



Tanzania Service Trip 2023

WHO WE ARE

Founded in 2001, the British International School of Chicago, South Loop (BISC-SL) is a leading, independent coeducational day school for students from Nursery through Grade 12. Situated in the heart of downtown Chicago, our diverse student body represents over 42 nationalities, creating a rich tapestry of cultures and perspectives. At BISC-SL, we are committed to providing a personalized and rigorous college preparatory education that nurtures academic excellence and the development of essential life skills, such as problem-solving, resilience, reactivity, well-being, and global citizenship.

As a proud member of the Nord Anglia Education family of schools, we offer a unique blend of individualized learning and global exposure. Our partnerships with world-renowned institutions like The Juilliard School, the Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT), and UNICEF enhance our curriculum, providing students with unparalleled opportunities in the arts, sciences, and social impact.

Through our Global Campus platform, students engage in worldwide learning experiences and participate in international travel, including a transformative service trip to Tanzania. At BISC-SL, we ignite curiosity, fuel ambition, and foster a lifelong passion for learning in every student.

GRADING SYSTEM

At BISC-SL, we prioritize a holistic approach to education, focusing on each student's individual growth and achievements rather than conventional ranking or weighted grading systems. Unlike traditional U.S. high schools, we do not calculate or report GPAs, allowing us to emphasize personalized learning and development.

IBDP USA

7	A+
6	A
5	A-
4	B
3	C+
2	D+
1	F

IB EXAM RESULTS

	2024	2023	2022	2021
Students	35	26	46	34
Average Points	33	31.5	34.3	37
World Average	30.3	30.2	32	33
Passed	31	26	41	34

712
STUDENTS

232
HIGH SCHOOL
STUDENTS

33
STUDENTS IN
CLASS OF 2025

48
SECONDARY
TEACHERS



Michael Henderson

Executive Principal
michael.henderson@bischicagosl.org

Nicola Able

Head of Secondary
nicola.able@bischicagosl.org

Danika Nowak

Director of College Counseling
danika.nowak@bischicagosl.org

Laura Gilmartin

Head of IBDP
laura.gilmartin@bischicagosl.org

Sam Cosgrove

Curriculum & Academics
samuel.cosgrove@bischicagosl.org

Ro Grainger

IBCP Coordinator
rozenn.grainger@bischicagosl.org



OUR CURRICULUM

(IGCSE) International General Certificate of Secondary Education

BISC-SL students in Grades 9 and 10 (Years 10 and 11) pursue the IGCSE, a rigorous curriculum that provides a strong foundation in core subjects. It emphasizes understanding and application of knowledge over rote memorization, fostering deeper learning and a better grasp of subjects.

Our students develop critical thinking, problem-solving, and independent research skills while choosing from a wide range of subjects, enabling them to tailor their education to their interests and career aspirations. The IGCSE also encourages participation in extracurricular activities, promoting a well-rounded education that develops social, leadership, and teamwork skills. These advantages make the IGCSE an excellent choice for students seeking a strong academic background with international opportunities.

Course Options:

- Compulsory Courses:** Math, English, Biology, Chemistry, Physics, U.S. History, Physical Education, and Entrepreneurship for Social Impact
- Social Studies:** Geography, History, Psychology
- Performing Arts:** Dance, Drama, Music
- World Language:** French, German, Mandarin, Spanish
- Elective 1:** Art & Design, Computer Science, Spanish (2nd language)
- Elective 2:** Art & Design, Film, Engineering and Design, Sports Science

(IB) International Baccalaureate

The IB Diploma Programme at BISC-SL offers students in Grades 11 and 12 (Years 12 and 13) a dynamic and challenging education designed to foster international mindedness and intercultural understanding. This rigorous program prepares students to excel in diverse college environments and global settings. The courses equip students to thrive in a fast-paced, interconnected world by providing a comprehensive curriculum. Through this program, our students acquire both broad and deep knowledge, preparing them to engage effectively in a global society and adapt to its ever-evolving demands. Our IB curriculum closely mirrors the demands of university-level coursework, ensuring a seamless transition into higher education.

Course Options:

- IB Core Requirements:** Extended Essay; Theory of Knowledge; Creativity, Action & Service
- Group 1:** Literature: English, English Language and Literature
- Group 2:** Language Acquisition: French, German, Mandarin, Spanish
- Group 3:** Individuals & Societies: Business Management, Geography, History, Psychology
- Group 4:** Sciences: Biology, Design Technology, Physics
- Group 5:** Mathematics: Analysis and Approaches, Applications and Interpretation
- Group 6:** The Arts/Sciences: Chemistry, Design Technology, Sports, Exercise and Health Science, Visual Arts

Course Routes:

Based on their Grade 9 and 10 performance, students in Grades 11 and 12 follow one of three IB course routes. IB Diploma Students study six IB subjects, three at Higher Level (HL) honors and three at Standard Level (SL) honors. IB Scholar Students study six IB subjects. Up to six subjects can be at Standard Level honors, with a maximum of three at Higher Level honors.

UNIVERSITY ACCEPTANCES 2022-2024

American University Arizona State University Augustana College Babson College Ball State University Bard College Bates College Baylor University Belmont University Boston University Bradley University Brown University Bucknell University Butler University Carnegie Mellon University Case Western Reserve University Chapman University Clark University Clarkson University Clemson University Colgate University College of Charleston College of the Holy Cross Colorado College Colorado School of Mines Colorado State University-Fort Collins Columbia College Chicago Connecticut College Cooper Union - Science and Art Cornell University Daemen College Denison University DePaul University Depauw University Dickinson College Drake University Drexel University Durham University Duke University EHL Emory University Esade Business School	Florida Atlantic University Florida Gulf Coast University Florida State University Fordham University Franklin and Marshall College Franklin University Switzerland Furman University George Mason University George Washington University Georgia Institute of Technology Grinnell College Harvard University Harvey Mudd College Howard University Illinois Institute of Technology Illinois State University Illinois Wesleyan University Imperial College London Indiana Institute of Technology Indiana University-Bloomington Intl University of Monaco Iowa State University Ithaca College Johns Hopkins University Katholieke Universiteit Leuven Keele University King's College London Lafayette College Lake Forest College Lawrence University Lehigh University Lewis & Clark College Loughborough University Loyola Marymount University Loyola University Chicago Macalester College Manhattan College Marquette University Mass College of Liberal Arts McGill University Miami University-Oxford Michigan State University	Michigan Technological University New York University Newcastle University North Carolina State University Northeastern Illinois University Northeastern University Northern Illinois University Northwestern University Ohio State University Ohio University Ohio Wesleyan University Otis College of Art and Design Pennsylvania State University Pepperdine University Point Park University Pomona College Pratt Institute Princeton University Providence College Purdue University Reed College Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute Rice University Rollins College Rose-Hulman Institute of Technology Rutgers University Saint Louis University Saint Michaels College Saint Norbert College Santa Clara University Savannah College of Art and Design Southern Illinois University Southern Methodist University Stanford University Stevens Institute of Technology Syracuse University Temple University Texas A & M University Texas Christian University The American University of Paris The New School - Parsons The Posse Foundation	The University of Alabama The University of Edinburgh The University of Tennessee The University of Texas The University of Texas At Dallas Tilburg University Trinity College Tufts University Tulane University of Louisiana Union College University College London University of Arizona University of California-Berkeley University of California-Davis University of California-Los Angeles University of California-Riverside University of California-San Diego University of California-Santa Barbara University of Chester University of Chicago University of Cincinnati University of Colorado Boulder University of Colorado Denver University of Connecticut University of Denver University of Edinburgh University of Exeter University of Florida University of Georgia University of Hartford University of Hawaii University of Illinois - Chicago University of Illinois - Springfield University of Illinois -Champaign University of Iowa University of Kansas University of Kentucky University of Liverpool University of London University of Louisville University of Maine University of Manchester	University of Maryland University of Massachusetts University of Miami University of Michigan University of Minnesota-Twin Cities University of Mississippi University of Missouri University of New Mexico University of North Carolina University of Notre Dame University of Oregon University of Oxford University of Pittsburgh University of Rhode Island University of Richmond University of Rochester University of San Diego University of Sheffield University of South Carolina University of Southern California University of Vermont University of Virginia University of Warwick University of Washington University of Wisconsin-Madison University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee Valparaiso University Vanderbilt University Villanova University Virginia Polytechnic Institute Wake Forest University Washington & Jefferson College Washington State University Washington University In St Louis Webster University Wesleyan University Western Illinois University Whitman College Wichita State University
				**Enrolled in bold