

# Academy for Global Studies at Austin High School

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Student Application  
for 2012-2013 School Year



# **The Academy for Global Studies prepares students for a globally interconnected world!**

## **What is AGS?**

AGS stands for Academy for Global Studies and is a “small learning community” on the Austin High School campus. AGS engages students in an educational experience that fosters international understanding and welcomes diversity of thought, while preparing students for a globally interconnected world. AGS values all students’ unique talents and encourages and challenges students to become intellectually curious, world language proficient, internationally aware and globally responsive.

## **Why join AGS?**

You will love the small community feeling at AGS. It is a small program within a big school. You will see your friends in classes throughout the day and meet many new friends when you go to your elective classes and participate in after-school activities. You will know your teachers well and your teachers will know you. You study your subjects with the world in mind and you get to find connections between your classes.

## **Are the classes difficult?**

In general, classes in high school are challenging. However, there is a lot of student support at both AGS and at AHS. Your teachers are very accessible and interested if you have questions or need help. Most students find they are able to manage classes and participate in sports, fine arts, band, clubs and many other activities. For some, Pre-AP classes may seem scary, but with the way that the program is structured and the way the classes are taught, all students can be successful. Traditional dividing lines among core classes are broken down as students explore how all the courses are interrelated. The result is a broader understanding of the world.

## **How do I select classes?**

AGS will help you select your curriculum each year. Your core classes are mostly pre-determined and then your electives and extra-curricular are your choice. However, there is always someone to help answer questions and assist you if you are unsure about which classes to take or how the class load is laid out.

## **What are the teachers like in AGS?**

AGS teachers have fascinating backgrounds and stories; many have also been AHS teachers too. While both AGS and AHS teachers are great, AGS teachers’ have a slightly different curriculum influenced by the Asia Society’s ISSN program. Please see the section on the International Studies Schools Network (ISSN) at [www.asiasociety.org](http://www.asiasociety.org) for more information.

## **Is AGS a magnet school?**

No, AGS is not a magnet school. Only students living in the AHS attendance zone or students with a valid transfer to AHS may apply.

## **What languages do students take in AGS?**

AGS requires each student to pick one of two spoken world languages when he/she enters the program freshman year. The languages to choose from are Chinese and Spanish. Once you have chosen your language, you will take that same language all four years and hopefully be proficient by graduation. If you so choose, you may take two languages as well.

## **What can a student expect to learn as an AGS student?**

Students will learn to be:

- Culturally aware of their city and their world
- Effective users of technology
- Aware of world events and global dynamics
- Academically prepared for post secondary education
- Collaborative team members
- Responsible and ethical citizens
- Proficient thinkers and problem solvers

## **Is it difficult to get into AGS?**

No, admission is based on a lottery for available slots. There are no admission requirements other than to express interest in the program by completing a brief application and to be a student who lives within the Austin High School boundaries. Students in AGS are from all the different areas of the Austin High School attendance zone.



## Academy for Global Studies at Austin High School

*AGS is not a magnet program and is open only to students eligible to attend Austin High School.*



### Student Application for 2012 - 2013 School Year

PLEASE PRINT THE FOLLOWING INFORMATION

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

School Presently Attending:

\_\_\_\_\_

Student School ID: \_\_\_\_\_ Current Grade Level: \_\_\_\_\_

Student Date of Birth: \_\_\_\_\_ \*Ethnicity: \_\_\_\_\_ Gender: Male \_\_\_ Female \_\_\_

Home Address:

\_\_\_\_\_

Street Address (with Apartment Number)

\_\_\_\_\_

City

State

Zip Code

Applicant resides with:

\_\_\_\_\_

Name of Parent(s)/Guardian(s)

Relationship of Adult(s) to Student: \_\_\_\_\_ Father \_\_\_\_\_ Mother \_\_\_\_\_ Step-Father \_\_\_\_\_ Step-Mother

\_\_\_\_\_ Other: \_\_\_\_\_

Home Phone: ( ) \_\_\_\_\_ Work Phone: ( ) \_\_\_\_\_ (Mother/Guardian)

Cell Phone: ( ) \_\_\_\_\_ email: \_\_\_\_\_

Home Phone: ( ) \_\_\_\_\_ Work Phone: ( ) \_\_\_\_\_ (Father/Guardian)

Cell Phone: ( ) \_\_\_\_\_ email: \_\_\_\_\_

*\*Ethnicity reporting is optional; information is used for local, state and federal reporting and has no bearing on admission*

In accordance with the Title VI Civil Rights Act of 1964, Title IX Education Amendment of 1972, section 504—Rehabilitation Act of 1973, and the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1992, the Austin Independent School District does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, age, sex or handicap.

Admission into the Academy for Global Studies is limited to students whose home high school is Austin High, or who have previously secured a transfer to Austin High. **Admission is determined by blind lottery.**

**Please answer the following questions in the space below or on a separate piece of paper. Sign the commitment form on the next page, attach the completed application and mail or deliver to Academy of Global Studies at Austin High School.**

**Special Interest Questions to Be Completed by the Future Students of  
Academy for Global Studies**

Please tell us about yourself by answering the following questions individually, in essay form, or in a format you would most enjoy  
(e.g. poem, story, letter, dialogue)

- What are your major interests?
- Why are you interested in coming to the Academy for Global Studies?
- What gifts or talents do you bring to the Academy for Global Studies?

# The Academy for Global Studies Community Covenant

## At AGS, we . . .

- Respect each other
- Take responsibility for our words and actions
- Ask questions when we do not understand

## Students at AGS will experience:

- A curriculum that prepares students for graduation with the Recommended Academic Diploma
- Travel with an international focus provided through community support and fund raising
- Second language proficiency with a focus on oral communication
- Seminars and enrichment experiences in the Arts, Humanities, Science, and Technology
- Instructionally based field trips, learning expeditions and academic excursions
- 120 hours of community service with the school, local community and various service organizations
- Dozens of extra-curricular options in theatre, athletics, band, choir, debate, orchestra, visual arts, dance and student led clubs and organizations
- Participation at the national level with other students in the International Studies Schools Network
- Participation at the international level with other students around the world through travel and Internet based learning platforms.

## Commitment

We understand that acceptance to Academy for Global Studies involves a commitment of service to the school, adherence to the Community Covenant and all Austin ISD and Austin High School policies, and participation in all required AGS classes. Acceptance to the Academy also involves a commitment on the part of the parents for participation in family nights and community projects.

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Signature of Student

Date

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Signature of Parent

Date

**RETURN COMPLETED APPLICATION, STUDENT RESPONSES AND SIGNED  
COMMITMENT FORM BY Friday February 10, 2012:**

Academy for Global Studies  
Austin High School  
1715 W. Cesar Chavez  
Austin, TX 78703  
Fax: 512-414-7276