

# Diploma Dual<sup>®</sup>



ACADEMICA  
INTERNATIONAL  
STUDIES



*Preparing Students to  
Face New Challenges*

The **Dual Diploma**<sup>®</sup> is the official program for the international recognition of school-leaving qualifications, created and developed by **Academica Corporation**, which allows students to obtain 2 simultaneous degrees: that of their own country: (“Bachillerato” in Spain, “Baccalauréat” in France, “Scola Secondaria Superiore” in Italy, etc.) and the American High School Diploma.



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## *Academica, an Institution of Renowned Prestige*



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INTERNATIONAL  
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With more than 100,000 students, 5000 teachers and 200 schools in more than 10 states, including Florida, Texas, Utah, Georgia, Nevada and California. Academica has its headquarters in Miami (Florida) and **is the leading US manager of charter schools** (public schools with 100% private management and high educational performance).

Academica Corporation schools cover K-16, which means that students graduate from high school with up to the first two years of college completed.

As leader in virtual education, Academica Corporation is one of the few private educational-services institutions in the United States with bodies recognized as **American Virtual Public School Providers**, serving its own schools and any public or private US schools that request its services.

This means that Academica Corporation is continuously creating exciting new content and programs to inspire students in the different subjects.

At Academica Corporation, virtual learning is seen as closing the gap between school and college education.



*Academica,  
leader in virtual  
education*



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## *Origin of the Dual Diploma*

With the goal of accompanying students in their development and preparation inside and outside the United States, in 2001, Academica Corporation began an official program for recognizing qualifications in different countries, which gave rise to the Dual Diploma.

Today, the Dual Diploma® is available in 20 countries, including Spain, Portugal, France, Italy, Argentina, Colombia, Ecuador, Peru, Venezuela, Mexico, Chile, Korea and China.







## *Dual Diploma in Spain*



In 2009, Academica Corporation chose Spain as the base for its internationalization project, creating Academica Spain, a structure with its own specialist personnel.

In Spain, where there are more than 1000 schools that subscribe to the program, we are developing the Dual Diploma® **exclusively through the Academica brand.**



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*“Dual  
Diploma,  
the goal is  
the path”*

**Created and developed by Academica Corporation,** the Dual Diploma is an interdisciplinary program that prepares students to acquire the highest levels of competency based on three goals:

- 1 Language immersion
- 2 Technology immersion
- 3 Personal immersion





## 1 Language immersion

The program is taught entirely in English but goes far beyond simply learning the language. Students **think and work in English**, take part in lectures and can communicate daily with native teachers, take part in live sessions with other students and defend themselves independently in English, thereby increasing their confidence and skill.



*I like the idea of “leaving” my small school in my small town and being part of something much bigger, and that expands the value of my studies.*

*4th Year of ESO*



## 2 Technology immersion

Technology immersion results in mastery of the most advanced technologies in **virtual learning**. Students play an active role, set their own learning pace and are responsible for building their knowledge and playing the leading role in their own training process. Virtual education develops critical thinking and research and information-analysis skills. Students play a more active role in their own learning process, as they not only receive instruction from the teacher but also learn through the process of searching for information, self-reflection and different activities that they carry out on their own and in cooperation with others.



### 3 Personal immersion

Students acquire **responsibility and maturity** in work, with a high level of independence; they learn about time-management, acquire the ability to adapt and the flexibility to work in different multicultural environments. These acquired and applied values ensure that the students are able to attain the small achievements and initial goals that they will encounter, and which will be greater in college.

*I think that the best part of our work,  
though most often invisible,  
is that we help the students to realize  
their incredible potential.*

*Director of Global Student Services*





# WANTED

Students who want to be challenged



**AMERICAN  
#HIGH  
SCHOOL  
DIPLOMA**

Language immersion

Self management mastery  
and Leadership skills

Window to the world



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One of the advantages of the Dual Diploma<sup>®</sup>, together with the notable improvement in English skills, is the autonomy that students are given and the ease they acquire in dealing with the new technologies, thus providing a preview of what their college education will be like.



## An Internationally Recognized Qualification

The Dual Diploma is possible because the US educational system assesses students based on their **knowledge and abilities**.

Under this concept, in order to obtain the American High School Diploma, students of the Dual Diploma<sup>®</sup> do not have to study the same subject (math, physics, literature, etc.) twice, in English and in Spanish; they only have to study the subjects specific to the country (language, history, culture, etc.) and the other subjects are recognized.





On completing their studies, students of the Dual Diploma® obtain exactly **the same qualification as American students: the American High School Diploma.**



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Academica's educational services and its institutions are **accredited under the highest standards in the country:** the State of Florida and its Department of Education, the US Department of Education, National Blue Ribbon Schools, AdvancED and the Association of Colleges and Schools (SACS).



# Maximum Recognition of Subjects

*Students of the Dual Diploma only have to take 6 subjects to obtain the American qualification.*



The international agreements signed by Academica, together with the academic excellence of the program (recognized by the main educational institutions of the United States), allow for the maximum possible recognition: **75% of the 24 credits** required to obtain the American High School Diploma. Of the 6 subjects the students must take, 4 are part of the compulsory syllabus and 2 are from the elective syllabus. The 18 remaining subjects will be recognized with their Spanish academic results.

## Compulsory Subjects

English: 2 credits\*  
US History: 1 credit  
U.S Government+Economics: 1 credit

\* Students must pass two levels of English, regardless of their initial level: English I-II, English II-III, English III-IV.

## Some Elective Subjects

Life Management Skills: 1 credit\*  
College Preparation (SAT-ACT): 1 credit  
Criminology: 1 credit  
Psychology: 1 credit  
Digital Photography: 1 credit  
Concepts of Engineering  
& Technology: 1 credit  
English: 1 credit

\* Compulsory elective subject.



The elective subjects include subjects such as Digital Photography, Criminology and SAT (preparation for the college entrance exam). These are **subjects of considerable interest** that are not found in the European syllabus and provide extra motivation for students and allow them to enrich their vocabulary in subjects they would not normally study in English.

Furthermore, students of the Dual Diploma® can play an active role in American student life by joining student clubs, where they will find other students with the same interests: journalism, photography, arts, etc.





Salamanca

*"I love digital photography.  
Now I am learning  
useful things that  
make me feel happy"*

*1st Year of Bachillerato*



Barcelona

*"I choose Criminology  
because I like TV  
crime series.  
Maybe one day I'll  
write one ;)"*

*1st Year of Bachillerato*



Córdoba

*"If life is a great  
trip, you better  
study Tourism"*

*4th Year of ESO*





## Study Program

**The Dual Diploma® can be started in the 2nd, 3rd or 4th year of compulsory secondary education (ESO) or in the first of the final two years of secondary school (Bachillerato).** Beginning as early as possible allows for easier distribution of subjects and a lighter workload during the “Bachillerato”. It also encourages students to develop their sense of responsibility and maturity in work earlier.

Students who begin the Dual Diploma® in the 4th year of ESO or the 1st year of Bachillerato will have the option of accessing the Summer School before their final year in the program, with the aim of lightening their study load.





## Study Program

### Summer School

#### The value of Commitment

Academica International Studies will propose exclusively to students who, on entering the 2nd year of Bachillerato, have to take two or three credits, that they take the elective subject of the final year during the summer between the 1st and 2nd year of Bachillerato.

These students must have passed all the subjects up to the 1st year of Bachillerato in their school and must have obtained a mark of A and/or B in the American subjects taken so far.

This option was an initiative of the Dual Diploma® students, who are interested in carrying out other activities complementary to the 2nd year of Bachillerato, which is further proof of their maturity and commitment.



- 4 Year Program - 2nd Year of ESO

**2nd Year of ESO:** English

**3rd Year of ESO:** English & Life Management Skills

**4th Year of ESO:** US History & Elective

**1st Year of Bachillerato:** US Government+Economics

In the 2nd year of ESO, students who, due to their level of English, maturity and interest, have been recommended by the school for inscription, can access the program.

- 4 Year Program - 3rd Year of ESO

**3rd Year of ESO:** English & Life Management Skills

**4th Year of ESO:** English & US History

**1st Year of Bachillerato:** US Government/Economics + Elective

**2nd Year of Bachillerato:** Elective →

**3 years**

Beginning in the 3rd year of ESO, students also register for the 3-year format, completing the program in the 1st year of Bachillerato.



- 3 Year Program - 4th Year of ESO

**4th Year of ESO:** English & Life Management Skills

**1st Year of Bachillerato:** English & U.S History

**2nd Year of Bachillerato:** U.S Government/Economics & Elective\*

- 2 Year Program - 1st Year of Bachillerato

**1st Year of Bachillerato:** English, U.S History & Life Management Skills  
(compulsory elective)

**2nd Year of Bachillerato:** English, U.S Government/Economics & Elective\*

\*Summer School





# *Admission and First Steps in the Program*

**To take part in the Dual Diploma®, students must complete the following steps:**



**1.** Submission of the duly completed admissions application form.



**2.** Access exam.



**3.** Notification of selected students.



**4.** Delivery of username and password.



**5.** First contact with the teacher in the United States.



**6.** Welcome conversation.



**7.** Start of course.



## *Quick Guide to the Dual Diploma®*

### **1 What does the Dual Diploma® offer?**

The Dual Diploma® offers the possibility of obtaining two qualifications at the same time: the school-leaving qualification of the country of origin, in situ, and the American High School Diploma, online.

### **2 Are students registered in the United States?**

Yes. Once the application has been accepted, students are registered in the American High School Diploma just like any other American Academica student.

### **3 What cutoff score is required of students?**

Although an average of 7 is generally required, there is no cutoff score.

To access the program, all the subjects taken and passed are analyzed and an evaluation of the student's level of English is carried out.

### **4 In which year can students begin the Dual Diploma®?**

In the 2nd, 3rd or 4th year of compulsory secondary education (ESO) or in the first of the final two years of secondary school (Bachillerato).



**5 What level of effort is required of students?**

The equivalent of an after-school activity. That is, between 3 and 5 hours per week, depending on the initial level of English and the school year in which the student begins the program.

**6 How many subjects will students have to take in total?**

Spanish students will only have to take 6 credits (4 compulsory subjects and 2 elective subjects). The excellence of the Academic Corporation Dual Diploma® makes it possible to recognize 75% of the credits required to obtain the American High School Diploma.

**7 What are the advantages of the Dual Diploma® for students?**

The Dual Diploma® is an interdisciplinary program that emphasizes immersive education in English, training in technology and personal development of the students.

The Dual Diploma® syllabus includes interesting content to which students would not normally have access, and which provide personal and academic enrichment. The option of joining social clubs (journalism, arts, photography, etc.) allows them to meet and socialize with other students who share their interests.

Furthermore, taking the double school-leaving qualification shows that the students have the skills, discipline and ability to undertake the challenge of a double qualification, qualities that are in great demand in the labor market.



**8 What material will students need?**

A computer and an Internet connection. It is also recommended that they have a set of earphones and a microphone. Academica will provide everything the students require to access the content and activity platforms and for communicating with teachers and students.

**9 What guarantee of quality does the Dual Diploma® provide?**

A total guarantee, as students who follow this program receive the same qualification as American students, which is valid in all US states and universities.

**10 Any other questions?**

We understand that it is sometimes easier to talk in person. Please do not hesitate to contact us directly. Or you can contact the director of the Dual Diploma® in any of the more than 1000 schools that subscribe to the program in Spain, who will be happy to answer any questions you may have or invite you to one of the information conferences organized in each of the schools.



## A Large Community of Students

*More than 30,000 students registered in the Dual Diploma® and thousands of graduates every year.*



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*Preparing Students to  
Face New Challenges*

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