

Dear Visitor,

Welcome to our homepage – welcome to St.Gallen High School

Kantonsschule am Burggraben St.Gallen is one of the leading high schools in Switzerland. Our graduates are prepared for university entrance by the school, which is divided into four departments that all share a common core of subjects but lay emphasis on either Latin, Modern Languages, Economics, the Sciences or Fine Arts; the aim is not early specialization but setting priorities in different fields of knowledge. To allow for individual needs and tastes, the students can choose from a selection of additional optional courses.

Admission to the school is possible either after 6 years of primary school (for the lower school) or, more usually, after the 2nd year of secondary school (for the 4-year course). Compulsory entrance examinations are in German, French and Mathematics.

The **examinations** in all four departments, which take place at the end of the 6-/4-year course, are recognized federally; the holders of a recognized diploma are admitted to all faculties of all Swiss universities: there are no separate entrance examinations.

About 17-19% of the Swiss population pass this examination. Selection in the Canton of St.Gallen is even more rigorous: only about 15% of all 19-year-olds pass this examination; there are wide regional differences in Switzerland.

The motivation of the alumni of the Kantonsschule St.Gallen to continue their studies at university level is very high. During recent years more than 85% of our graduates began studying at one of the Swiss universities. More than two thirds of them (i.e. more than the Swiss average) left the universities with degrees.

Organisation: The Kantonsschule St.Gallen consists of four different departments: a department with a Classics (language and literature) bias, a department with a mathematical and scientific bias, a department with an economics bias, a department with a modern language bias (Spanish, Italian) or with a Fine Arts bias.

- 1300 students
- 200 teachers
- lower school (7th - 8th year of education): 2 classes per year
- upper school (9th - 12th year of education): 13-16 classes per year

Dr. Marc König, Headmaster