



Principals

Dr. Mark Fritzenschaft
 American High School Principal
 mark.fritzenschaft@jfksberlin.org
 +49 30. 902 99-5758

Hr. Robert Bartz
 (Interim) German High School Principal
 robert.bartz@jfksberlin.org
 +49 30. 902 99-5700

Assistant Principals

Ms. Erin Hale
 American HS Asst. Principal
 erin.hale@jfksberlin.org
 +49 30. 902 99-5771

Fr. Gianna Gillert
 (Acting) German HS Asst. Principal
 gianna.gillert@jfksberlin.org
 +49 30. 902 99-6595

Counselors

Mr. Randel Kelly
 High School Counselor (10-12)
 SSD & AP Coordinator
 randel.kelly@jfksberlin.org
 +49 30. 902 99-6585

Ms. Myriah Day
 Middle School Counselor (7-9)
 myriah.day@jfksberlin.org
 +49 30. 902 99-6221

Registrar

Ms. Alaina Mack
 registrar@jfksberlin.org
 +49 30. 902 99-5021

Abitur Coordinators

Fr. Patty Krueger
 Oberstufenkoordinator
 patty.krueger@jfksberlin.org &
 csgustav@jfksberlin.org
 +49 30. 902 99-6577

Fr. Katalin Aust
 Oberstufenkoordinator
 katalin.aust@jfksberlin.org
 +49 30. 902 99-6575

SCHOOL OVERVIEW

The John F. Kennedy School (JFKS), founded in 1960, is a bicultural, bilingual, K-12 institution, located in the Steglitz-Zehlendorf area of Berlin, Germany. The school is a tuition-free German public school governed under a special act of the Berlin Senat (parliament) for the purpose of creating bi-national understanding. The student body of approximately 1625 students, K-12, comes from varied social and economic backgrounds. Though students are largely bi-national (German and American), other nationalities are represented.

ADMISSION

JFKS is a college-preparatory school and admission is selective. Students must have at least one parent who is a German or American citizen. All admissions are probationary for one semester. Students and parents seeking placement at the school should complete an application which appears on the website: www.jfks.de.

HIGH SCHOOL PROGRAM

In grades 7-10 students follow the Berlin public school curriculum and the language of instruction may be English or German. Students in grades 11-12 elect to seek either the German *Abitur* or the American High School Diploma as their primary qualification. At this point the language of instruction will become primarily that which is native to the program. The exception to this is German and English language classes. All courses in the high school diploma program are college preparatory, leading to an accredited American High School Diploma, and qualify one for admission to U.S. universities. Diploma students who successfully pass a specific combination of Advanced Placement exams may also be admitted to universities in Germany and throughout the world. Successful completion of the *Abitur* program qualifies students for entry into German post-secondary schools as well as universities around the world.

ENROLLMENT

Total Number of Students: ±1570

High School (7-12): ±785	Elementary (K-6): ±785
Seniors: 124	
Juniors: 137	
Sophomore: 124	
Freshman: 137	

HIGH SCHOOL BELL SCHEDULE

Period	Time
1	8:00 – 8:45am
2	8:52 – 9:37am
3	9:45 – 10:30am
4	10:37 – 11:22am
5	11:30am – 12:15pm
6	12:20 – 13:05pm
	20 min. break
7	13:25 – 14:10pm
8	14:15 – 15:00pm
9	15:05 – 15:50pm
10	15:55 – 16:40pm

MINIMUM GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS

Credits are defined as Carnegie Units, awarded based on how many periods the class meets per week. In order to earn the **American High School Diploma**, a students must earn a minimum of 26 credits in the following courses:

SUBJECT	# of Credits
English	4.0
Social Studies (1 US History)	4.0
Mathematics	3.0
Lab Science	4.0
German (all years at JFKS)	1.0-4.0
Physical Education	2.0
Electives	5.0-9.0

DUAL CREDENTIAL OPTION

Students who are working toward the Abitur may also earn an American High School Diploma if they meet the minimum diploma course requirements.

GPA and Grading Scale

Grade Point Average (GPA) is calculated on the American 4.0 scale using all grades for eligible courses taken in years 9–12, including repeated courses. Advanced Placement courses are marked on the transcript and are weighted by giving grades (A through D) an additional Quality Point (QP).

JFKS does not have Honors courses for grades 9-10. Advanced courses taken outside of JFKS in grades 9–10 are noted but are not given weighted Quality Points.

Students enrolled in the High School Diploma program are not limited in the number of AP courses they are permitted to take, but are advised to maintain a healthy balance. Students in the German Abitur program take two Honors (Leistungs) courses per year, which are weighted in the students GPA.

The grading system for the Abitur program is established by the Berlin *Senatsverwaltung für Bildung, Jugend und Familie* which is based on a rubric unlike the U.S. grading system and is generally based on an interval scale and extremely rigorous. For transcript purposes, grades are converted to the U.S. system using the table below.

CLASS RANK

Ninth and tenth grade students are not ranked. Students in the top 50% of the class in grades 11 – 12 are ranked by decile. New students are excluded from the ranking until they complete one

GRADING SCALE

German Marks Grades 7-10	German Marks Grades 11-12	American Letter Grade	American Percentile	Quality Points (QP)	Weighted Q P
1+	15	A+	90-100	4	5
1	14	A		4	5
1-	13	A		4	5
2+	12	A-		4	5
2	11	B+	80-90	3	4
2-	10	B		3	4
3+	9	B-		3	4
3	8	C+	70-80	2	3
3-	7	C		2	3
4+	6	C-		2	3
4	5	D+	60-70	1	2
4-	4	D		1	2
5+	3	F	0-60	0	0
5	2	F		0	0
5-	1	F		0	0
6	0	F		0	0

GERMAN PROGRAM OF STUDY – ABITUR

Entrance to universities in Germany is dependent upon the German secondary school leaving certificate, called the Abitur. Students can obtain the Abitur upon successful completion of 12 years of primary and secondary school and by passing the Abitur examinations. Nationally, only the top 40% of the German student population enters the Abitur track. Most German students at JFKS as well as 15 to 20% of Americans and other international students follow a program leading to the Abitur.

To enter the upper Abitur grades (11-12), a student must first earn the Middle School Leaving Certificate (MSA) at the end of grade 10. To earn the MSA a student must pass grade 10 and pass the written MSA exams in German, English, and Mathematics. Additionally students must provide an acceptable, oral group-presentation in a major subject of their choice.

The Abitur examinations are offered in the spring of each year to 12th-grade students. Students are admitted to candidacy for the Abitur upon successful completion of all requirements. Abitur exams are given in two *Leistungskurse* (honor courses) and three additional *Grundkurse* (fundamental courses) selected by the student. The exam in the two honors courses as well as in one fundamental course

consists of a written test. One of the remaining fundamental courses is tested orally; the other in the form of a presentation exam.

The final Abitur grade for each candidate is the average of grades in two blocks:

1.The marks earned in 24 fundamental courses in grades 11 and 12. The marks earned in the student's four semester honors courses, which weigh double in the calculation. (Approx. 67% of final grade).

2.The five exam results are given quadruple weight in the final calculation of the Abitur certification. (Approx. 33% of final grade).

Abitur Grade Distribution

The following is the distribution of final grade averages for the 83 Abitur students who completed grade 12 in 2023. (1.0 highest – 4.0 lowest). The JFKS average is 2.00 while the Berlin average is 2.20.

Abitur Grades	Points
1.0 - 1.5 = A+, A	733-900
1.6 – 1.9 = A-, B+	661-732
2.0 – 2.7 = B, B-, C+	517-660
2.8 – 3.1 = C, C-	445-516
3.2 – 3.8 = D+, D	319-444

CLASS of 2023

- Median Abitur Score **2,00**
- Median Weighted GPA **3.37**
- Highest GPA **4.30**

PREPARING FOR THE FUTURE

Students who graduate from the John F. Kennedy School have unique access to schools around the world.

An American Diploma graduate can seek entrance into German and other European Universities using their high school diploma with specific coursework, GPA and AP test combinations. In Germany, requirements are evaluated by an outside authority called *anabin* through the online application system of *Uni-assist*. Other countries will have different credentialing authorities.

More information on this topic can be sought on our website (jfk.s.de) in our College Planning document, or by working with the High School Counselor.

JFKS is an SAT testing center. Students from Berlin, and its surrounding area are able to test at our school.

ADVANCED PLACEMENT (AP)

AP Testing 2023

24

Subjects tested

102

Students who took AP tests

312

Total number of tests taken

85%

Of exams earned a score of 3 or above

94%

Of test takers scored a 3 on at least one exam

SAT Mean Score for the Class of 2023

Reading & Writing	648
Mathematics	612
Total	1260

UNIVERSITY MATRICULATION CLASSES OF 2019-23

United States of America

Allegheny College
American Musical and Dramatic Academy
American University
Baylor University
Bennington College*
Berklee College of Music
Cedarville University
Columbia University
El Paso Community College
George Mason University
Georgia Institute of Technology
Harvard University
Massachusetts Institute of Technology
Michigan State University
Northern Virginia Community College*
New York University*
North Carolina State University*
Northeastern University*
Northwestern University
Ohio University*
Pennsylvania State University
Pratt Institute
Queens College—CUNY
Rose-Hulman Institute of Technology
St. John Fisher University
State University of New York—Buffalo
The Art Institute of Chicago
Towson University
University of California - Berkeley
University of Chicago
University of Maryland
University of Michigan
University of San Francisco
University of Tampa
University of Texas—San Antonio
Virginia Tech
Washington University in St. Louis*
Wheaton College

Germany

Bard College Berlin
Berlin School of Economics and Law
Berlin Technical University
Braunschweig University of Art
BSP Business and Law School*
CBS International Business School
Friedrich-Alexander University
Free University Berlin
Hamburg University of Applied Sciences
Hochschule 21
Hochschule für Musik Hanns Eisler
Humboldt University Berlin
Karlsruhe Institute of Technology
Ludwig-Maximilians-University Munich
Munich Technical University*
Rheinisch-Westfälische Technische Hochschule
SAE Institute Berlin
University of Bonn
University of Freiburg
University of Göttingen*
University of Hamburg
University of Heidelberg
University of Mannheim
University of Potsdam

United Kingdom

London School of Economics
University of Aberdeen
University of Edinburgh
University of Glasgow
University of Hertfordshire
University of Leeds*
University of Oxford
University of Southampton
University of Stirling
University of Strathclyde

The Netherlands

Amsterdam University College*
Amsterdam University of Applied Sciences
Eindhoven University of Technology*
Erasmus University Rotterdam*
Delft University of Technology*
Leiden University*
Leiden University College, The Hague
Maastricht University*
NHL Stenden University of Applied Sciences
Rotterdam School of Management*
Tilburg University
University College Groningen*
University College Maastricht
University College Roosevelt
University College Utrecht
Utrecht University
Vrije University Amsterdam

Other International Universities

Medical University of Austria
University of Applied Sciences Upper Austria*
University of Vienna—Austria
University of British Columbia—Canada
University of Toronto—Canada
University of Toronto Mississauga—Canada
American University of Paris—France*
Institut Français de la Mode—France
Sciences Po—France
University of Szeged—Hungary
University College Cork—Ireland*
University College Dublin—Ireland*
University of Galway—Ireland*
ETH Zurich—Switzerland*

*Indicates 2023 graduate. Note that, on average, 40% of JFKS students take a Gap Year before enrolling in higher education.

