

EAST AURORA HIGH SCHOOL

Global Leadership Academy



Preparing Today's Youth for Tomorrow's World

www.eastauroraschools.org/internationalstudies

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Why Global Leadership?

Today's citizens are not just of one country, we are citizens of the world. Universities across the country expect our students to study abroad for at least one semester in their four years and often have cooperative job opportunities abroad, as well, which can turn into career stepping stones. Businesses are increasingly globalized, and employers are seeking people with a view on the global economy, cultural awareness, and language aptitude to fulfil positions requiring travel abroad. EAHS seeks to meet the needs of today's global citizens through our unique Global Leadership Academy, one of only a handful of such programs in the United States today.

The program is designed to (a) enable students to work individually and cooperatively to promote global awareness; (b) develop communication skills within a cultural context; and (c) encourage international partnerships. As global events take on local importance, this program develops students who are engaged, aware of, and comfortable in a global environment.

Program Highlights

Globalizing our students means giving them an understanding of world events, and most importantly, not judging, but respecting others' rights to live these differences, and hopefully seeing the similarities across this world canvas.

The curriculum for this two-year program has been aligned to work together to complement the content of all courses involved. Each course is designed to address the overall goals of the program: studying world cultures, examining current events, discussing historical relevance to today's issues, reading international literature, utilizing community resources, attending cultural events, and developing communication and leadership skills.

Course of Study

Freshman Year	Sophomore Year
Global Studies in Culture I: AP World History Preparatory Course	Global Studies in Culture II: AP World History*
Global Exploration in Literature I	Global Exploration in Literature II
Studio in Global Art I (half year course)**	Studio in Global Art II (half year course)**
Leadership Skills for Global Relations (half year course)	Leadership Development for Global Advancement (half year course)

*AP World History in sophomore year receives a weighted grade of 1.05.

**Completion of the program satisfies the 1.0 Art/Music credit NYS expectation for graduation.

Themes of Study

1. The impact of interaction among major societies and their cultures.
2. The relationship of change and continuity across the world history periods.
3. The impact of technology and demography on people and the environment.
4. Systems of social structure and gender structure.
5. Cultural and intellectual developments and interactions among and within societies.
6. Changes in functions and structures of states and in attitudes toward states and political identities

Grading Philosophy

The Global Leadership Academy's grading philosophy is designed to encourage individual growth, effort, and achievement. Students will be evaluated in the areas of effort, content, and structure. Students will maintain a continuous dialogue with the faculty regarding their growth and achievement throughout the two-year program.

Global Outreach Initiative

A key component of this program is the interdisciplinary project that focuses on a developing country, researching the history, economy, government structure, religion, and culture of the country, developing a context for its crisis, and determining a method of alleviating one aspect of this crisis in effort to become a globally-minded citizen. A main focus is to address complex problems as a global citizen and invite our school and surrounding community to join us in this journey.

The purpose of this project is to develop and refine skills in research, group communication, time management, public speaking, community involvement, leadership, community service, and global citizenship. Groups are provided feedback from the faculty at each stage of the project. As students complete an aspect of the project, it becomes another piece of the final venture presented in June.

The culmination of this year-long plan is the Global Outreach Event held in June, where students will showcase their research and cultural experiences, sharing their group outcomes with students, families, and faculty members.

Enrichment Activities

A key component of the Academy will be the opportunity for enrichment outside of the classroom experience. In the past, students have traveled to Rochester for an authentic German Oktoberfest celebration, a workshop on America's role in the world sponsored by Buffalo/Niagara World Connect, international plays in Buffalo, and have hosted speakers from Russia, Estonia, Mexico, Serbia, and France. Cultural events at UB's Center for the Arts bring the entire group together with family to enjoy international cuisine and a chance to explore new cultures from right here in WNY. We have participated in workshops with nationally recognized poets and writers. Students also have had the opportunity to participate in several Academic World Quest and Model UN competitions as co-curricular club additions, competing against high schools from the WNY area and beyond.

Leadership Conference Options

Students from the Global Leadership Academy are eligible to apply to the AMP Global Scholar International Relations Program for High School Students that is held in early summer each year at American University in Washington, DC. This elite program provides training, knowledge, and support to help our young leaders develop as they consider and offer solutions to social and health problems in an international context.

Travel Abroad

Every two years, the Academy's faculty members run an optional trip outside of the country during the summer. In past years, we have traveled to Thailand, Cambodia, Vietnam, Italy, Ireland, England, France, Germany, Austria, Spain, Portugal, and Morocco, and Peru. All current and past Academy students and parents are welcome, provided they are still EAHS students at time of travel. This is an exciting culmination to the two years of study and genuinely provides a classroom that is as big as the planet! Our hope is to resume travel in the summer of 2022.

The Takeaway

What do students remember most about this academy? Friendships made, places traveled, and experiences shared! Join our family and learn with us! Questions about the program? Please contact Ms. Alka Moudgil at amoudgil@eak12.org or by calling 716-687-2500, ext. 7211.