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**MS/HS Principal:** Gloria Palacios

# Discovery School

## SCHOOL PROFILE 2021-2022

“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
- 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 1993, it is located in a purpose-built facility on the outskirts of Tegucigalpa, Honduras, in Central America. With students from over 17 different countries, our diversity is one of our greatest strengths. Approximately 54% of our students are from Honduras, 46% 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, Special Classes, and Administration. There are special classrooms for Early Childhood and Elementary French, 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 common 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 30 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 180 days of instruction, both on and off the campus. Students attend 40 minute class periods per subject. The average class size ranges from 12 to 19 students with English as the main language of instruction.

Discovery School is accredited by COGNIA. 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's graduating class pursue higher education in Honduras or abroad.

**GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS**

<b>High School Graduation Requirements</b>		
<b>Subject</b>	<b>Credits for US Program (9th-12th)</b>	<b>Credits for Honduran Program (7th-12th)</b>
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 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. The 2020 graduating class was composed of 7 students. AP classes with a score above 80% receive a 10% bonus.

<b>US Grading System</b>			
<b>Grade</b>	<b>Percentage</b>	<b>Grade</b>	<b>Percentage</b>
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 reflects 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 2021**

Section	Mean
Evidence-Based Reading and Writing	593
Math	624
Total	1216

**AP EXAM RESULTS 2021**

In May 2021, a total of 28 candidates took a total of 46 AP exams in 9 different subject areas. Passing scores of 3 and higher were achieved by 61% of the students.

Subject Area	5	4	3	2	1
English Literature & Composition			2	3	2
Drawing	1	4			
Environmental Science		2	3	3	
Macroeconomics					1
Spanish Language & Culture	2	1			
Spanish Literature & Culture	2	3	1		
Computer Science Principles		1	2	1	1
Human Geography	1		2	2	2
Calculus AB			1		3

**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. This school year we are offering the following co-curricular activities: Basketball, Volleyball, Math Club, Operation Smile, Reading Club, Model UN, Arts & Craft, Origami, Cooking, Science Explorations, Robotics, Social Media Club, STUCO, and Jazz Band.



## HIGH SCHOOL COURSE OFFERINGS

### English

Language Arts 9  
Language Arts 10  
British Literature  
World Literature  
AP English Language & Composition  
AP English Literature & Composition  
English a Second Language (ESL)

### Mathematics

Integrated Mathematics 1  
Integrated Mathematics 2  
Integrated Mathematics 3  
Pre-Calculus  
AP Calculus AB

### Social Studies

World History II  
Civics Education (in Spanish)  
Sociology  
Psychology  
Honduran History (in Spanish)  
US History  
AP Human Geography  
Political Science  
Philosophy  
History of Cultures (in Spanish)  
Contemporary History (in Spanish)

### Science

Biology  
Environmental Science  
AP Environmental Science  
Chemistry  
Physics

### Languages

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

### Physical Education

PE

### Fine Arts

Art  
Music  
Advanced Art

### Computer Science

AP Computer Science Principles



## UNIVERSITIES AND COLLEGES WHERE DISCOVERY SCHOOL STUDENTS HAVE BEEN ACCEPTED

### United States of America

American University (Washington)\*  
 Augusta State University (Georgia)  
 Augustana College (South Dakota)  
 Babson College (Massachusetts)\*  
 Baylor University (Texas) \*  
 Bentley University (Massachusetts)  
 Berry College (Georgia)  
 Calvin College (Michigan)\*  
 Case Western Reserve (Ohio)  
 Colorado State University\*  
 DePaul University (Illinois)  
 Duquesne University (Pennsylvania)  
 Emmanuel College (Massachusetts)  
 Emory University (Georgia)\*  
 Fashion Institute of Design & Marketing (California)  
 Fashion Institute of Technology - FIT ( New York)\*  
 Florida Atlantic University  
 Florida State University  
 George Mason University (Virginia)  
 Georgetown University (Washington, D.C.)  
 Georgia Institute of Technology  
 Georgia Southern University  
 John Hopkins University (Maryland)  
 Johnson & Wales (Rhode Island)  
 Loyola University (Louisiana)\*  
 Loyola University (Illinois)\*  
 Louisiana State University (Louisiana)\*  
 Lynn University (Florida)  
 Lynwood University (Washington)  
 Mercyhurst University (Pennsylvania)  
 Michigan State University  
 New Mexico Military Institute \*  
 North Carolina State University  
 Oglethorpe University (Georgia)  
 Otis College of Art and Design (California) \*  
 Parsons College (New York)  
 Penn State University \*  
 Purdue University (Indiana)\*  
 Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute (New York)  
 Rollins College (Florida)\*  
 Southern Methodist University SMU (Texas)  
 Springhill College (Alabama)  
 Saint Edward's University (Texas)\*  
 Saint Mary's University (Texas)  
 Savannah College of Art and Design (Georgia)  
 Sewanee the University of the South (Tennessee)  
 Stetson University (Florida)  
 Tarrant County College\*  
 The Catholic University of America (Washington) \*  
 UC Berkeley (California)\*  
 University of Central Oklahoma  
 University of Kentucky\*  
 University of Minnesota \*  
 University of New Orleans\*  
 University of Notre Dame (Indiana)\*  
 University of Oregon\*  
 University of St. Thomas(Houston)\*  
 University of Southern Florida  
 University of Tampa\*  
 University of Texas San Antonio

Universal Technical Institute (Florida) \*  
 Valencia College (Florida)\*  
 Worcester Polytechnic Institute WPI (Massachusetts)  
 Yale University (Connecticut)\*

### Canada

Carleton University\*  
 Memorial University\*  
 Thompson Rivers University\*  
 Trent University\*  
 University of British Columbia\*  
 University of New Brunswick\*

### Mexico

Universidad Anáhuac\*  
 Universidad de las Américas Puebla - UDLAP \*  
 Universidad Panamericana, D.F.  
 Tecnológico de Monterrey \*

### Honduras

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

### 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

Gisma Business School\*  
 Jacobs University (Bremen)\*

### Spain

Les Roches University  
 Harbour Space University\*  
 Toulouse Business School  
 Universidad Europea del Atlántico\*  
 EU Business School \*  
 Universidad de Navarra\*

### Italy

Instituto Europeo de Diseño(IED)\*

### Switzerland

Les Roches University\*

### Poland

Vistula University

### Taiwan

Chin Hwa University  
 National Chengchi University \*

### Australia

Griffith University

### Japan

Waseda University\*  
 Sophia University  
 Keio University



\*2013-2021 attended