



# ЧПГ „АК-АРКУС“ ЕООД

*cognitio libertas perfectio*



## HIGH SCHOOL PROFILE 2017/2018

### HISTORY

American College Arcus® welcomed its first students in 2003. They were educated by highly-qualified teachers in small classes, in modern classrooms, surrounded by a quiet and clean environment. In addition to these factors, strict interior regulations, the constant dialogue with parents and the students' high personal motivation contributed to the achievements. These factors remain a vital part of the success of our students who have followed in their footsteps. Since 2005, scholarships have been offered which give candidates with high results in the spring competitions and admission exams the opportunity to become students in the college with a reduced tuition. In 2008, the school expanded its facilities by opening a modern dormitory for the needs of the students coming from outside Veliko Tarnovo. The administration and the faculty have been persistently ambitious in pursuing the highest quality education, and has resulted in achieving a great number of national and international accreditations during the past years.

Since the introduction of the obligatory matriculation exams in 2008, American College Arcus® has been among the best schools in the district rating of the Ministry of Education, and in 2009 the College achieved the highest average results in the district – Excellent 5.50. During the next academic years our students continued to achieve high results in the State Matriculation exams. For several years (2011, 2012, 2013, 2016 and 2017) they ranked first among the schools in the region of Veliko Tarnovo. Class of 2015 achieved the greatest success so far, taking 6th place in the Bulgarian Language and Literature exam in the whole country.

### COMMUNITY

American College Arcus is currently enrolling students from 6 countries – Bulgaria, Ukraine, Russia, Syria and Ireland. Parents of our students work in business, government, and other professional backgrounds. This is not a mobile community and over 90% of the students remain with us for all the five years of their education.

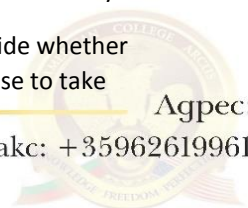
### ACADEMIC PROGRAM

The school offers a five-year course of study as it is licensed to teach students from Grades 8 through 12 by the Bulgarian Ministry of Education and Science. There are two major areas of concentration: "Foreign Languages" and "Information Technologies". The curriculum for the 8th grade preparatory year is the same for both areas of concentration. The chief aim of this first year at the College is to develop the English language proficiency necessary for students to successfully continue and complete their studies in grades 9 through 12, wherein English is the medium of instruction. After the first preparatory year a student is placed, based on the student's decision, in one of two areas of concentration: "Foreign Languages" or "Information Technologies". From Grade 9 most subjects are taught in English. Students are awarded a certificate upon the successful completion of Grade 9, and a Certificate for Secondary Education upon successful completion of the whole course of study.

As from 2007 the school offers the IB Diploma Program. After finishing grade 10 the students decide whether to continue with the National Curriculum or with the IBDP. Some students, who do the IBDP choose to take

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exams for the National Diploma, thus making it possible to apply to Bulgarian institutions of higher education, which at this point do not recognize the IB Diploma.

### **FACULTY**

The High School faculty consists of a Director, two Deputy Directors, College Admissions Counselor and 22 teachers. Over three quarters of the faculty hold advanced degrees. Faculty members represent 2 countries: Bulgaria and the UK. The student-teacher ratio is 7:1.

### **HIGH SCHOOL ORGANIZATION**

The year consists of two terms, 18 weeks each (September - January, February - June) with a total of 180 school days. There are 6 or 7 40-minute lessons every day with classes meeting every Friday. The students also attend free elective classes according to their interests in order to gain additional knowledge and/or prepare for standardized tests and university admission examinations. Each class is assigned a class advisor from the teaching staff, whose responsibility is to facilitate communication between the school and the parents, to keep record of students' attendance and discipline and to complete the personal profile and characteristics of each student from the class.

### **GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS**

The evaluation system in Bulgaria is based on the 6 (excellent) being the highest with 3 (fair) being the lowest passing grade for academic result. Students are required to take 18 subjects in order to graduate. Compulsory subjects:

Bulgarian Language and Literature (grades 9 to 12)  
English (grades 9 to 12)  
German (grades 9 to 12)  
Mathematics (grades 9 to 12)  
Computer Science (grades 9 to 12)  
IT (grades 9 and 10 for the Foreign Languages Profile and grades 9 to 12 for the IT profile)  
History and Civilization (grades 10 to 12)  
Geography and Economics (grades 10 to 12)  
Psychology and Logic (grade 9)  
Ethics and Law (grade 10) Philosophy (grade 11)  
World and Personality (grade 12)  
Biology and Health Education (grades 10 and 11) Physics and Astronomy (grades 10 to 12)  
Chemistry and Environmental Protection (grades 10 and 11) Music (grade 9)  
Arts (grade 9)  
Physical Education (grades 9 to 12)

The grading system is as follows:

6	(Excellent)	91.5-100%
5	(Very good)	80.5-91.4%
4	(Good)	70.5-80.4%
3	(Fair)	59.5-70.4%
2	(Poor)	0-59.4%

The students received the following GPA:

Class of 2013 – 5.45  
Class of 2014 – 5.37  
Class of 2015 – 5.52  
Class of 2016 – 5.36  
Class of 2017 – 5.48

The students receive above average results in the TOEFL test, e.g. Class of 2013 – 97.23, Class of 2014 – 98.30 and the Class of 2015 – 100. The average IELTS results are 6.87 for the Class of 2016 and 6.98 for 2017. The average result in the SAT Reasoning test for the class of 2015 is 1886 (3 students).

## COLLEGES AND UNIVERSITIES

Graduates from the American College Arcus have been accepted into the following universities:

### **Bulgaria**

University of Veliko Tarnovo  
University of Sofia  
Varna Free University  
University of National and World Economy  
D. A. Tsenov Academy of Economics, Svishtov  
New Bulgarian University, Sofia  
University of Economics, Varna  
Technical University, Sofia  
Medical University, Sofia  
Medical University, Varna  
Medical University, Pleven  
Naval Academy, Varna  
University of Architecture, Civil Engineering and Geodesy, Sofia  
University of Forestry, Sofia  
University of Food Technology, Plovdiv  
American University in Bulgaria

### **The UK**

Aberystwyth University  
University of Manchester  
University of Warwick  
University of Glasgow  
University of Dundee  
University of Birmingham  
University of Edinburgh  
London School of Economics and Political Science  
King's College, University of London  
University of Abertay Dundee  
Royal Holloway University of London  
Edinburgh Napier University  
University of Dundee  
University of Aberdeen  
The University of Sheffield  
Lancaster University  
Robert Gordon University  
University of Bradford  
Leeds Metropolitan University  
University of Greenwich  
University of Strathclyde

### **Ireland**

Dublin City University

### **Denmark**

VIA University College, Denmark  
Aarhus School of Business

### **The Netherlands**

Amsterdam Fashion Institute  
The Hague University of Applied Sciences  
Rotterdam School of Management, Erasmus University Rotterdam  
Fontys University of Applied Sciences  
Stenden University of Applied Sciences  
University of Groningen

### **Germany**

Universität Bamberg  
Jacobs University, Bremen  
Bergische Universität Wuppertal  
Universität Duisburg-Essen  
Eberhard Karls Universität, Tübingen  
Technische Universität München

### **Italy**

Universita Bocconi  
Università Cattolica del Sacro Cuore

### **Israel**

IDC Herzliya

### **Greece**

City College, Thessaloniki  
American College of Thessaloniki

### **Austria**

University of Vienna  
Wirtschaftsuniversitaet, Wien

### **USA**

Harvard University  
Berkeley College, NYC  
New York University

### **Canada**

University of British Columbia

### **Romania**

Universitatea Titu Maiorescu

### **Australia**

Raffles College of Design and Commerce