaning of Life*
G11 Fitness and Health*

Grade 12 (SENIORS)

AP English Language and CompositionB
World Literature
AP CalculusB
Mathematics as a Life Skill
AP ChemistryB
Earth Science
AP Human GeographyB
African Cultures
Psychology *
Economics
AP Computer Science Principles
Kiswahili Two
Teacher Assistant*
Theater and Drama
Information technology practice
Yearbook*
Choir *
Band *
G12 Bible: Hermeneutics and apologetics*
G12 Personal Conditioning*

*half credit classes

