



AMERICAN NICARAGUAN SCHOOL
CONNECTING THE GLOBAL COMMUNITY



SCHOOL PROFILE 2014-2015

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ANS Mission

The ANS mission is to provide its multicultural student community with a US-accredited college preparatory program, based on democratic and universal values, that develops critical and ethical individuals capable of realizing their leadership potential by making meaningful contributions to society.

ANS Quick Facts

K3 - 12th Grade Enrollment: 977
Early Learning Enrollment: 188
Elementary Enrollment: 326
Middle School Enrollment: 186
High School Enrollment: 277
Class of 2015: 64

36% U.S. Citizens,
39% Nicaraguan, 9% Other Latin
American, 7% European, 6% Asian
and 3% other nationalities

The American Nicaraguan School, (ANS) is a private, non-profit, coeducational multicultural institution, founded in 1944. With grades from Nursery through Grade 12, ANS is composed of students of more than 35 different nationalities. ANS provides a rigorous academic program through an American curriculum with classes taught in English. The School is governed by a seven member Board of Directors, with six members elected by the American Nicaraguan School's parents, and one member appointed by the U.S. Embassy. The school community includes members of the diplomatic corps, foreign and local business, Nicaraguan government, and international assistance groups working in Nicaragua.

Located on a 26-acre campus in Managua, Nicaragua, ANS is undergoing a major facilities renovation project, having begun in 2011 with the inauguration of the new High School Building. A complete remodeling of the Elementary and Early Learning Center is underway. Facilities also include track and field, semi-olympic swimming pool and a multi-purpose covered athletic area. Tech and media resources include a 22,000-volume library, largest of its kind in Nicaragua, and high-speed wireless internet access across campus. ANS is accredited by AdvancED through the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools Council on Accreditation and School Improvement (SACS – CASI) and the Nicaraguan Ministry of Education (MINED).

Grades	Start	Dismissal
K3	8:00 am	12:00 n
K4	7:05 am	12:00 n
K5 - 12th	7:05 am	02:05 pm

Academic Calendar

The 2014 - 2015 school calendar consists of two semesters with 183 total days of classroom instruction. The first semester commences mid August and finishes in mid December; the second semester commences in the middle of January and concludes in the middle of June.

Grading System and Ranking*

97-100 A+ =4.25	77-79 C+ = 2.25
93-96 A =4.00	73-76 C = 2.00
90-92 A- = 3.75	70-72 C- = 1.75
87-89 B+ = 3.25	67-69 D+ = 1.25
83-86 B = 3.00	63-66 D = 1.00
80-82 B- = 2.75	60-62 D- = 0.75
	40-59 F = 0.00

***The American Nicaraguan School does not rank its students.**

English Language Institute

ANS hosts a 14-level English Language Institute (ELI) specializing in teaching English as a Foreign Language to the general Nicaraguan Public. ESL and TOEFL preparatory courses are offered on Saturdays and weekday afternoons and evenings. Approximately 3000 students attend courses on both the Managua and Leon campuses.

Curriculum

As an AdvancED accredited institution, ANS applies a US-based curriculum with the addition of the optional Nicaraguan Ministry of Education's Bachillerato program. English is the language of instruction through all grade-levels at ANS, starting at Kinder 3. The ANS curriculum is based highly on the Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics (STEM) teaching model, promoting project-based learning as early as in the Middle School. In Elementary, students begin learning mathematics under the Singapore Math model. High School students can partake in the Global Studies Program, a program that provides students with a globalized perspective on humanities through courses in Human Geography, World Religions and courses in a third language, including Mandarin and/or French. These courses, in addition to the 16 Advanced Placement courses offered in High School, prepare the student for post secondary education in universities around the world.

Early Learning Center

The ELC provides children with the right combination of play and structured instruction centered on an inquiry based learning. ANS' youngest students are introduced to Singapore Math and Science Fusion as early as K5. In addition, the ANS ELC applies a Balanced Literacy Approach to its courses.

Elementary

The Elementary student body, comprised of over 300 children from Grades 1-5, comes from all ends of the globe. We collaborate with parents, teachers and children to form a partnership and provide the students with the best possible educational experience. Every day we strive to fulfill our school mission by helping our children become leaders with innovative and ethical minds making meaningful contributions to society. We accomplish this by exposing them to a variety of fun and meaningful activities throughout their school career at ANS.

The social, emotional, and academic development of our students is important to us. Through the Responsive Classroom approach, our students receive a daily lesson on character building that teach them to become life time learners and problem solvers. The Elementary uses cutting edge curricular programs such as Balanced Literacy, Singapore Math, Science Fusion for its core classes. We emphasize equality and diversity as we help students reach their goals through the many and varied school and community activities. The elementary school support services consist of a full time counseling program and a full time Learning Support program for our special learning students. The Student Council (STUCO) provide leadership for our student body through various activities, including supporting a local school. The Parent Teacher Organization (PTO) organizes service activities on our campus through Fall Festival, Muffins with Moms, Winter Performance, Book Fair, Donuts with Dads, Kermesse and much more. More than 200 children participate in the wide variety of after-school activities that we offer.

Middle School Course Offerings

English: English 6 - 8; Honors English 8.

Mathematics: Math 6 and Math 6 Advanced; Pre-Algebra 7 and Pre-Algebra 7 Advanced; Algebra 8 and Honors Algebra 8.

Science: Earth & Space Science 6; Life Science 7; Physical Science 8.

Social Sciences: Ancient History 6; History and Geography of Nicaragua 7; U.S. History 8.

Foreign Languages: Spanish 6-8; Spanish Language Learner (SLL); French 8; Chinese 8.
Physical Education: PE 6-8.

Other Courses: Community and Values 6-8; Art 6-8; Music 6-8; Technology 6-8.

High School Course Offerings

English: World Literature; Honors World Literature; American Literature; AP English Language; British Literature; AP English Literature.

Mathematics: Geometry; Honors Geometry; Algebra Bridge; Algebra II; Honors Algebra II; Pre-Calculus/Trigonometry; Statistics; AP Statistics; Calculus; Honors Pre-Calculus/Trigonometry and AP Calculus AB.

Science: Earth & Environmental Science; Biology; Chemistry; Honors Chemistry; Physics; AP Physics I & II.

Social Sciences: Ancient World History; Modern World History; U.S. History; AP US History; Nicaraguan History; Nicaraguan Geography; Nicaraguan Civics; Economics; AP Economics; Global Studies; Sociology; Philosophy; Religions; AP Human Geography; AP European History; AP Comparative Government.

World Languages: Spanish Literature 9-12 (for native speakers); Honors Spanish Literature 9-11; AP Spanish Literature; Spanish Language Learners (SLL) 1-4; AP Spanish Language; French 1-3; AP French Language; Chinese 1-4; AP Chinese.

Technology: Digital Yearbook; Introduction to Technology; Cloud Media; Introduction to Programming; Graphic Design.

Physical Education: PE 9-10

Other Courses: Art 1 & 2; AP Studio Art; Architectural Art; Introduction to Clay; Drama; World Film Studies; Entertainment Perspectives; Play Production; Discover Music; Band; Guitar; AP Music Theory; Choir; Speech & Debate; Creative Writing; Music & Culture of Nicaragua; College Advisory; Academic Workshops; AP Independent Study.

US Diploma Requirements

Modern Language: 4 years

Mathematics: 4 years

English: 4 years

Social Studies: 4 years

Elective Courses: 4 years

Science: 3 years

Physical Education 2 years

Fine Arts: 1 Semester

Nicaraguan Bachillerato

Spanish: 5 years

English: 5 years

Science: 5 years

History: 5 years

Physical Education: 4 years

Fine Arts: 1 semester

History of Nicaragua: 1 semester

Geography of Nicaragua: 1 semester

Civics: 1 semester

Philosophy: 1 semester

Sociology: 1 semester

Technology

Extra Curricular Activities & Community Service Clubs

ANS HS and MS students are involved in over 23 extra curricular activities and Community Service Clubs; from visual and performing arts and international debate groups, to volunteer community service for major foundations and our own ANS students' social initiatives. Students work with major international organizations including National Honor Society, Operation Smile as well as major local and regional foundations including Fundación Ortiz Gurdian and Un Techo Para mi País.

Alumni Association

The American Nicaraguan School has an alumni community of more than 2,700 former students. Through our on-line database, we strive to create and maintain a channel of communication for alumni on our school website. ANS offers support to class reunion committees, sponsors alumni social events and welcomes all former students to return to visit the school campus.

Standardized Tests:

Twice a year, Elementary, Middle School and 9th grade students take the MAP test, Measurement of Academic Progress. 10th and 11th grade take the PSAT in October. Students begin taking the SAT towards the end of their Junior year. ANS is a certified testing center for the ACT, SAT, PSAT and AP Exams.

University Acceptances

Over 99% of each graduating class pursues post secondary education, primarily at four year institutions. As the list is extensive, they could not all be mentioned.

North America

American Musical and Dramatic Acad.

American University

Babson College

Boston College

Brandeis University

Brown University

Carnegie Mellon University

Catholic University of America

Columbia University

Cornell University

Duke University

Elon University

Emory University

Florida International University

Georgetown University

Harvard University

Johns Hopkins University

Loyola University - Chicago

Loyola University - New Orleans

Massachusetts Institute of Technology

McGill University

New York University

Northeastern University

Northwestern University

Princeton University

Purdue University

Rice University

Savannah College of Art and Design

Southern Methodist University

Stanford University

Texas Christian University

Trinity University

Tulane University

University of British Columbia

University of California - Berkeley

University of California - Los Angeles

University of Chicago

University of Colorado - Boulder

University of Florida

University of Illinois - Champlain

University of Miami

University of Michigan

University of North Carolina- Greensboro

University of Notre Dame

University of Pennsylvania

University of Southern California

University of Tampa

University of Texas - Austin

University of Tulsa

University of Virginia

Valley Forge Military Acad. & College

Vanderbilt University

Vassar College

Villanova University

Virginia Tech University

Wake Forest University

Walsh University

Wentworth Institute of Technology

Yale University

International

Korean Adv. Inst. of Sci. & Tech

Instituto Tecnológico de Monterrey

National Chengchi University

National Taiwan University

Pontificia U. Católica de Chile

UCIMED

Universidad Americana