



# All American Newsletter

[www.americanschool.org](http://www.americanschool.org)

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## American School Releases Five New Online Courses

The American School is pleased to add five new online courses to our ever-growing list of online learning offerings. Each of the five courses is worth one unit of credit with the exception of Music Appreciation, which is worth one-half unit of credit. Full descriptions of the five new online courses are available at [www.americanschool.org/courses](http://www.americanschool.org/courses), but here is a sneak preview of each of them.

**Digital Photography** focuses on the basics of photography and basic camera functions, including building an understanding of aperture, shutter speed, lighting, and composition. Students will be introduced to the history of photography and learn how to critique photographs, and examine various aspects of professional photography, including the ethics of the profession and areas of specialization.

**Music Appreciation** provides students with an aesthetic and historical perspective of music, covering a variety of styles and developments from the Middle Ages through the Twenty-First Century. Students will acquire basic knowledge and listening skills, making future music experiences more informed and satisfying.

**Forensic Science** focuses on the techniques and practices used by forensic scientists during a crime scene investigation. Students will examine how various elements of the crime scene are analyzed, how evidence is processed in the crime laboratory, and how it is used in trial. The course also looks at the basic scientific principles that guides the forensic laboratory processes, such as DNA testing, toxicology, and material analysis.

**Personal Psychology** investigates how people learn and see the world around them as people progress through infancy, childhood, adolescence and adulthood. The course also investigates how our perception of events influences topics such as memory, intelligence, emotion and personality.

**Sociology** examines topics in our society such as crime, race, ethnicity, marriage, family, sports and entertainment. Students will also learn how relationships between people and society can influence their actions and beliefs.

While we are pleased to release all five subjects, we are particularly excited about the Digital Photography, Music Appreciation and Forensic Science courses. Many students have expressed interest not only in more online courses but also in new subject areas such as these, and so we are happy to offer these courses to our students. We're just as pleased to offer Personal Psychology and Sociology in entirely online formats since we know that some students prefer to do their work online rather than taking the paper-based equivalent of these subjects. Visit our Online Learning page at [www.americanschool.org/online-learning](http://www.americanschool.org/online-learning) to learn more about these courses and all of our online learning offerings. Pay special attention to the documents on that page which discuss technical requirements for our online learning offerings.



## Students from Brazil Poised to Earn American School Diplomas

Although our name might imply that we only serve students in the United States, we like to think of ourselves as internationally relevant because students in 65 countries around the world use our courses to help them earn their accredited high school diplomas. One such group of students is based in Porto Alegre, the largest city in southern Brazil near that country's border with Argentina.

Soccer fans may recognize Porto Alegre as a host city for this summer's 2014 World Cup soccer tournament, but something even more important is happening there on a regular basis. A group of 14- and 15-year-old students go to a regular Brazilian school in the morning. Then, three afternoons per week, they meet at a private language school, where they study the American School's curriculum under the guidance of American instructors living in Brazil. Currently 22 students are enrolled in the program, with more expected to enroll later this year.

The American School looks forward to personally awarding these students their diplomas when they visit the Chicago area in 2017. If you are using the American School's curriculum overseas, please let us know. We'd love to share your story with our worldwide audience!



## American School's Busy Convention Season Well Underway

Spring has arrived, and so have homeschool and counseling conventions across the country. So far this year we've attended in conventions in Las Vegas, Nevada; Houston, Texas; Madison, Wisconsin; Atlanta, Georgia; and Los Angeles, California. In the month of April alone we'll be attending events in Spartanburg, South Carolina; Springfield, Illinois; Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania; Cincinnati, Ohio; and Skokie, Illinois. During the months of May, June and July, we'll be attending a convention nearly every week. Conventions are great places to meet prospective students, parents and school officials as well as those who already study or work with us. We'll post our destinations on our blog, Facebook and Twitter pages, so make sure to visit them often to see where we're headed next. If we come to a place near you, be sure to stop by and say hello. We'd love to meet you!



Vince Immordino, Rene Villalva and Gary Masterton (left to right) staffed the American School's booths at recent conventions.

## See and Hear More About Us on Our Media Page

You may have noticed the American School Media link in the upper right corner of our home page. Previously this was called American School Video, but recently we had to change its name because it doesn't contain just video anymore. Yes, you'll still be able to access the five-minute video that lets you see and hear American School administrators and students in action, but from the new American School Media page, you'll also be able to access our radio broadcast that was recorded last month. This one-hour interview provides listeners with useful information about the School and will be a good resource both now and in the future.

We hope you enjoy this new media page, and we look forward to adding more media appearances to it in the coming months!

## Dave Anderson Joins Double Decade Club; Two Others Also Honored

Congratulations to **Dave Anderson** (bottom), who became the latest member of the School's Double Decade Club in early March. Also celebrating anniversaries recently were **Cathy Sims** (35 years, top left) and **Mary Kay Perez** (15 years, top right). Congratulations to each you, and thank you for everything you do for our students. We wish you the very best throughout your time with the American School.



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