



School Profile 2008-2009

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Natalie Bitton

Dean of Students
Conseillère d'Education

Kay Ritter

The Lycée Français La Pérouse is the French immersion College Preparatory school in the San Francisco Bay Area, accepting students from PreK1 to 12th grade. Our program is designed to provide students with a structured, well-assimilated body of general knowledge while encouraging the development of analytical and critical thinking skills. Our unique curriculum fosters autonomy, initiative, self-esteem and the respect of others through cooperation and responsibility.

The Lycée is accredited by the French Government, as well as by the California Association of Independent Schools and the Western Association of Schools and Colleges. Students graduate with two diplomas: the French Baccalaureate and the U.S. Highschool diploma. The Lycée is a full immersion school, where all subjects are taught in French, with the exception of English and U.S. History.

The mission of the school

The Lycée Français La Pérouse offers the children of multiculturally-minded San Francisco Bay Area families a rigorous curriculum focused on French-language immersion and academic excellence. Following the French national system, this PreK1 through 12th grade program exceeds all requirements set by both France and the United States and provides full preparation for both European and North American colleges and universities. The diverse and international nature of our students and faculty fosters a spirit of community and respect that prepares our students to be responsible global citizens.

The curriculum

The French system subdivides its 15 school years into eight cycles; some of these cycles include just one grade and others up to three. Within each cycle, there is a coherent set of learning goals and acquired skills to be achieved. The structure of the school compared to the U.S. system is as follows:

grade Lycée	grade US	cycle Lycée	Lycée grouping	US grouping
PreK1		1	maternelle	preschool
PreK2	Preschool			
Kindergarten	K			elementary
CP	1st	2	élémentaire	
CE1	2nd			
CE2	3rd	3		
CM1	4th			
CM2	5th			
6ème	6th	4	collège	middle school
5ème	7th	5		
4ème	8th			
3ème	9th	6		high school
2nde	10th	7	lycée	
1ère	11th	8		
Terminale	12th			

Ranking

Due to the various tracks leading to the BAC and to small class size, students are not ranked.

Grading

In the French system, grading is out of 20. Please refer to the attached grading scale. Honors courses are weighted an additional 1.0 point for GPA calculations. AP courses are not offered, but all students take at least one AP test.

Tracks

In the 11th grade, students choose between three tracks ("séries") (the Lycée offers only those tracks that are college preparatory) Emphasis is placed on the following areas:

- Track L: humanities: literature, languages, philosophy
- Track ES: social sciences: economics, math, history, languages
- Track S: science: math, physics, chemistry, biology

Each of these tracks leads to a different version of the French Baccalaureate exam (the BAC), taken at the end of 12th grade.

In the last four years of school, Lycée students take the following courses. In the 11th and 12th grades, if there is no indication of track, then all students take the course.

9th grade

Biology
 Computer Science
 Creative Arts (Art, Music, Theater)
 English (or ESL)
 French
 German or Spanish
 Latin
 Math
 Physical Education
 Physics & Chemistry
 U.S. History
 World History & Geography

10th grade

Biology
 Cinema / Audio-Visual
 Economics / Sociology
 English (or ESL)
 French
 German or Spanish
 Latin
 Math
 Physical Education
 Physics & Chemistry
 U.S. History
 World History & Geography

11th grade

Advanced Science (ES & L)
 Biology (S)
 Cinema /Audio-Visual
 Economics/Sociology (ES)
 English-OIB (Honors)
 ESL
 French (Honors)
 German or Spanish
 Latin
 Math (Honors for S)
 Physical Education
 Physics & Chemistry (Honors for S)
 History & Geography-OIB (Honors)
 World History & Geography

12th grade

Biology (Honors)
 Economics/Sociology (ES)
 English-OIB (Honors)
 ESL
 French Literature (L)
 German or Spanish
 Latin
 Math (Honors for S)
 Philosophy (Honors for L)
 Physical Education
 Physics & Chemistry (Honors for S)
 U.S. History
 History & Geography-OIB (Honors)
 World History & Geography

The **BAC** is a comprehensive exam that includes topics that are common to all tracks as well as specific to each. A typical BAC exam includes the following written exams as well as an oral exam in English, German or Spanish, and French.

- Biology (3.5 hours, track S)
- Economics and Social Sciences (4 hours, track ES)
- English (3 hours, all tracks)
- French (4 hours, all tracks)
- German or Spanish (3 hours, track L, 2 hours, track S)
- History and Geography (4 hours, all tracks)
- Literature (2 hours, track L)
- Math (3 hours for track ES, 4 hours for track S)
- Math (1.5 hours in 11th grade for track L)
- Philosophy (4 hours, all tracks)
- Physics and Chemistry (3.5 hours, track S)
- Sciences (1.5 hours in 11th grade for tracks L & ES)

The **OIB** (International Option of the BAC) is an advanced curriculum open to students in all three tracks. In addition to their regular course-load, OIB students take honors courses in History, Geography and English. Students take an additional end-of-year Bac exam to fulfill the OIB certification.

Standardized Tests

The French system trains students to work at a deliberate pace to produce written and articulate answers (even in math and sciences.) Multiple choice exams are not used in the French system. Lycee students routinely surpass expectations set by their scores on standardized tests such as the ERB, SAT Reasoning and Subject tests.

Results of the Lycée's BAC exams

	Total candidates	successful candidates	with honors	with high honors	with highest honors
2008	23	22	4	6	9
2007	16	16	2	6	2
2006	27	26	10	4	2
2005	10	10	3	2	

AP Exams 2008 - 20 students took 38 tests

Score	3	4	5
# students with that score	6	7	25

GPA distribution - Cumulative 10th and 11th grades for Class of 2008:

Unweighted	4.00-3.80	3.79-3.60	3.59-3.30	3.29-3.00	2.99-2.80	2.79-2.60	2.59-2.30	2.29-2.00
GPA	3	5	3	4	0	1		
Weighted	4.70-4.00	3.99-3.80	3.79-3.60	3.59-3.30	3.29-3.00	2.99-2.80	2.79-2.60	2.59-2.30
GPA	5	3	2	4	1	1	0	

Analytical chart of the SAT Reasoning Test of Lycee students bound for U.S. colleges:

	TOTAL SCORES			VERBAL/CRITICAL READING SCORES			MATH SCORES			WRITING SCORES		
	lowest	mean	highest	lowest	mean	highest	lowest	mean	highest	lowest	mean	highest
2008	1330	1786	2260	460	581	760	460	609	720	370	596	780
2007	1370	1750	2250	440	611	800	460	560	770	450	579	710
2006	1230	1779	2140	370	582	740	490	603	720	350	594	690
2005	950	1162	1280	440	591	670	490	572	620	N/A	N/A	N/A

Note: Scores are from a single sitting.

U.S. and Canadian colleges/universities offering admission for the Classes of 2004 to 2008:

American University of Paris
 American University of Rome
 Bard College
 Bishop's University
 Boston University
 Cal Poly (Pomona)
 Cal Poly (San Luis Obispo)
 California State University Chico
 California State University East Bay
 California State University Fullerton
 California State University Humboldt
 California State University Long Beach
 California State University Monterey Bay
 California State University Sacramento
 California State University Sonoma
 Chapman University*
 Claremont-McKenna
 Clarkson University
 Concordia University (College of Alberta)
 Concordia University (Montreal)*
 Cornell University
 Dickinson College
 Duke University
 Franklin College - Switzerland
 George Washington University

Hampshire College*
 Johns Hopkins University*
 Lewis & Clark College
 McGill University*
 New York University*
 Northeastern University
 Northwestern University
 Occidental College*
 Pitzer College
 Purdue University
 Sacramento State University
 San Diego State University
 San Francisco State University
 San Jose State University
 Santa Clara University
 Sarah Lawrence College
 Sonoma State University
 Stanford University
 Swarthmore College
 Syracuse University
 Trent University
 Université de Montreal
 Université de Sherbrooke
 University of British Columbia

University of California: Berkeley*
 University of California: Davis*
 University of California: Irvine*
 University of California: Los Angeles*
 University of California: Merced*
 University of California: Riverside
 University of California: San Diego*
 University of California: Santa Barbara*
 University of California: Santa Cruz*
 University of Chicago*
 University of Denver
 University of Hawaii Manoa
 University of Nevada - Las Vegas
 University of Nevada - Reno*
 University of the Pacific
 University of San Diego
 University of San Francisco*
 University of Vermont
 University of Virginia
 Willamette University

* indicates matriculation by one or more students

European universities offering admission for the Classes of 2004 to 2008:

Atelier de Charpentier
 Atelier de Sèvres
 Beaux Arts de Toulouse
 ESAG (Ecoles supérieure d'Arts Graphiques et d'Architecture intérieure) Penningham
 Ecole Cantonale d'Art - Lausanne
 Ecole Nationale Supérieure d'Architecture - Strasbourg
 European Business School - Paris
 Faculté de Médecine à Grenoble
 Faculté de Médecine à Nantes
 Faculté de Montpellier I
 Faculté de Pharmacie à Grenoble
 Franklin College - Switzerland
 Faculté de Médecine-Rennes

Glion Institut de Hautes Etudes
 INSA à Lyon
 Lyon II
 MBA Institute Paris
 Paris I Sorbonne
 Paris II Pantheon Assas
 Paris III-Nouvelle Sorbonne
 Paris IV Sorbonne
 Paris V Rene Descartes
 Paris VI
 Paris VII (medecine)
 Paris X
 Université Aix-Marseille 2 (Méditerranée)
 Université Catholique d'Angers
 Université de Bordeaux

Université de Brest
 University of Heidelberg
 Université de Laverne
 University of London
 Université de Mirail Toulouse
 Université de Nantes
 Université de Strasbourg
 Université de Toulouse
 Classe Préparatoire Sciences-po Paris
 Classe Préparatoire Bio-Sup Grenoble
 Classe Préparatoire H.E.C. Grenoble
 Class Préparatoire H.E.C. Lausanne
 Classe Préparatoire H.E.C. Lyon
 Classe Préparatoire Bio-Sup Berthelot St Maur