



WORLD ACADEMY

Student Handbook



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1. Our Mission

To ensure our students a unique educational program that best positions them to be global citizens and leaders for the 21st century. While creating strong academic achievement in our students, we engage them in an extensive experiential education program of rigorous maritime endeavor, close-knit communal living, study in foreign lands, and personal mentoring that cultivates their self-knowledge, resilience, problem-solving, and leadership far beyond that of a more traditional school setting.

2. Communication

Students will not have cell phone service, Wi-Fi, or Internet access while sailing. There is no conventional mail service provided during the A+ program and therefore packages cannot be sent to students. While in port, parents and students are encouraged to use Wi-Fi for all email and VOIP connections such as WhatsApp or FaceTime for free Wi-Fi based calls. Only emergency email communication is available while the vessel is at sea. When in port, students should purchase local SIM cards for telephone calls or data usage. Personal satellite telephones are NOT permitted on board. We recommend setting-up a WhatsApp, FaceTime, or Skype account (or similar) for communication to and from ports of call.

Emergencies

Use of the ship-to-shore satellite telephone and the satellite e-mail are limited to **emergency use only**. Should there be an extreme emergency, please contact Head of School at +1 407 766 6369 in order to have the message passed along. All other non-emergency questions should go to the Dean, or Admissions team. We cannot always answer e-mail or phone calls due to traveling/flying/being in remote areas, so please leave detailed information, including a number where you can be reached, in your email or voicemail. It has been our experience that contacting students while at sea regarding loss of family members or other tragedies is not the best option and that waiting until they can call in port is better.

3. Parent Ports

Parent teacher conferences are scheduled twice a year; **parents are NOT allowed to visit students at any other ports of call** as it is disruptive to the program and to group continuity. Students will NOT be permitted to leave the vessel at any ports other than Parent Ports. The dates specified in our itinerary are not guaranteed and A+ World Academy will not assume any responsibility for early or late arrivals/departures and/or cancelled or modified itineraries. Accordingly, any arrangements for travel, other than those at the beginning or end of the year, are not the responsibility of A+ World Academy. Transfers, hotel costs, supervision, etc., are the sole responsibility of the family/student. If parents are unable to attend either Parent Port, students can be adopted by other families.



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Additionally, programs, itineraries and schedules vary and port arrival and departure may change due to weather patterns, decisions by port authorities, and other reasons. No port is guaranteed and can be eliminated or replaced at the discretion of the school. There will not be any “surprise ports” and the published voyage plan represents the maximum number of ports possible. All class time is carefully managed...we remind you that much of the “shore time” is “school time”. Students have approximately 50% of shore time as free time (shore leave). All other time is organized by the school.

4. Money Matters

Students will need “spending money” to cover approximately 50 optional meals (taken at their discretion during shore leave...all meals are provided but most students want to spend shore leave at restaurants), laundry, SIM-cards, postage, telephone calls, souvenirs and gifts. Students must have an ATM/Debit bank card in order to access funds for their personal expenses. Many ATM machines worldwide will only accept 4-digit PINs. Be prepared for an alternative in the event that your ATM card is demagnetized, lost, stolen or broken, or that no ATM service is available in a given port. For this reason, a credit card (amount limited to \$1500.00) is also recommended for each student. Please check options available to you with your bank. No student should carry large amounts of cash. Students should never bring or purchase expensive items as this makes them a “target” for thieves in port and causes socio-economical separation among the students.

In addition to the food and accommodation provided, A+ World Academy uses the fees collected from the tuition to maintain and preserve the ship, pay the salaries of the teachers, administration, and mariner crew as well as cover the educational materials and school-sponsored Field Experiences at each port. However, there are additional costs related to our program that are not covered by our tuition. This list is an attempt at being as comprehensive as possible, but please understand that it is nearly impossible to provide one single list of every possible cost.

- Transportation to Ship departure & arrival/graduation
- AP or SAT Exam test fees
- Laptop & software used for school
- SIM cards/Mobile service
- Sailing gear
- School uniform
- Optional Shore Excursions not sponsored by the school (i.e. scuba diving, etc.)
- Shore Leave expenditures (“pocket money” for student’s free time at port)*
- Transportation & accommodation (for family) to Parent Ports
- School yearbook
- Graduation Ceremony lunch



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5. Insurance

Travel, repatriation and health insurance is a supplementary expense (approximately 7500 NOK / 750 Euros). It is required and students must be enrolled prior to boarding the vessel in August. Families will be invoiced directly and details pertaining to specific coverage and all related terms and conditions are available from our Norwegian office. Medications not covered by emergency insurance will be invoiced to families at the end of the year. Travel/Health insurance does not cover items broken while at sea, such as laptops, headphones, cell phones, etc. Please purchase rubberized cases for electronic devices.

****Note that this insurance does NOT include Tuition Reimbursement Insurance. A+ World Academy does not provide tuition reimbursement insurance. Families who would like this insurance must find it on their own.***

6. Visas

Each family is responsible for obtaining the Visas required for their student to travel. **It is not the responsibility of the school to apply for any Visa.** Any student without the necessary Visa must remain on ship during the entire stay and will be subject to a fee charged by the port. Please pay close attention to the proposed voyage plan / itinerary outlined in order to obtain valid TOURIST visas for every country we will be visiting.

Note: The need for a Visa or ESTA will vary from student to student depending on his/her nationality. All students need a visa for Brazil and all Norwegians need an ESTA for America. It is your responsibility, according to the nationality of your passport, to obtain all visas needed.

When inquiring about visas, please explain the nature of the A+ World Academy program, (i.e., a boarding school aboard a tall ship that sails worldwide). Requirements may vary if you clear customs and immigration onboard a ship, so be sure to mention that arrival is via a ship. Remember that it can take up to one month to obtain a single visa; therefore, ***do not leave this important requirement to the end.*** Always check the window of eligibility for visas, as some may only be obtained within 90 days before arrival.

A comprehensive list of Embassies and Consulates worldwide can be found at:
www.embassyworld.com.

For Norwegian students, please consult the Norwegian state department:
www.regjeringen.no/no/tema/utenrikssaker/reiseinfor-masjon/velg-land/id2414273/



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7. Immunizations/Vaccinations/Medications

Please consult your family doctor, local health clinic or center for tropical diseases regarding protection against diseases that may be contracted in some of the countries listed on our itinerary. There may be variations from one student to another depending on medical history, previous vaccinations and the recommendations of your health professional. Discuss your plan with and follow the directions of your own doctor. Please make sure that you have the necessary vaccines for your school year, as some countries might deny you entry if you fail to provide adequate documentation.

A+ World Academy **requires** each student to get the following:

- Cholera
- Hepatitis A&B
- Yellow Fever (you **must** have yellow fever card to board the ship)
- Malaria Pills (typically Lariam or Proguanil)

Be sure to list all your allergies on your medical form before starting the school year. This is essential if you have a food allergy so that we may accommodate your allergy. If you have a severe food, or other allergy, which many require the immediate use of an EpiPen, you are required to bring with you two (2) EpiPens for such potential emergencies. All medications and special health care history or conditions must be reviewed with the Medical Officer prior to boarding the ship. Be sure to have your **doctor disclose all medical conditions on your medical report form. Failure to do so will result in expulsion** from the ship without refund.

When visiting your family doctor (or health clinic) be sure to:

Bring a copy of the itinerary and inform him/her that we will spend 5-7 days in each port. Inform him/her that most nights will be spent onboard, although, there may be an occasional night spent off the ship (camping/home stay).

8. Tobacco Products, Alcohol, & Drugs

No student is allowed to smoke or use chewing tobacco/snuse on the ship or during school activities. If a faculty or crew member sees or finds any tobacco products (including vape pens), they will be confiscated and not returned to the student. If a student is seen using tobacco products, their parents will be contacted. Repeated use of tobacco products will result in expulsion without refund.

Drinking alcohol is strictly forbidden and the school reserves the right to test any student at any time for alcohol or drug use. Even if the student is of legal age to drink at the port of call, they are not allowed to drink while in our program.

Drug usage constitutes immediate expulsion. The school reserves the right to alcohol and/or drug test any student at any time. The results of the test will be considered valid and binding.



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9. Tattoos & Body Piercings

No student is allowed to get any tattoos or body piercings while within our program. If a student already has tattoos or body piercing, they must be listed on their medical form so that we know they were pre-existing. Getting a tattoo or body piercing is grounds for expulsion due to its health risks of infection while at sea.

10. Social Media

Since we use Facebook to advertise and promote our school, students are encouraged to use Facebook as a way of communicating and sharing their photos throughout the journey. In addition, we have set up a private group for parents to communicate, support each other, get acquainted, share information, and stay connected. Parents can find a group called “A+ World Academy 2020/2021 (Parents)”. However, the school does not use Facebook to communicate information from school to parent. All communication will be done via official school e-mail. We also encourage you to follow @aplusworldacademy on Instagram and “tag” photos so that all families can see and share the experiences.

11. Itinerary

The itinerary points the way to incredible learning opportunities and life-changing experiences. Classes come alive as we integrate conventional school classes with hands-on learning. In short, we bring your classroom to the world. Not only are itineraries created to meet academic and life experience goals, they are framed by favorable climates, favorable seasons, favorable winds and stable political environments. Note that weather in and around equatorial regions are subject to regular periods of rainfall.

Please note that sailing the world is unpredictable. Some changes might therefore occur to the itinerary. Specific port locations and arrival times for the Parent Ports will be updated through our Weekly Parent Announcements. Arrival days tend to feature a lot of waiting as mooring, customs, and immigration can take a long time. If you wish to see the ship arrive at a Parent Port, please be prepared to wait several hours until students have cleared immigration.

You can track the ship throughout the year on our website. But, PLEASE, do not become panicked or post on Facebook the moment you see a change in direction. We will follow the safest path for your child and we will make changes to our itinerary if it is what is best for their safety.

12. The Language of All International Schools

The language of instruction and the language of command at A+ World Academy is English. Students will be required to sign a pledge to use English exclusively, in social situations, in class, and on watch. Speaking other languages immediately excludes everyone else and disrupts the community. Although it is difficult, this is an international school and we expect everyone to speak English at all times.



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13. Dress Code, Clothing and Personal Appearance

It is important to remember that we are an international school with a variety of cultures and views on appropriate clothing. Under no circumstance should other students feel uncomfortable due to someone else being inappropriately dressed. In addition, students are living and working on a sea vessel and clothing can cause safety problems. Earrings must be limited to studs or small hoops. A+ World Academy reserves the right to require students to remove body adornments it considers to be inappropriate or unsafe. The medical officer should be advised on any existing body piercings when the student joins the vessel.

All pre-existing body piercings must be studs (no hoops). The Dean of Students shall designate the components of the A+ uniform to be worn for arrival, duty in port, school programs, and departure from port since there may be religious or cultural destinations that require students to cover their shoulders, etc.

14. Academic Policies & Class Attendance

Assessment Retake Policy

All students are given up to two opportunities to retake assessments. If a student desires to retake an assessment, the student must notify the teacher within 24hrs of the returned grade. The student and teacher then decide upon a date that is within one week of the received grade to retake the assessment. After receiving the grade of the first retake, then the before policy applies to the final retake.

According to the teacher's discretion, the following options are available for retakes:

- The student has the opportunity to solve any missed questions on the assessment for half credit.
- A new assessment is designed by the teacher that identifies whether or not the student now has a competent understanding of the learning objectives.
- The entire class has the opportunity to retake an assessment if the class collectively has an average below a 60%.

If a student has failed an assessment (below a 60%), then it is mandatory for the student to retake the assessment. It is also mandatory for said student to attend all EI sessions with the appropriate teacher until the student has proven mastery of the material through the assessment retake.

Missing Assignment Policy

If a student has a missing assignment, it is mandatory for that student to attend all EI sessions with the appropriate teacher until the missing assignment has been completed. If a student has more than three overall missing assignments, across all subjects, after a two academic week grace period, then the student is required to meet with the dean to develop an intervention plan, the student's guardians are notified and the student faces possible consequences, including, but not limited to, loss of shore leave.

Academic Honesty Policy

Students of A+ World Academy are held to a high standard of personal integrity and are expected to act as such. Academic dishonesty such as cheating on assessments, falsifying data, copying homework or other assignments, and plagiarism will not be tolerated. If a



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student is found to have acted dishonorably, the student will receive a zero for the assignment, his/her guardians will be informed of the violation, and have a required meeting with the Dean of School. If violations become a recurrent problem and the student, despite support and being provided with solutions, still does not choose to align their behavior to the honor code, then the student will receive additional consequences with the possibility of expulsion.

If a student observes another violating the honor code, it is expected that the student that observed the action confronts the violating student over their decision and gives the violating student the opportunity to take the honorable action of admitting his/her error of judgment to the respective crewmember.

Honor Code

A+ World Academy students are honorable, truth seeking, and always strive to do what is right no matter the difficulty. They respect the property of others, intellectual and physical. They do not steal. They do not lie nor intend deceit. If they err and violate the code, they show great integrity in admitting their mistake and accepting all consequences. They understand that the journey is just as important as the destination, and will work to reach all destinations as persons of honor.

Class Attendance

Each student must attend all classes. Students must be punctual and can only be excused from class by the ship's medical officer. Students excused from attending must first see the Medical Officer or the Dean of Students for approval. Consequences for not attending classes or tardiness are listed in the Student Code of Conduct.

15. Shore Leave

When in port, students do have some free time for shore leave. For safety reasons, students must **ALWAYS** be, and **REMAIN**, in groups of 4 whenever off the ship (shore leave). Students are checked off and back on the ship, and must be back aboard by the posted curfew time. While in port, sea watch schedules are suspended, and are replaced by gangway watches which typically consists of four students in two-hour blocks and two students on two-hour blocks from 2200-0800. The only exceptions to this are when students are participating in a Field Experience or when the ship is at anchor. This allows students to have a full nights rest while in port.

To minimize the risk of injury to our students, A+ World Academy enforces the policy that **NO** motorized vehicles are to be driven by students at any time or under any circumstance, including scooters. In addition, students are not permitted, at any time, to engage in high-risk activities such as sky-diving, bungee-jumping etc. Scuba diving will be permitted for properly certified divers when accompanied by a staff member or properly certified instructor.

Shore leave is also a time for students to enjoy time away from school, explore local culture and foods, and participate in activities not planned by the school. Students are required to check-out, check-in, and communicate hourly with the teacher on duty for safety. "Dressing up" is strongly discouraged since it makes students a target for crime. It is recommended that students only bring one fancy/formal outfit for special activities planned by the school.



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16. Time Management & Curfew

Shore leave requires groups to be a minimum of four persons for safety purposes. This is a safety measure requiring consensus for good choices and, in addition, a group of four or more deters interest from those who are not a part of the A+ group. A reasonable curfew is enforced aboard the vessel to ensure students are well-rested and alert for all activities. Additionally, certain ports of call become higher risk environments after dark. Curfews will be established on a port-by-port basis by the Dean of Students. Students must both check-out and check-in when departing and returning to the vessel. Additionally, one student from each group must check-in via text or phone call to the Teacher on Duty (TOD) while on shore leave.

17. Student Accommodation & Personal Space

Male members of the student body will not be permitted in female student accommodations after “gender curtains” and “lights out”, and vice versa. Repeated violation of this policy is grounds for expulsion. Students may socialize in common areas. In order to maintain a healthy environment aboard the ship, each area is thoroughly cleaned on a daily basis.

18. Religious Observances

A+ World Academy will accommodate, to the degree possible, the religious observances and practices of its shipboard crew; however, we cannot accommodate religious dietary restrictions due to the limitations of obtaining provisions in ports around the world.

19. Menu

On your medical report and again on arrival aboard the vessel, please ensure that our office, our medical officer, and the Dean of Students are aware of any food allergies or dietary needs you may have. A+ World Academy will accommodate any food allergies students may but will not be able to accommodate any religious food restrictions. It is critical that we know as soon as possible the extent and severity of food allergies. If you have a severe food, or other allergy, which may require the immediate use of an EpiPen, you are required to bring two (2) EpiPens for such potential emergencies. All medications and special health care history or conditions must be reviewed with the Medical Officer within 24 hours of your arrival including nut allergy, lactose intolerance, wheat allergy, and others.

20. Sail Training

A+ World Academy is committed to maintaining a safe and predictable environment at sea and on land. There are five areas of focus that are clear principles within our risk management policies.

- Uncompromised rule enforcement that is rooted in safety
- Uncompromised standards for vessel integrity, professional experience, flag safety compliance and for international safety compliance
- Uncompromised safety and drill practice regimen
- Uncompromised principles for the creation of safe itineraries inclusive of weather



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(favorable winds and currents) and social and political stability

- Uncompromised staff presence and oversight ensuring that rules rooted in safety are routinely applied.

21. Facilities

Banjer

The banjer is the ship's main room and located mid-ship. This is where the students sleep, have their classes, and eat their meals. The banjer is divided into separate parts for the girls and the boys at night. The banjer is flanked by a pantry in the fore and nooks in the aft.

The Captain's Salon

The "salon" is the Captain's dining room.

Laundromat

There are two laundry machines and two dryers in the lower aft ship. Students are assigned a laundry day once per week, although this may be interrupted by heavy rolling or low levels of fresh water. We encourage all student to do their laundry at laundromats ashore when on shore leave, if possible.

Forecastle

Pronounced "focsle" is the forward deck on the ship and where the student heads and showers are located.

Forward heads (Student toilets and showers)

Located under the forecastle, there are six showers and six bathrooms. There is a female locker room with a mirror, three sinks, and three showers with the same on the male side. Prepare yourself for shorter and less frequent showering compared to home, since a reduced water consumption is essential at sea.

Galley

The galley is the kitchen of the ship. It is located between the main deck and the forecastle.

Hospital

The hospital is located in the aft ship and holds a bunk bed for students who are sick. It is also the office of our medic and where medication is kept under lock.

Nooks

The nooks in the aft is where our smaller classes and extra tutoring or instruction take place. They are also used for individual study time, club meetings, and social gatherings.

Pantry

There are two pantries onboard. The students' pantry is located in the forepart of the banjer. This is where student meals are served from. There is also a crew pantry located in the aft ship, where food for the crew and faculty is served.



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22. Watches

Galley Watch

A group of students will be assigned galley duty on a 10-day rotational basis. Students assigned to galley duty are relieved from regular watch responsibilities for that day and the night after. Duties must be completed by the end of the scheduled time. Galley crew eats on a rotational basis, or as determined by the cook.

Description of tasks. Before, during and following meals

- Set tables
- Assist cooks (peel vegetables, refill sugar etc.)
- Serve meals
- Wash dishes, grills and pots
- Sweep and wash benches
- Sort and stow garbage
- Clean sinks, fridges, floor grates and pantry
- Prepare food and water for night watches
- Wash down bulkheads
- Maintain orderly and clean dry food storage and refrigeration spaces

Marine Watch

All students are divided into groups called watches. Each watch will have a designated teacher as watch leader for the year. It is the responsibility of the watch leader to ensure that all duties are completed properly and that every watch member does his/her share of the work. The Officer of the Watch will supervise the duties. Each marine watch will work a 2-hour shift, between 8pm and 8am. Responsibilities include manning the helm, lookout, fire watch and sail maneuvers.

NOTE: Students interested in working aloft (in the rigging) are required to complete a strength-testing qualification prior to work in the rigging. No student or trainee is obliged to work aloft.

Day Watch

Between 8am and 8pm, students participate in 2 hours of Day Watch. Day Watch is supervised by the Officer of the Watch, Bosun and AB's. It includes: helming, lookout, maintenance tasks, fire watch, and sail maneuvers.

Gangway Procedures and Protocol

The purpose of the gangway watch is to maintain safety and security of the ship at all times. The gangway watch is supposed to do safety and security rounds every half hour. In case of an emergency, the gangway has to be ready for all onboard to disembark the ship. The gangway watch has to adjust the height of the gangway frequently depending on the tide level.

The gangway watch includes two persons. It is allowed for one of those to leave the gangway for safety and security rounds (or to use the toilet). It is not allowed for both watch keepers to leave the gangway at same time. If we get visitors, one of the watch keepers has to stay at the gangway together with the visitor. The other watch keeper has to find the



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Officer on Watch (OOW) and ask if the visitor is allowed to come onboard or not. No visitors are allowed to walk around alone on the ship without the supervision of crewmembers.

- Monitor the gangway at all times. Make sure it is not hanging too high or too low.
- Make sure that the pin board is updated all the time.
- Log visitors in the visitor logbook.
- Do not let anyone onboard, except for crew and trainees of Sørlandet without permission from the OOW.
- The gangway must never be unmanned. The gangway watch includes two persons. A least one of those has to stay next to the gangway. The other person is free to leave the gangway for safety and security rounds.
- Monitor mooring lines. Make sure that those are not too tight or too slack. You are not supposed to handle mooring lines on your own, but inform the OOW or AB/OS on duty if you are in doubt.
- Maintain safety and security rounds every half hour. Aft accommodation only daytime.
- Make sure you wear proper clothes according to present weather conditions. Sørlandet t-shirt is supposed to be worn.
- Boat deck is supposed to be used by the gangway watch only. The rest of the crew may use it for embarkation/disembarkation, but they are not supposed to stay there. If your shipmates are using it as a "hang around area", ask them politely to find another place to stay.
- Eating is not permitted during watch duties.
- Listening to music is not permitted during watch duties.
- As a gangway watch, you may sit down on the bench in an upright position. You are also more than welcome to stand up in an upright position. It is never acceptable to lie down during watch duties.
- Never hesitate to ask the AB/OS on duty if you're in doubt or if you need help.

23. Staying Shipshape

Fitness, yoga and aerobics clubs are organized on the ship and recreational sports and activities can be organized by students during shore leave. The primary component of the physical education program is sailing skills measured daily across several different watch and seamanship duties.

24. Colors

Colors, at 08:00 daily, is an assembly of the entire ship's company where the vessel's national flag is ceremoniously hoisted, a vestige of friend or foe identification that is centuries old. We use this moment in the day to complete a full check-in. Students, mariners and faculty exchange information that covers, health, location and distance to next port of call, weather, reports on activities to take place that day, special occasions and celebrations, for example: birthdays, national holidays, religious services, exams, study hall attendees, etc.

25. Shipboard Activities

After classes, shipboard duties, and meals, students have a few hours opportunity to enjoy a wide array of vibrant extra-curricular activities including clubs, game nights, movie nights, karaoke, talent shows and sing-a-longs, plus yearbook and blogging; the number of activities is only limited by the groups' interests and imagination.



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26. Leadership & Student Council

Students will participate in the democratic process of electing a Student Council. The purpose of this group will be to coordinate student activities, to liaise with shipboard academic staff, and to assist in the overall functioning of our ship community.

27. University & Career Counselling

Students planning to attend university after A+ World Academy need to pay special attention to each university's deadlines and ensure they are using their time during shore leave and when visiting local schools with Wi-Fi to send all required information. Students should set up their Common Application prior to the start of school and know which schools they are applying to. Students wanting help writing their personal statements or application essays can approach the English teacher or any other staff member of choice; however, those staff members are not the ones responsible for sending off application materials on behalf of the student. It is strongly recommended that the student either gives their parents access to their e-mail or that the students lists their parent's e-mails as the contact for universities.

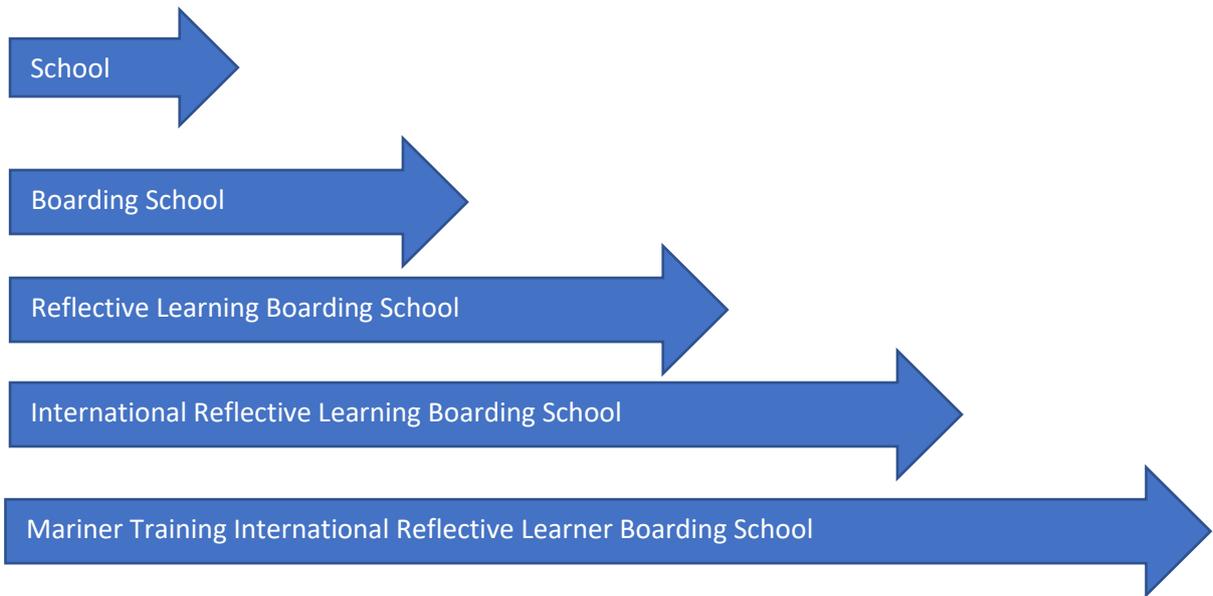
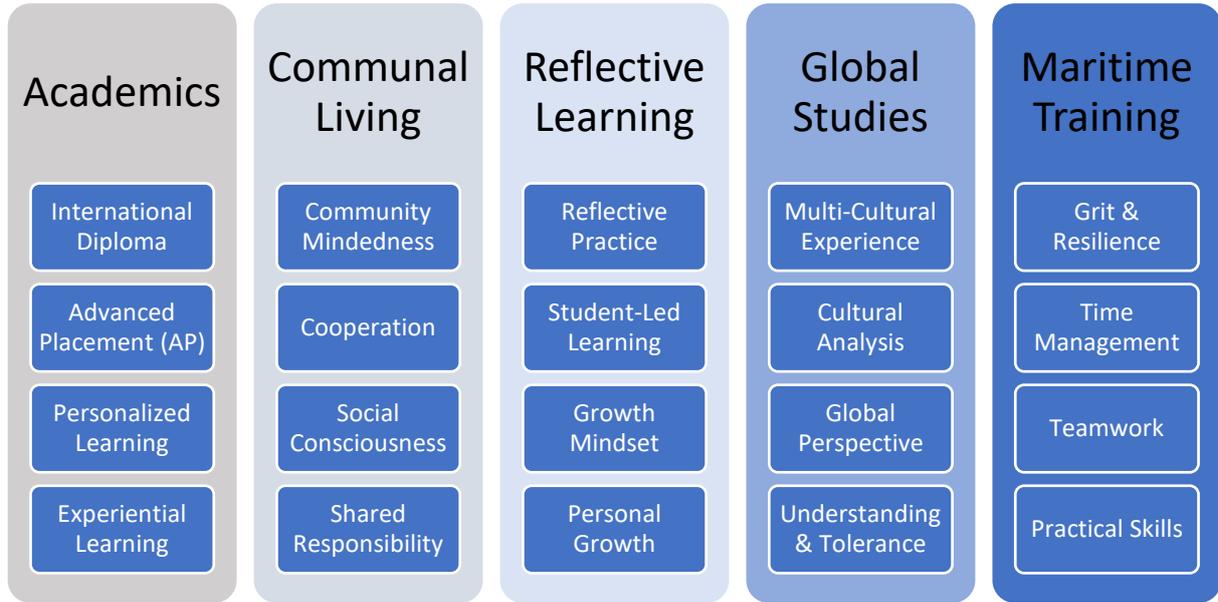
28. Field Experiences & Integrated Curriculum

Our signature programming differentiates us from all other schools. Based upon the curriculum they are studying in the classroom, students will have exceptional integrated learning experiences. While in port, students will be able to actively explore, assimilate and build upon their classroom instruction, developing strong habits of perception and inquiry thus augmenting their learning and growth. These experiences will be shared during the Self, Systems, and Society course where every student will perform self-reflection to share with the group on what they learned during their cultural experience. In addition, Science labs will take place in local schools and partner schools while in port, so that students may have the best facilities available for their studies in chemistry, biology, environmental science and physics.

The My Five to Global Leadership program helps identify and explain the mission and purpose of A+ World Academy's program. We are not just a school but rather a life-changing program that develops confident leaders with real world experience on a global perspective. As students experience our program, they will learn more about themselves and others, with not only a focus on expanding their academic knowledge but developing them wholly as a human. Through the learning environment provided and the unique community challenges that accompany living and working on a tall ship, students learn the importance of being positive contributors to a community and embracing a balanced lifestyle, which better prepares them for university and beyond. Our unique boarding school environment will impact students through experiencing different cultures and the hard work of maritime training that will give them structure, purpose, resilience, and grit for the rest of their lives. Our program is unique and uniquely challenging to describe, but these five domains help clarify what we do and what we believe.



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International Diploma	Our educational program places the international perspective as primary importance. All coursework is in English, but students live and study in a truly international setting and gain the knowledge and experience of multiple perspectives, beliefs, ideas, and ways of understanding as they travel the world with students from various countries.
Advanced Placement (AP)	Our teachers are certified AP instructors and students can select AP-level coursework in every subject area in order to provide them with transferable university credits through exam scores of 3 or higher.
Personalized Learning	More than individualized or differentiated, our program provides, on average, 10:1 student-teacher ratios and students live with their teachers; establishing deep connections between students and staff that allow for truly personalized learning opportunities.
Experiential Learning	Our classroom is not on a sailing ship, our classroom is the world! Students are learning from their experiences on the ship, in the ship, off the ship, and as they explore the world from cultural icons to architectural monuments and places of social/political significance in history and culture. Their academic learning is directly integrated into their experiences at ports across the globe and the two are mutually connected. Our students do not take field trips; they actively connect their learning to experiences as they discover the world.

COMMUNAL LIVING

Community Mindedness	Living in a community that has unique needs, has a critical reliance on everyone's participation and support, and is affected by each individual's contributions to the community; provides our students with a maturity, level of loyalty, and sense of duty that is unparalleled.
Cooperation	Students not only rely on each other, they rely on the cooperation of everyone in every aspect of living: Academic studies, ship duties, cleaning responsibilities, life ashore, and every other facet of daily life is never singular.



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Social
Consciousness

Learning social equity, fairness, balancing wants and needs of self and others, and helping those in need in a socially responsible and sustainable way.

Shared
Responsibility

Our living philosophy is Ship first, shipmates second, and self last. We develop servant leaders that are aware of the needs of the group and others.

REFLECTIVE LEARNING

Self-Reflection

Reflective practice is an essential component to becoming a life-long learner that involves identifying what an individual's strengths and areas of growth are and what needs to be done in order to reach mastery. Our program provides guided practice in becoming reflective in all aspects of development, not just academics.

Student-Led
Learning

Our students become strong, independent learners that are self-led. Their global experiences, ship training, and academic learning bring each student to the realization that they alone are responsible for their learning and must take proactive steps in order to succeed.

Growth
Mindset

There is no possibility for a fixed mindset to exist in a program that is designed specifically for challenging, expanding, and pushing students beyond their previous concepts of ability and skill. Students are awakened to their potential, see failure as motivating, and that how you mentally approach a challenge is a stronger determinant to one's success than any other factor.

Personal
Growth

Our program fosters maturity, emotional intelligence, effective communication skills, and growth opportunities through real-world life situations that they would never experience in a traditional school. Our students walk with purpose, confidence, and stand apart from their peers in a very distinct way.



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GLOBAL STUDIES

Multi-Cultural Experience	Our students live with, learn with, and travel the world with students from a multitude of countries, nationalities, and cultures. The way they learn, what they discuss, and how they interact are all influenced by their multicultural environment.
Cultural Analysis	Students are challenged to examine their own beliefs while examining those of others. Students are guided to identify the similarities and differences among cultures and how their beliefs change through the progression of the year in a reflective way.
Global Perspective	Students will experience the needs of children, adults, nations, governments, societies, and cultures in the span of ten months that most people will never experience in their entire life. Students develop an understanding of political, historical, religious, and cultural systems that shape how people think and behave.
Understanding & Tolerance	Students begin the year holding on to their own understandings, beliefs, and culture. As the year progresses, they develop an understanding and a tolerance for the differences among cultures and an awareness of how systems shape the beliefs and actions of people across the globe.

MARITIME TRAINING

Grit & Resilience	Grit has been shown through research to be one of the strongest indicators of success, both in academics and life. Grit is persevering through difficult situations without giving up. Resilience is seeing the failures and mistakes as learning opportunities for growth and improvement. Our program's foundation is based on these two life skills. Students learn these characteristics from the mariner crew, their ship duties and chores, and from their academic journey.
Time Management	University preparation is more than academic; it is about time management, learning to prioritize, and becoming independent/self-led learners that can manage multiple tasks simultaneously. Students leave our program with a mastery of these skills. They will perform day and night watch duties, attend classes throughout the day, study in the morning and at night, and experience ports around the world. They



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quickly adapt to a demanding schedule of truly living life to the fullest, without internet, cell phones, or social media.

Teamwork

Teamwork is an integration of social responsibility, collaboration, and one of the very first life skills students develop as they are trained by the mariner crew in how to sail the oldest fully-rigged sailing ship in the world. This teamwork bleeds into academic life and communal living in a way that establishes a 'one ship, one crew' philosophy.

Practical Skills

Our students are not passive learners: students who memorize textbooks or learn how to become proficient test takers. Our students have practical skills and knowledge, a functioning intelligence of how the world works, what it takes to succeed, and how to become a global leader.

29. Daily Schedule

06:30	Galley team is woken up
07:00 - 07:15	All students are woken up and students are out of the banjer until breakfast.
07:30 - 07:55	Breakfast
07:55 - 08:00	Banjer is cleared by the tidiness watch and everyone prepares for Colors
08:00 - 08:10	Colors
08:10 - 08:30	Breakfast for the watch standing during breakfast time (06-08 watch)
08:10 - 08:55	Cleaning
09:00 – 10:00	Classes
10:00 - 10:15	Coffee Break
10:30 - 13:00	Personal Time / Lunch / Nap / Homework
13:00 – 18:00	Classes resume
15:00 - 15:15	Coffee Break
18:00 - 18:30	The banjer is cleared and prepared for dinner
18:00 - 18:50	Fitness on deck (weather permitting)
18:30 - 19:30	Dinner
19:00 - 19:30	Deck rinse
21:00 – 22:00	Gender spaces / quiet hour



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NIGHT WATCHES: each off-going watch wakes up the on-going watch 20 minutes before the watch change and checks if the banjer is tidy. The on-going watch musters on deck 10 minutes before the watch change.

20:00 - 22:00	The banjer entrance watch tidies the entrance to the banjer
21:00 - 22:00	Gender spaces are drawn and quiet hour commences
22:00	Lights out in the banjer
22:00 - 00:00	Garbage washing and compressing under AB's supervision
00:00 - 02:00	Ship laundry is being started
02:00 - 04:00	The drying lines are emptied on deck or in ballast by watch
04:00 - 06:00	Deep clean of part of the forward heads

30. Grades 11/VG2 and 12/VG3

A+ World Academy is an International school based in Switzerland but is often confused for a Norwegian school. We are proud of our Norwegian ship and are actively keeping her in service while maintaining and restoring her on a daily basis; however, we are not a Norwegian school. A+ World Academy uses an American curriculum and, accordingly, we use the terms Junior Year to represent year 11, which is considered “year 12” or VG2 in Norwegian schools. Similarly, Senior Year represents year 12 and is the “terminal” or “graduating” year, which is considered “year 13” or VG3 in Norwegian schools.

American	Norwegian
Kindergarten	1
1	2
2	3
3	4
4	5
5	6
6	7
7	8
8	9
9 = Freshman	10
10 = Sophomore	11 = VG1
11 = Junior	12 = VG2
12 = Senior	13 = VG3



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31. Graduation Requirements

A+ World Academy Graduation Requirements

English	4 Credits
Math	3 Credits
Natural Sciences	3 Credits
Social Sciences	3 Credits
World Language	2 Credits
Health/Physical Education	1 Credit
AP Seminar*	1 Credit*
AP Senior Research Project*	1 Credit*
Maritime Training	1 Credit
Self, Systems, and Society (S ³)	1 Credit
Electives	6 Credits
TOTAL	26 Credits*

**To graduate with an AP Capstone Diploma, students must score 3 or higher on 4 AP exams of their choice plus complete AP Seminar during Junior year and AP Research Project in their Senior year. If not graduating with the AP Capstone Diploma, students should have 8 credit hours of Electives instead of 6 credit hours.*

All incoming transfer credits will be evaluated by A+ World Academy and credits will be accepted on an individual case basis. We do not guarantee that all incoming courses will transfer. Official transcripts must be presented during the application process. All students entering A+ World Academy must meet with the Head of School to review credits prior to enrolling in classes.

A+ World Academy's Advanced Placement Capstone Diploma program requires students to score a 3 or higher on 4 AP exams of their choice plus complete a Research Project and Seminar course. The AP Capstone Diploma is intended as a two-year program; however, students can enter the last/terminal year of the program if they have already completed 3 AP exams with a score of 3 or higher.

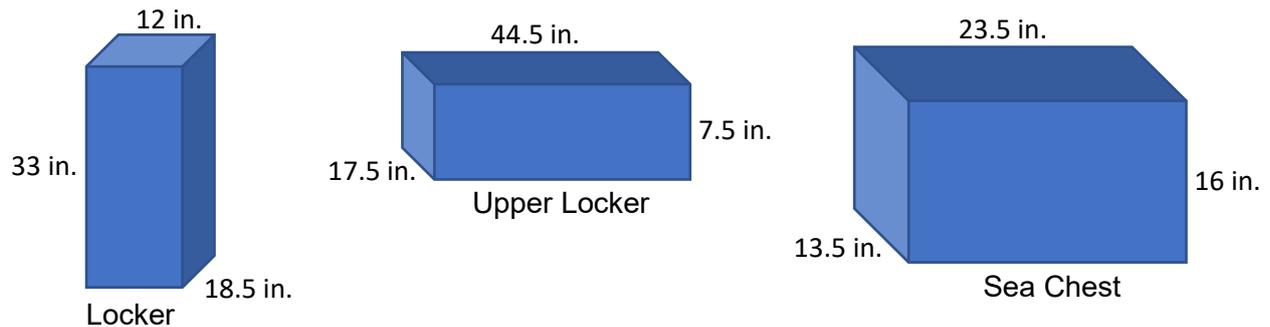


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32. Personal Storage

Student Personal Items Policy

All students are allotted two lockers for personal items. There are three different types of lockers: locker, upper locker, and sea chest. All students receive one locker, and either an additional locker, upper locker, or sea chest. It is most common to receive one locker and one sea chest. The dimensions are as follows:



As apparent via the above dimensions, there is very limited space for personal items. Any personal items that are not stowed properly will be confiscated, as it is a safety concern. It is vital to follow the below policy concerning items brought onboard.

Allowed to bring onboard on orientation day:

- one 70L bag full of items from the provided packing list (including a pillow, sheet, and sleeping bag)
- foul weather gear strapped to the outside
 - (1) foul weather jacket
 - (1) foul weather pants
 - (1 pair) foul weather boots

No other items are allowed to be brought onboard. This includes backpacks, satchels, duffels, etc. If a student wishes to bring a backpack to use for hikes and while in port, it must be packed in the 70L bag. The 70L bag will then be removed from the ship after moving in, by the guardians, prior to departure from Kristiansand. It is recommended that when guardians attend parent ports, that they bring the bag for their student to pack with items for their time off the ship.

Note that no food items are allowed in the personal lockers. This includes tea, mints, protein powder, etc. All personal food items must be kept in the watch lockers in the provided plastic bins in order to prevent pests.



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32. Student Cell Phones

Students will have their cell phones at every port. It is up to you how they should contact you. Each situation is different and each option has its own benefits and costs. Student cannot get cell service while in the ocean and their cell phones are collected & the batteries are fully charged by the staff prior to getting their phones back at port. Here are 3 possible options while at port:

1. Student buys a local pre-paid SIM card at each port for local service provider. This is the cheapest option and provides the most reliable service.
2. Student uses parent's cell service provider and pays for international calling & data charges. This is the most expensive option. Some providers offer \$10/day international calling service, some charge very expensive rates per minute. This option allows students to call/Skype the moment they receive their phones while still on-ship.
3. Student finds local, free Wi-Fi to call with WhatsApp or Skype for free. This is typically what most students learn how to do after the first few ports. They become excellent "hunters of WiFi" and provides them unlimited data to take care of e-mails, social media posts, calls, and video chats.

Please keep in mind, as I've previously expressed, there are ALWAYS delays & adjustments to arrival dates according to weather, port authorities, and other issues that are out of our control. Also, remember that your child is most likely in a different time zone.

33. Safeguard Policy

A+ World Academy and the Sorlandet Foundation have a duty of care to all who sail aboard our vessel. We review our safeguarding, welfare and trainee protection policies on a regular basis and our staff and volunteers receive the appropriate training to effectively implement these policies.

All persons who come into contact with trainees aboard the Sorlandet, including people who do not have a specific role in relation to child protection, have a duty to safeguard children and young adults from harm and to promote their welfare. Child protection is a part of safeguarding and promoting welfare for trainees. It refers to the activity which is undertaken to protect specific children who are suffering or are at risk of suffering, abuse or significant harm.

A+ World Academy's policy is to establish and to maintain an environment in which our students and staff can pursue personal, social, academic, cultural and interpersonal experiences without fear of exploitation, assault, abuse or discrimination. Penalties for abuse include expulsion or firing and referral to legal authorities.