

UWC COSTA RICA

UWC (United World Colleges) is a global education movement consisting of 18 campuses on 5 continents that makes education a force to unite people, nations, and cultures for peace and a sustainable future.

Opened in 2006 as the only UWC in Central and South America, **UWC Costa Rica** evolved from the pre-existing SOS International College Hermann Gmeiner, developing the SOS Children's Villages Association. In recognition of our unique heritage, UWC Costa Rica is committed to retaining an SOS ethos and offering scholarships to students with SOS backgrounds each year.



A diverse & global community

UWC Costa Rica is an international, fully residential boarding school. **212 students** come from a variety of academic, socioeconomic, cultural, and language backgrounds. They represent **67 different countries**:

UWC Costa Rica is socioeconomically diverse. More than 34% of students attend on full scholarship and another 47% on a partial scholarship.



31% Europe

26% LATAM & Caribbean

21% Asia

13% North America

6% Africa

3% Middle East & Oceania

Academics

Earning a placement at a UWC is an extremely competitive process, requiring exceptional academic performance, a multi-tiered interview system, and multiple recommendations. We know that every one of our students possesses the capacity for academic achievement and incredible community impact. All students begin high school studies in their home country before enrolling at UWC Costa Rica. Once at UWC, all students complete the **IB Diploma Program**. Students are limited to **three subjects at Higher Level (HL) and three at Standard Level (SL)**.

All students write a 4000-word Extended Essay (EE) on a research topic of their interest and enroll in the **Theory of Knowledge (TOK)** course offered in English and Spanish as UWC Costa Rica is a bilingual school. Both the EE and TOK are part of the Diploma core.

Residential & Co-Curricular Life

UWC Costa Rica is a 2-year residential experience. All students live on campus and are expected to be fully involved in academic, residential, and co-curricular life. Living and learning with students of different cultures and backgrounds is a central feature of the school.

This year, students are getting a series of sessions related to **Social and Emotional Learning (SEL)** focused on five central themes: Mindfulness, Distress Tolerance, Walking the Middle Path, Emotional Regulation, and Interpersonal Effectiveness.

We aim to help them develop and establish healthy relationships with others and with themselves, as well as to learn skills, strategies, values, and more to become caring and understanding to others and personal needs.

We offer a rich co-curricular program that reflects a commitment to balancing **Creativity, Action, and Service (CAS)**. Our community action expectations go well beyond IB CAS requirements.

Key co-curricular programs include "Getting to Know Costa Rica" trips, Community Action Week, Global Affairs sessions, Model United Nations, Spectrum (queer community safe space), Cultural Weeks, Dance, Crossfit, Yoga, Creative Cooking. These activities foster the relationship with communities and organizations in Costa Rica.

Through the Agents of Change program, students develop skills to put ideas into action. UWC Costa Rica encourages students to deliver a socially positive impact regardless of the path they choose to walk.



Keep in touch with our team!

Future Pathways & University Counselors

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UWC COSTA RICA

IB Courses offered for the Class of 2023

Language & Literature

- English A Language & Literature (SL/HL)
- English A Literature (SL/HL)
- Spanish A Language & Literature (SL/HL)
- Language A Literature self-taught (SL)

Sciences

- Biology (SL/HL)
- Chemistry (SL/HL)
- Physics (SL/HL)
- Environmental Systems and Societies* (SL)

Language Acquisition

- English B (SL/HL)
- Spanish B (SL/HL)
- Spanish ab initio (SL)
- French B (SL/HL)
- French ab initio (SL)

The Arts

- Theatre (SL/HL)
- Visual Arts (SL/HL)

Individuals & Society

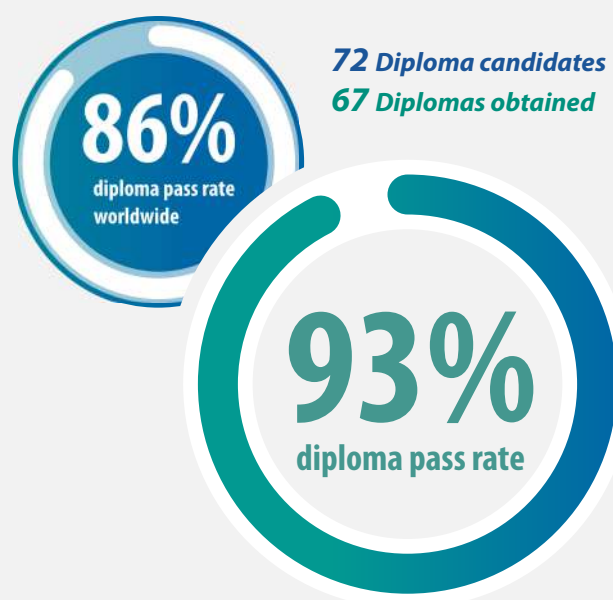
- Economics (SL/HL)
- Environmental Systems and Societies* (SL)
- Global Politics (SL/HL)
- History* (SL/HL)
- Psychology (SL/HL);
- Social and Cultural Anthropology (SL/HL)

NOTE: Our History in English will only be offered in SL.

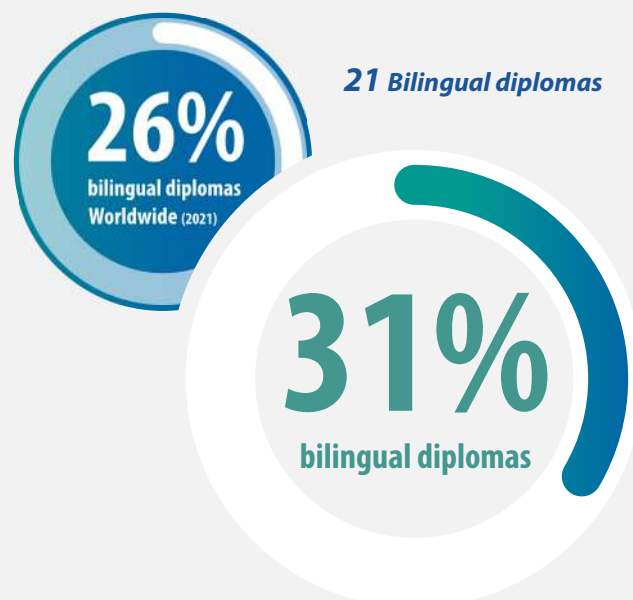
Mathematics

- Math Applications and Interpretations* (SL)
- Math Analysis & Approaches (SL/HL)

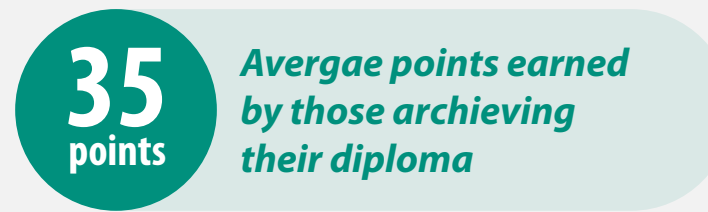
**Course available in Spanish and English. Except for language courses, all other courses are available in English only.*



IB Diplomas



Bilingual Diplomas



31 Worldwide Average Points

Student's points



overall discrepancy between predicted grades and actual student performance across all subject areas.

It is particularly important to note that in 4 out of 6 subjects, student's outperformed their predicted grades from the Fall, demonstrating their continued engagement with academic material.

**We also had two students pursue IB certificates in the class of 2022 instead of the full IB Diploma. Both students are now attending US universities on scholarship!*

2020

Best international school in Costa Rica by The Excelligent Magazine

- "strengthening educational foundation by empowering students"

THE EXCELLIGENT
EDUCARE, EDUCERE, EDUCATUM



Accreditation

International Baccalaureate Organization (IBO)
Council of International Schools (CIS)
ASHOKA Changemaker School

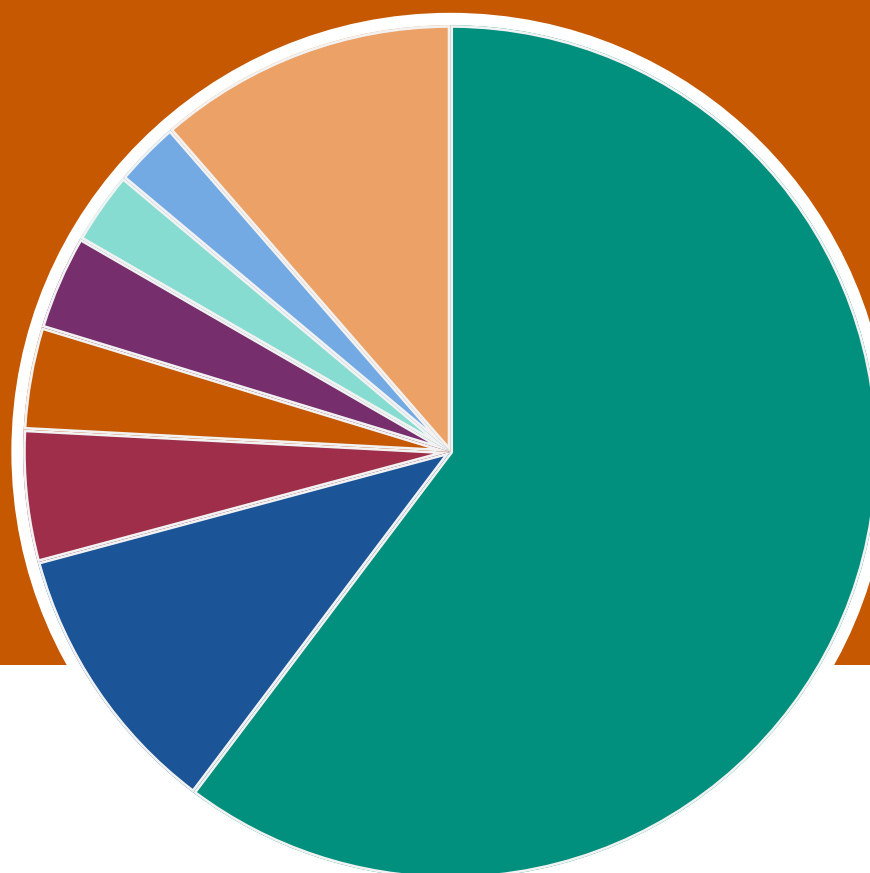


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81% of our graduates of the class of 2022 will attend university directly

The other 19% plan to pursue an incredible array of **gap year experiences**, ranging from national service to education internships to Semester at Sea and Global Citizen Year to immediate placement in the workforce, among other things. After their gap year plans, these students plan to attend university within 1-2 years.



60% UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

10% NETHERLANDS

5% UNITED KINGDOM

4% CANADA

4% FRANCE

3% SWITZERLAND

3% ISRAEL

11% REST OF THE WORLD

Important Application Notes

Each year, we limit our students to 10 applications total across the globe. In this calculation, UCAS and Stuvvdielink each constitute one application.

Additionally, starting with the Class of 2023, they will be limited to 2 Early Action applications to which they may apply on top of 1 Early Decision.

Our aim by limiting applications in these ways is that our students spend more time researching and prioritizing the universities that are most important to them.

This year, our CAS office seeks to promote quality over quantity and thus decided to limit the number of CAS specific activities and only allow students to serve as the official leader for one CAS activity.

Future Pathways statement on standardized testing

As the global trend continues to favor test-optional admission practices, we have seen a significant decrease in interest from our students in taking either the SAT/ACT. Additionally, since ACT went digital in 2018, there are no test centers for ACT in Costa Rica. For those students who choose to test while they are on campus, we provide support to do so, but we believe that test score reporting rests on the individual student and there is no need to report aggregate scores from a small sample size here as it does not reflect our students abilities and contributions to their future universities.

COVID-19 Adjustments

In response to the worldwide health situation, UWC Costa Rica has adapted the academic program to meet health protocols and the Ministries of Health and Education requirements. For that reason, our educational program was hybrid for the 2021-22 academic year. Academic year 2022-23, we have returned to in person learning entirely.

Asia
New York University Abu Dhabi
Yale-Nus

Canada
McGill University
Queens University
The University of British Columbia
Universitat de Montreal
University of Toronto
University of Waterloo
Western University

Europe
Amsterdam University College
Amsterdam University of Applied Sciences
Catholic University of Louvain
Central European University
College Universitaire de Sciences Po
Delft University of Technology
École hôtelière de Lausanne
Erasmus University College
Erasmus University Rotterdam
ESADE Business School
ESCP Business School
Groningen University
John Cabot University
Leiden University
Paris College of Art
Polimoda - the Fashion School
Public University of Navarra
Technical University of Delft
Tilburg University
University College Roosevelt
University College Utrecht
University of Amsterdam
University of Maastricht
Vrije Universiteit Amsterdam

Caribbean
University of the West Indies

United States
Amherst College
Barnard College
Bates College
Bennington College
Bowdoin College
Brandeis University
Brown University
Carleton College
Case Western Reserve University
Claremont McKenna College
Clark University
Colby College
Colgate University
College of the Atlantic
Colorado College
Concordia College At Moorhead
Cornell University
Drexel University
Earlham College
Emerson College
Fordham University
Franklin and Marshall College
Furman University
Georgetown University
Gettysburg College
Grinnell College
Hamilton College
Harvard University
Johns Hopkins University
Kalamazoo College
Lake Forest College
Lewis & Clark College
Luther College
Macalester College
Methodist University
Middlebury College
Minerva University
Mount Holyoke College
New York University
Northwestern University
Oberlin College
Occidental College
Oklahoma University
Pitzer College
Princeton University

Queens Unive
Rhodes College
Ringling College of Art and Design
Rochester Institute of Technology
Skidmore College
Smith College
Southern Methodist University
St Lawrence University
St Olaf College
St. Johns College
Stanford University
The College of Idaho
The New School
Trinity College
Tufts University
University of Amherst
University of California-Berkeley
University of California-Los Angeles
University of California-Santa Barbara
University of Chicago
University of Florida
University of North Carolina At Chapel Hill
University of Oklahoma
University of Pennsylvania
University of Richmond
University of Rochester
University of South Florida
University of Wisconsin-Madison
Vanderbilt University
Wake Forest University
Wartburg College
Wellesley College
Wesleyan University
Wheaton College
Whitman College
Worcester Polytechnic Institute

United Kingdom
King's College London, University of London
Royal Veterinary College, University of London
SOAS University of London
The University of Edinburgh
University Arts College, London
University of Brighton
University of Glasgow
University of Nottingham

Keep in touch with us!

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