

2024-2025

SHANGHAI STAR-RIVER
BILINGUAL SCHOOL

SCHOOL PROFILE

PREPARING STUDENTS FOR A GLOBAL WORLD THROUGH AN INTEGRATED EDUCATION



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High School Profile (2024-2025)



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The school

Based on the administration's decades of successful experience with Shanghai High School Local Division and International Division, Shanghai Star-River Bilingual School (SSBS), a pioneer school located in Shanghai's Minhang District, focuses on combining the strengths of the Chinese and international educational systems in order to explore a hybrid teaching theory suitable for local students of local context. SSBS opened in fall of 2012 and currently enrolls 2000+ students in grades 1-12.

Overview of Curriculum

The curriculum, consisting of **academic courses** and **developing mastery**, aims to broaden students' educational experience and challenge them to develop their own philosophy and morality. **Comprehensive evaluation** is developed to measure the extent to which students have mastered knowledge understanding and application skills in academic courses and achieved personal development in extra-curricular activities.

Academic Courses

In SSBS, balance in curriculum is achieved through an emphasis on **international-style elective courses**, taught fully in English, while incorporating **local high school compulsory courses** taught in Chinese to its students, the majority of whom come from local backgrounds.

The international-style elective courses are made up of six main subject groups (Experimental Science, Humanities, Mathematics, Foreign Language, Chinese, Arts and PE). There are different courses within each subject field to allow for flexibility of interest. Furthermore, each of the courses is stratified into different difficulty levels from standard to honors to AP levels to facilitate learning and maintain small class sizes.

Developing Mastery

To develop mastery, SSBS implements various campus activities with distinctive themes in accordance with students' characteristics and grade levels, allowing students to acquire component skills, practice integrating them, and know when to apply what they have learned and mastered in preparation for success in a rapidly changing digital society.

- **Community Immersion:** Students gain exposure and insight into different ways of life in the community, as well as career options. e.g., career days, presentations, published articles, exhibits.
- **Social Activities:** Students practice a skill in established arenas for competition with a structured organization. e.g., matches, competitions,

Admission Policy

A holistic review process evaluates academic excellence, intellectual vitality, and the personal context of each applicant.

SSBS middle school graduates:

SSBS middle school graduates are automatically eligible to take the SSBS High School Academic Entrance Examination. The exam score together with the student's transcript and recommendation from school is used as criterion of admission into SSBS high school.

Local middle school graduates:

In order to be admitted conditionally, prospective students must apply, then take the SSBS Enrollment Examination before undergoing an interview. Students are qualified for the final admission if they successfully graduate from Shanghai-based middle schools, with High School Entrance Examination (*zhongkao*) scores above that of the entrance level of top-tier high schools in Shanghai.

Graduation Requirement

Students in grades 10-12 generally take six academic courses and an elective each year. The minimum requirements for graduation from SSBS include the satisfactory completion of three years of Chinese, English and mathematics, three years of experimental science (biology, chemistry, computer science and physics), three years of social humanities, three years of Arts and PE.

meets.

- **Subject-Based Inquiry:** Students delve into areas of interest or passion related to an academic subject of course. e.g., research project, presentation, or essay.
- **Interest Oriented Development:** Students explore areas of interest not related to academic subject or course. e.g., gallery showing, recital, exhibition.
- **Charity and Service:** Students volunteer or fundraise for charities and nonprofits on the local and international scale. e.g., events, presentations on impact, volunteer days, published articles.

Comprehensive Evaluation

- **For all academic courses except Arts and PE:** SSBS does not rank students numerically because of our highly academic nature and small class size. Instead, individual, weighted grade point averages are reported.

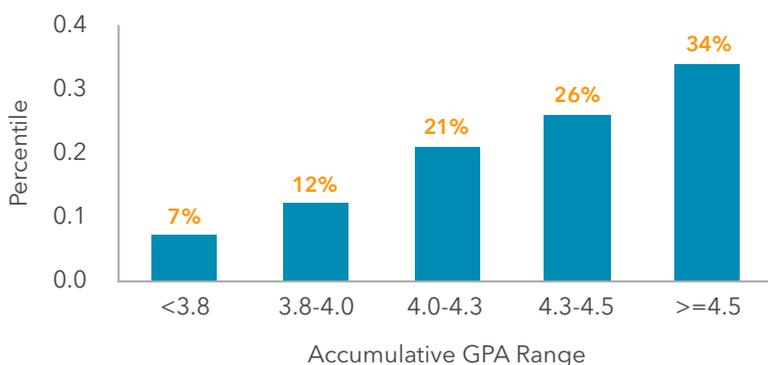
Grade point average is based on international-style elective courses (except Arts P.E.) taken at SSBS from 10th grade through 12th grade. The weight of different courses is based on the teaching hours of the courses per week. The grade points are determined by the course difficulty level. **The school has chosen not to rank students.** Because of highly competitive nature of admission to SSBS, the variety of academic backgrounds of our students, and various mastery the students develop, a numeric rank would not be a fair or useful way to reflect the strength and differences within and among students.

- **For extra-curricular activities:** each student must finish minimum of 80 hours of activities & community service for graduation. The school utilizes a teacher's evaluation form to assess the extent of activity fulfillment as well as students' personal development.

Grading Scale

| Letter Grade | Percentile | Standard Course | Honors Courses | | Advanced Honors Courses | AP Courses |
|--------------|------------|-----------------|----------------|-----|-------------------------|------------|
| | | | H- | H | | |
| A+ | 97-100 | 4.0 | 4.3 | 4.5 | 4.7 | 5.0 |
| A | 92-96 | 4.0 | 4.3 | 4.5 | 4.7 | 5.0 |
| A- | 87-91 | 3.7 | 4.0 | 4.2 | 4.4 | 4.7 |
| B+ | 82-86 | 3.3 | 3.6 | 3.8 | 4.0 | 4.3 |
| B | 77-81 | 3.0 | 3.3 | 3.5 | 3.7 | 4.0 |
| B- | 70-76 | 2.7 | 3.0 | 3.2 | 3.4 | 3.7 |
| C | 65-69 | 2.2 | 2.5 | 2.7 | 2.9 | 3.2 |
| D | 60-64 | 1.7 | 2.0 | 2.2 | 2.4 | 2.7 |
| F | 0-59 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |

Grade Range Distribution (Class of 2025, August 2024)



Test Results-Mean(Class of 2025 through September 2024)

TOEFL (Mid 50%, 168 students)

| Reading | Listening | Speaking | Writing | Total |
|---------|-----------|----------|---------|---------|
| 29-30 | 28-30 | 24-27 | 25-28 | 107-114 |

ACT (Mid 50%, 65 students)

| Math | Science | English | Reading | Total |
|-------|---------|---------|---------|-------|
| 35-36 | 35-36 | 32-35 | 32-35 | 34-35 |

SAT Reasoning (Mid 50%, 86 students)

| Critical Reading | Math | Total |
|------------------|---------|-----------|
| 700-750 | 780-800 | 1480-1540 |

Advanced Placement Examination (169 students, 1321 exams taken)

The chart below shows the percentage of students who have scored 5 globally versus SSBS students in classes with more than 10 students.

| Course | % World students score 5 | % SSBS students score 5 | Course | % World students score 5 | %SSBS students score 5 |
|--------------------------------------|--------------------------|-------------------------|-----------------------|--------------------------|------------------------|
| Chemistry | 18% | 91% | Biology | 17% | 98% |
| Computer Science A | 26% | 86% | Calculus AB | 21% | 98% |
| Human Geography | 18% | 67% | Calculus BC | 48% | 97% |
| Physics 1 | 10% | 84% | Environmental Science | 9% | 74% |
| Physics 2 | 19% | 95% | Macroeconomics | 21% | 98% |
| Physics C: Mechanics | 29% | 88% | Microeconomics | 23% | 93% |
| Physics C: Electricity and Magnetism | 35% | 92% | World History: Modern | 12% | 71% |
| Statistics | 18% | 97% | European History | 13% | 79% |
| Seminar | 9% | 54% | Psychology | 19% | 90% |

| Course | % World students score 5 | % SSBS students score 5 | Course | % World students score 5 | %SSBS students score 5 |
|----------------------------------|--------------------------|-------------------------|------------------------------------|--------------------------|------------------------|
| English Language and Composition | 10% | 45% | English Literature and Composition | 14% | 88% |

Courses offered 2024-2025

* courses graded as Pass/Fail + courses not used to calculate grade point average

| International-style Elective Courses | | | | | Local High School Compulsory Courses |
|--------------------------------------|--|---------------------------------------|--|---------------------------|--------------------------------------|
| Standard Courses | Honors & Advanced Honors Courses | | Advanced Placement Courses | | |
| S Physics | AH/H/H- American Literature | H Physics | AP Calculus AB | AP Chemistry | Geography*+ |
| S Chemistry | AH/H/H- British Literature | H Physics I | AP Calculus BC | AP Biology | History *+ |
| S Psychology | AH/H/H- World Literature | H Physics II | AP English Language and Composition | AP Environmental Science | Civic Education*+ |
| S Biology | AH/H/H- Language Arts I/II/III | H Physics C Mechanics | AP English Literature and Composition | AP History (World) | Arts+ |
| S Further Mathematics | AH/H/H- English Composition and Research | H Physics C Electricity and Magnetism | AP Physics C Electricity and Magnetism | AP History (US) | PE+ |
| S Human Geography | H Chinese Literature I/II/III | H Psychology | AP Physics I | AP Psychology | Optional+ |
| S Environmental Science | H Chemistry | H Biology | AP Physics II | AP Art History | |
| S Economics | H Computer Science A | H Computer Science Principles | AP Microeconomics | AP Music Theory | |
| S Computer Science | H History (World) | H History(US) | AP Macroeconomics | AP Seminar | |
| S Europe History | H Macroeconomics | H Microeconomics | AP Computer Science A | AP Research | |
| | H Precalculus | H Calculus AB | AP Computer Science Principles | AP Physics C Mechanics | |
| | H Statistics | H Music Theory | AP Statistics | AP Europe History | |
| | H Human Geography | H Environmental Science | AP Human Geography | AP Multivariable Calculus | |
| | H Art History | H Europe History | AP Art & Design | AP Drawing | |

AP Course Selection

SSBS High school students will take normally ten and a maximum of fourteen AP courses before graduation. Students will normally take about two AP courses in tenth grade, three AP courses in eleventh grade and five AP courses in twelfth grade.

Selected College Acceptance Results of 2017-2024

| COLLEGE/UNIVERSITY | COLLEGE/UNIVERSITY | COLLEGE/UNIVERSITY |
|---------------------------------|-----------------------------------|---|
| Amherst College | Kenyon College | University of California-Los Angeles |
| Bard College | King's College London | University of California-Santa Barbara |
| Barnard College | Lehigh University | University of California-Santa Cruz |
| Bates College | LSE | University of California-San Diego |
| Boston University | Macalester College | University of Cambridge |
| Brandeis University | Miami University-Oxford | University of Chicago |
| Brown University | Mount Holyoke College | University of Connecticut |
| Carnegie Mellon University | New York University | University of Delaware |
| Colby College | Northeastern University | University of Maryland |
| Colgate College | Northwestern University | University of Massachusetts-Amherst |
| College of the Holy Cross | Oxford University | University of Miami |
| College of William and Mary | Pennsylvania State University | University of Michigan-Ann Arbor |
| Columbia University | Purdue University-West Lafayette | University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill |
| Cornell University | Queens University | University of Pennsylvania |
| Dartmouth College | Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute | University of Rochester |
| Davidson College | Rice University | University of Southern California |
| Dickinson College | Rose-Hulman | University of Sydney |
| Duke University | Rhode Island School of Design | University of Texas- Austin |
| Emerson College | Rutgers University | University of Toronto |
| Emory University | Skidmore College | University of Virginia |
| Franklin&Marshall College | Smith College | University of Washington-Seattle |
| Georgia Institute of Technology | Swarthmore College | University of Wisconsin-Madison |
| Georgetown University | Tufts University | Vanderbilt University |
| Grinnell College | Tulane University | Villanova University |
| Hamilton College | The Ohio State University | Wake Forest University |
| Harvard University | University College London | Washington and Lee University |
| Haverford College | University of California-Berkeley | Washington University in St. Louis |
| Imperial College London | University of California-Davis | Wellesley College |
| Johns Hopkins University | University of California- Irvine | Yale University |