

TGU00015  
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**Head of School:** John J. Ketterer  
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**Elementary Asst. Principal:** Cristiana Banegas

**DISCOVERY SCHOOL**

**Early Childhood Coordinator:** Nora Sierra  
**Guidance Counselor:** Marilis Zambrana

## School Profile 2015-2016

“To prepare our students for the challenges of life”

### MISSION

Our mission is to prepare students for the challenges of life and future academic work by instilling in them:

- Self-esteem
- Academic Excellence
- Critical Thinking
- Celebration of Cultural Diversity, and
- Social and Environmental Responsibility

This is accomplished through an internationally enriched U.S.-style curriculum with high academic standards, an internationally diverse student body, and an inquiry-based approach to learning.

### ABOUT DISCOVERY

The Discovery School is a private, international non-profit school with a unique learning environment. Founded in 1994, it is located in a purpose-built facility on the outskirts of Tegucigalpa, Honduras, in Central America. With students from over 20 different countries, our diversity is one of our greatest strengths. Approximately 58% of our students are from Honduras, 42% from the United States and other countries around the world. We foster an appreciation and respect for diversity.

**Facilities:** We are proud of all that has been accomplished since the first year we opened. After renting a facility in the middle of the city for several years, in 2006 the school moved to its new campus. The current facilities consist of five sections: Secondary, Elementary, Early Childhood, Spanish, and Administration. There are special classrooms for Art and Music, as well as a Computer Lab, Science Lab, and Elementary and Secondary Libraries. Wireless Internet access is available on campus. In addition, there is a cafeteria, a soccer field, an open-air gym, a basketball court, two play areas for the younger students, and a green commons area. The new school site allows room for expansion as the school continues to grow. Our school was founded on the belief that small classroom sizes and hands-on learning experiences are pivotal for meaningful teaching and learning, and this is an enduring principle that continues to guide us today.

### ACADEMICS AND ACCREDITATION

Our faculty is comprised of 37 full-time teachers, and over 65% of them hold a postgraduate degree. Our school covers 36 weeks over two semesters, August-December and January-May with 182 days of instruction, both on and off the campus. Students attend 50 minute class periods per subject. The average class size ranges from 12 to 16 students with English as the main language of instruction. Discovery School is accredited by AdvancEd (SACS-CASI). We offer an American curriculum based on US standards for Kindergarten through grade 12. Our High School program, which incorporates the Advanced Placement Program (AP), is university preparatory. The High School program is designated to

provide a strong academic foundation since 100% of Discovery graduating class pursue higher education in Honduras or abroad.

### GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS

High School Graduation Requirements		
Subject	Credit for US Program (9th-12th)	Credit for Honduran Program (7th-12th)
English	4.0 credits	6.0 credits
Math	3.0 credits	6.0 credits
Science	3.0 credits	6.0 credits
Social Studies	3.0 credits	9.0 credits
Foreign Language	2.0 credits	6.0 credits
PE/Health	1.5 credits	2.5 credits
Fine Arts	2.0 credits	4.0 credits
Electives	5.5 credits	3.0 credits

Discovery School grants a High School diploma to students who have successfully completed at least 24 credits (grades 9<sup>th</sup> -12<sup>th</sup>). It also offers the students the option of earning the national degree of Bachillerato Internacional en Ciencias y Humanidades granted by the Honduran Ministry of Education by completing additional credits. The Advanced Placement International Diploma (APID) is also available for those students who meet the requirements. One credit is earned for each full year course. One-half credit is earned for a semester course.

### GRADING SYSTEM, GPA, AND RANKING

Discovery School uses a 100-point scale grading system for all academic subjects with a passing grade of 70 (effective August 2013) according to the Honduran Ministry of Education. Due to our small classes, we do not provide the specific rank of our students. 2015 graduating class was composed of 9 students.

Grading System			
Grade	Percentage	Grade	Percentage
A	100-94	C	76-74
A-	93-90	C-	73-70
B+	89-87	D+	69-67
B	86-84	D	66-64
B-	83-80	D-	63-60
C+	79-77	F	59-0

The cumulative GPA of our students reflect courses taken at Discovery School only. Grades from previous schools are not included. Discovery School provides the GPA on a quarterly basis in report cards but is not published in the transcript. GPA is calculated on a 4.0 scale as follows:

A+=4.0	B+=3.33	C+=2.33	D+=1.33
A = 4.0	B = 3.0	C= 2.0	D=1.00
A-=3.67	B- =2.67	C-=1.67	D-=0.67
			F=0

### SAT SUMMARY FOR THE CLASS OF 2015

Section	Middle 50%	Mean
Critical Reading	520-620	570
Math	470-450	512
Writing	430-560	498
Total	1410-1650	1583

### AP EXAM RESULTS 2015

In May 2015, a total of 17 candidates took 8 AP exams in 8 different subject areas. Passing scores of 3 and higher were achieved by 76% of the students.

Subject Area	5	4	3	2	1
English -Lang	1	1	2	1	
Environ Science				1	
Euro History		1			
French Lang		1			
Human Geog		1	1		
Psychology					1
Spanish Lit	1	3			
US History		1		1	

### MAP TESTING

Research and data driven decisions have become an important part of our academic program. The Measures of Academic Progress (MAP) is administered twice a year to our students in Kindergarten through Grade 10. This supports, guides, and validates our core curriculum. Since each test is tailored to the student's ability and level, teachers and administrators collaborate to reach individual students with comprehensive and carefully planned instruction activities, and assessments. Students use their own scores to develop personal goals and work towards achieving them.

### CO-CURRICULAR ACTIVITIES

Our students are given opportunities to experience the culture and countryside of their host country, with academic field trips and community service opportunities within Honduras. Our co-curricular activities include the following: Math Olympics, Model United Nations, Concert Choir, Speech, "Youth in Action", CAPE Cares Medical Brigades, Educational Community Outreach, Recycling, Track & Field, Basketball, Soccer, Yearbook, French, Kenpo Karate, Jazz Band, Violin Band, and Bricks4Kidz.

## HIGH SCHOOL COURSE OFFERINGS

### English

Language Arts 9  
Language Arts 10  
British Literature  
World Literature  
AP English Language & Composition  
AP English Literature & Composition

### Mathematics

Integrated Mathematics 1  
Integrated Mathematics 2  
Integrated Mathematics 3  
Statistics / Financial Math

### Social Studies

World History II  
Civics Education  
Spanish Social Studies  
Sociology  
Psychology  
Honduran History (in Spanish)  
AP US History  
Political Science  
Philosophy  
Socioeconomic Development (in Spanish)  
History of Culture (in Spanish)

### Science

Biology  
AP Environmental Science  
Chemistry  
Physics

### Languages

Spanish 9  
Spanish 10  
Spanish 11  
AP Spanish Literature & Culture  
Spanish as a Second Language SSL

### Physical Education

PE

### Fine Arts

Art  
Music  
AP Studio Art: Drawing  
Choir

# Universities and Colleges Where Discovery School Students Have Been Accepted

## **United States**

Augusta State University (Georgia)  
Augustana College (South Dakota)  
Bentley University (Massachusetts)  
Berry College (Georgia)  
Calvin College (Michigan)\*  
Colorado State University\*  
DePaul University (Illinois)  
Duquesne University (Pennsylvania)  
Emmanuel College (Massachusetts)  
Emory University (Georgia)  
Fashion Institute of Design & Marketing (California)  
Florida Atlantic University  
Florida State University  
Georgetown University (Washington, D.C.)  
Georgia Institute of Technology  
Georgia Southern University  
Johnson & Wales (Rhode Island)  
Loyola University (Louisiana)  
Loyola University (Illinois)\*  
Lynn University (Florida)  
Lynwood University (Washington)  
Mercyhurst University (Pennsylvania)  
Michigan State University  
New Mexico Military Institute \*  
North Carolina State University  
Oglethorpe University (Georgia)  
Parsons College (New York)  
Purdue University (Indiana)  
Southern Methodist University SMU (Texas)  
Springhill College (Alabama)  
Rollins College (Florida)  
Saint Mary's University (Texas)  
Sewanee the University of the South (Tennessee)  
Stetson University (Florida)  
UC Berkeley (California)\*  
University of Central Oklahoma  
University of Kentucky  
University of Southern Florida  
University of Tampa  
University of Texas San Antonio  
University of Notre Dame (Indiana)\*  
Worcester Polytechnic Institute WPI (Massachusetts)

## **Canada**

Carleton University\*  
New Brunswick University  
Trent University\*

## **Mexico**

Universidad Anáhuac\*  
Universidad Panamericana, D.F.

## **Honduras**

Universidad Católica de Honduras  
Universidad Nacional Autónoma de Honduras (UNAH)\*  
Universidad Tecnológica Centroamericana (UNITEC)\*

## **Costa Rica**

UCIMED

## **Nicaragua**

Universidad Autónoma de Nicaragua

United Kingdom

King's College

London School of Economics

University of Bath

University of Roehampton

Westminster University

## **Argentina**

Universidad de Palermo \*

## **Germany**

Jacobs University (Bremen)\*

## **Spain**

Les Roches University

## **Switzerland**

Les Roches University\*

## **Taiwan**

Chin Hwa University

National Taiwan University \*

*\*2013-2015 are matriculated*

