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SCHOOL PROFILE

History and Accreditation

Founded in 1977 by the Italian Ministry of Foreign Affairs to meet the academic needs of Italians living in the New York City metro area, La Scuola d'Italia "Guglielmo Marconi" (La Scuola) has grown into a unique bilingual English/Italian Pre-K through high school (liceo) educational institution. In addition to being recognized by the Italian Ministry of Education, the school was chartered by the Regents of the University of the State of New York and is accredited by the New York State Association of Independent Schools (NYSAIS). La Scuola students graduate with a high school diploma that is officially recognized in the United States, Italy, and across the European Union.

Curriculum

The school's bilingual curriculum conforms to the highest criteria mandated by Italy's Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Education and is on par with some of the finest independent schools in the U.S. La Scuola's educational program is rooted in the best Italian/European and American traditions for internationally oriented studies: students receive a comprehensive, multidisciplinary education, developing the international understanding and openness needed to become principled and productive participants in a globalized society. The program offers substantive academic content that provides intellectual stimulation, promotes personal growth, and encourages students to be open to innovation and new technologies.

Although the traditional Italian curriculum is typically completed over five years, La Scuola's students complete the curriculum, plus two additional academic courses—U.S. History and English Literature—in just four years. The Liceo offers a single curriculum without tracks or tiers. All students complete the same challenging sequence of courses (12 courses concurrently) and all courses are taught at an advanced level. Students read Virgil and Ovid in Latin; Dante and Pirandello in their original Italian; and Chaucer, Shakespeare, and Virginia Woolf in Middle, Elizabethan, and Modern English respectively. Each student studies math up to and including calculus, in addition to three years of physics. Students attend school 35 hours per week and complete homework assignments designed to reinforce central principles and processes introduced in class.

From the beginning of ninth grade to the time of graduation, historical time periods and themes are designed to coincide wherever possible with the other subjects of study. In their philosophy and natural science classes, they study the history of ideas, as well as their application—they see Galileo as a scientist, a philosopher, and a historical figure. Such curricular intersections are intended to help student recognize and understand the interconnectedness of the subjects they study. An overview of the academic program is provided below.

Units of Study Required

4 years of Italian Language and Literature
4 years of Latin Language and Literature
4 years of English Language and Literature
4 years of French language and Literature
4 years of European and World History
1 year of United States History and Government
3 years of Philosophy

1 year of Geography
1 year of United States Civics and Economics
4 years of Math: Algebra, Geometry, Trigonometry & Calculus
3 years of Physics
4 years of Science: Biology, Chemistry & Earth Science
4 years of Technical Drawing and History of Art
4 years of Physical Education

Extracurricular Opportunities

La Scuola's fundamental commitment to high academic achievement is supplemented by an array of extracurricular and co-curricular activities that assist students in preparing for college, encourage their career exploration, and provide opportunities for creativity, self-expression, leadership, and collaboration. Through the Global Management and Leadership program students are exposed to key concepts and ideas in the areas of management, leadership, and globalization. High-level seminars emphasize the application of ideas and concepts from the real world into a broad range of academic disciplines and career paths. La Scuola's "Conversations" program brings together leaders from across the worlds in business, politics, science, technology, and the arts to engage students (as well as parents and faculty) in a discussion of issues and ideas. In addition to an active Model UN team, La Scuola students participate in a variety of athletic and cultural activities.

Esame di Stato

At the end of the fourth year of Liceo (12th grade) students take the Italian Ministry of Education State Exam (*Esame di Stato*), a credit-bearing credential recognized by universities in the United States and European Union. This exam is administered by a State Examination Commission appointed by the Italian Ministry of Education in conjunction with the Italian Ministry of Foreign Affairs. The Commission that administers this test is comprised of three teachers and a head of school sent from Rome in addition to three members of the Liceo faculty. The exam includes a six-hour math test, a six-hour written exam in Italian, a three-hour multidisciplinary test, and an hour-long oral exam, which includes a presentation of a thesis in Italian. Students who pass the exam are awarded a diploma, which permits them to continue their studies at any college or university in the U.S. or European Union.

Grading and GPA Calculation

The grading system at La Scuola is based on a scale of one to ten. In practice, most grades range from four to eight—nine is seldom given and ten is very rare. All courses are taught at a high level, comparable to an honors or AP course. In reporting student scores, La Scuola uses the conversion table compiled by the Fulbright Commission for Educational Exchange (see table below).

The Grade Point Average (GPA) is calculated on a weighted 4.5 scale then converted to a 4.0 scale.

Due to the small class sizes, students are not ranked.



Fulbright Commission for Educational Exchange Conversion Table

99-100	A++	Outstanding	Ottimo	10	4.50
97-98	A+	Superior	Distinto/Eccellente	9	4.30
90-96	A	Very Good	Più che Buono	8	4.00
80-89	B	Good	Buono	7	3.00-3.99
70-79	C	Satisfactory/Average	Sufficiente	6	2.00-2.99
60-69	D-F	Unsatisfactory	Quasi Sufficiente	5	1.00-1.99
59 and below	F	Failing Grade	Insufficiente	4 and below	0.00-0.99

Total Contact Hours by Subject

Subjects	I Liceo	II Liceo	III Liceo	IV Liceo	Total
Lingua e Letteratura Italiana (Italian Language and Literature)	5	5	5	5	720
Lingua e Letteratura Latina (Latin Language and Literature)	3	3	3	3	432
English Language and Literature	4	4	4	4	576
Francese (French)	3	3	2	2	360
Storia (European and World History)	3	2	2	2	324
Filosofia (Philosophy)		3	3	3	324
Geografia (Geography)	2				72
American History (Civics, Government and Economics)			2	2	144
Matematica/Informatica (Algebra, Geometry, Trigonometry, Calculus and Computer Science)	6	5	4	4	684
Fisica (Physics)		3	3	3	324
Scienze (Biology, Chemistry & Earth Science)	4	3	3	3	468
Disegno/Storia Arte (Art/Technical Drawing and Art History)	2	2	2	2	288
Educazione Fisica (Physical Education)	3	2	2	2	324
Totale (Total)	35	35	35	35	5040

Colleges Attended

The following colleges and universities have admitted La Scuola students over the last five years:

Colleges and Universities in the U.S.

Arizona State University
Boston University
CUNY City College
CUNY Hunter College
CUNY John Jay College of Criminal Justice
Franklin & Marshall College
Florida International University
Fordham University
George Washington University
Howard University
Ithaca College
Marymount Manhattan College
New York University
Skidmore College
SUNY Albany
SUNY Binghamton
SUNY Stony Brook University
Syracuse University
Trinity College
Tulane University
University of California, San Diego
University of Southern California
University of San Francisco
University of Massachusetts, Amherst
University of New Haven

Colleges and Universities Outside the U.S.

Bocconi Università, Italy
City University of London, UK
Durham University, UK
Ecole Supérieure de Commerce (ESCP), France
Istituto Europeo di Design, Spain
John Cabot University, Italy
King's College, UK
La Sapienza Ingegneria, Italy
La Sapienza Università di Roma, Italy
LUISS Guido Carli, Italy
Politecnico di Milano, Italy
Università Vita-Salute San Raffaele, Italy
University of Bath, UK
University of Edinburgh, UK
University of Essex, UK
University of Florence, Italy
University of Leeds, UK
University of Geneva, Switzerland
University of Sussex, UK
University of St. Andrews, UK
University of Warwick, UK
Yeshiva University, Israel