



Nicaragua Christian Academy

"ACADEMIC EXCELLENCE WITH A CHRISTIAN FOUNDATION"



School Profile 2023-2024

Mr. Liam Starkenburg, Director • Mr. Matt Kamps, Secondary Principal • Mrs. Sylvia Mejía, Elementary Principal

- The School:** Nicaragua Christian Academy International is an evangelical, non-denominational, non-profit preschool, elementary, and secondary educational institution. The school has a current enrollment of 280 students in grades Pre-K through 12. Founded in 1991, Nicaragua Christian Academy International is fully U.S. accredited by ACSI (Association of Christian Schools International) and Cognia (formerly AdvancED).
- The Mission:** Nicaragua Christian Academy partners with Christian parents in developing spiritual, social, physical and academic excellence in students so that they can be active disciples of Jesus Christ.
- The Location:** NCAI is located at Km 11.2 Carretera Vieja a León in Managua, easily accessible on the main highway. The campus consists of six classroom buildings, a large multi-purpose complex (Eagle Center), lunch areas, offices, and athletic fields, courts and facilities.
- The Faculty:** The teacher-student ratio is 7.5:1. All of NCAI's 67 teachers, educational assistants and administrators profess a personal relationship with Jesus Christ and have an average of 11.0 years of educational experience. All teachers have bachelor's degrees; 25 percent have master's degrees.
- The Students:** Students are admitted on the basis of previous school record, mastery of the English language, and student/parental spiritual commitment. More than 95 percent of our graduates go on to college; most go to the United States or study in Nicaragua. Class sizes are limited to 22-25 students, providing for individual attention for each student.
- 67 percent of our students are Nicaraguan, 20 percent are North American, and 6 percent are Asian; our students represent 19 countries from around the world. NCA does not discriminate in its admissions policy and practice based on race, color, gender, national origin, age, disability or any other characteristic protected by law.
- The School Day:** 7:15 a.m. – 12:15 p.m. Preschool, Kindergarten
7:15 a.m. – 2:15 p.m. Elementary, High School
- Curriculum:** NCA International has developed a comprehensive curriculum at all levels of the school, largely based on United States standards with the integration of Spanish and Nicaraguan social studies classes.
- Pre-School:** Our preschool program has a strong focus on English language learning in order to prepare our students with the English language skills necessary to continue into the next level. The instructional program is highly structured and includes specific learning and developmental objectives at each level.
- Elementary:** During these formative years, we seek to teach our students responsibility and develop critical thinking skills. Our instructional program includes Language Arts, Bible, Math, Science and Social Studies (all taught in English). Elementary students also have daily Spanish class, bi-weekly physical education, and weekly classes in art, music, computers and library.

Secondary: The secondary level is composed of middle school (7th-8th grades) and high school (9th-12th grades). The instruction is intended to provide students with a broad education and prepare them for attendance at a college or university, whether it be in Nicaragua, the United States, or elsewhere. Students are involved in active learning and decision-making and provided with opportunities to further develop their gifts in a particular area.

Graduation Requirements: Twenty-four (24) credits in grades 9 through 12 are required as follows:
 4 English 3 Science 1 Physical Education
 3 Math 3 Social Studies 2 Foreign Language
 A Bible course is required for every year of attendance at NCA.

Advanced Placement: AP Calculus AB, AP English Language & Composition, AP English Literature, AP Spanish Language, AP Spanish Literature/Culture, AP Statistics

Electives: Advanced Art, Alternative Sports, Anatomy, Art Elements, Choir, Computer Apps, Concert Choir, Domestic Arts, Drama, Guitar, Health, Korean, Nicaraguan Crafts, Photography, Portuguese, Psychology, Publications/Yearbook, Public Speaking, Strategy Games, Teaching Assistant, Video Productions, Web Design, Weight Lifting, more...

Grading Scale / GPA: All courses in grades 9 through 12 are used in calculating GPA (Grade Point Average).

Pct	Letter	Regular	AP	Pct	Letter	Regular	AP
97-100	A+	4.25	5.25	77-79	C+	2.25	3.25
93-96	A	4.00	5.00	73-76	C	2.00	3.00
90-92	A-	3.75	4.75	70-72	C-	1.75	2.75
87-89	B+	3.25	4.25	67-69	D+	1.25	2.25
83-86	B	3.00	4.00	63-66	D	1.00	2.00
80-82	B-	2.75	3.75	60-62	D-	0.75	1.75
				0-59	F	0.00	0.00

Standardized Testing: Our students in grades K-10 take MAP tests twice a year. High school students take the PSAT and the SAT. NCA students consistently score above U.S. national norms on all of the standardized tests.

Indicators: 100% AP Students earned score of 3 or higher (May 2018)
 66nd U.S. national percentile (1053 avg. score) on PSAT (2015-2018)
 80th U.S. national percentile (1207 avg. score) on SAT (2017-2018)

Extra-curricular Activities: Athletics: Soccer, Basketball, Volleyball, Ultimate Frisbee
 Other Activities: National Honor Society, Community service club, student government, school drama/musicals, HACIA Democracy, DALE Nicaragua, school newspaper, Youth Group, field trips, retreats

Typical College Preparatory Schedule

9th Grade Apologetics / Ethics English 9 Geometry Physical Science World Geography Spanish 3 Electives	10th Grade Faith / World Religions English 10 Algebra II Biology World History Spanish 4 Electives	11th Grade Bible 11: <i>Biblical Worldview</i> British Lit./AP Eng Lang. Pre-Calculus Chemistry American History AP Spanish Language Electives	12th Grade Bible 12: <i>God in Pop Culture</i> American Lit./AP Eng Lit. AP Calculus/AP Statistics Physics Government / Economics AP Spanish Lit/Culture Career Planning, Electives
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