

# Secondary School Profile

INSTITUTO GAYLUSSAC: Rua Maria Caldas, 35 – São Francisco – Niterói - RJ – Brazil - CEP: 24365-050  
WEBSITE: <https://www.gaylussac.com.br/>

MAIN OFFICE: +55 21 2612-4000  
COUNSELING OFFICE: Extension 3325

TOTAL NUMBER OF STUDENTS ENROLLED: **1500** (Approx.)  
GRADUATING CLASS: 95 (Approx.)

PRINCIPAL: Luiza Sassi (luiza.sassi@gaylussac.com.br)  
BRAZILIAN HIGH SCHOOL DIRECTOR: Marcello Rangel (marcello.rangel@gaylussac.com.br)

ADMISSIONS COUNSELOR: Edward Layland (edward.layland@gaylussac.com.br)

ACCREDITATION: Secretary of Education for the State of Rio de Janeiro

## The School

Since our humble beginnings in 1954 with only 3 students, Instituto GayLussac has grown from a pre-college educational program into a high-performing private school with a commitment to providing high quality education from kindergarten to high school. **Over the last few years, we have been performance ranked among the top 50 schools in Brazil - according to the standardized evaluation of ENEM (National High School Examination)** – continuously implementing new methods for retaining knowledge and attitudes with a sense of responsibility while respecting the principles of the school. There is an open entry process for admissions up to 9th grade and a selective process using an entrance exam for 10th grade onwards.

**100% of our students go on to higher education**, being regularly accepted into the best universities in the country, such as UFRJ (Universidade Federal do Rio de Janeiro), UERJ (Universidade Estadual do Rio de Janeiro), UFF (Universidade Federal Fluminense), USP (Universidade de São Paulo), UNICAMP (Universidade de Campinas), PUC (Pontifícia Universidade Católica de Rio de Janeiro), and FGV (Fundação Getúlio Vargas). In addition, we have also had over 80 acceptances to international institutions in ten different countries.

**In 2015, Instituto GayLussac expanded its possibilities of connecting with the wider world through its integration into the Cognita Group of 107 schools. Cognita is a worldwide leader in high-quality schools** committed to excellence in education and the continuous improvement of educational processes.

## Curriculum

The academic year runs from February to December with a secondary school academic program organized into itineraries and taught in Portuguese. Approximately 300 high school students complete the basic general itinerary of the Brazilian National Curriculum (BNCC) covering Portuguese Language, Mathematics, English Language, Brazilian History, Geography, Art, Physical Education, Chemistry, Physics, and Biology. They also complete a preparatory itinerary in Analysis and Investigation in Physics, Chemistry, and Biology; Historical Contexts; Spanish Language; Philosophy, Geographic Observation; Human Rights, Sociology, and Safeguarding; Language Studies; and Life Project. Since 2022, beginning with the 10th Grade, Instituto GayLussac has also offered optional (minimum of 2), project-based itineraries in the areas of STEAM, Nature, Humanities, and Languages.

The school also offers an optional International Itinerary, taught in English, in the Cambridge International Certificate of Education, in which students take 7 IGCSEs including Mathematics, English, Enterprise, Global Perspectives, Spanish, Environmental Management, and a choice of Drama or Business Studies. They also take an SAT preparatory course. Advanced Placement and Honors courses are not offered.

### EXTRA-CURRICULAR ACTIVITIES:

The school offers a variety of extra-curricular clubs in Robotics, Science, Maker Lab, Literature, Drama, Music, Game Programming, and Team STEAM.

Every year we hold a number of cultural events such as the traditional **June Festival**, the Arraia D'Ajuda, which raises funds for local charities, the **Literary Month, GayLussac in Concert**, and **"In Words"**, which is a multi-lingual book of student poems and texts written in Portuguese, English, Spanish, and Chinese.

Since the inauguration of the **Harvard Book Prize Brazil** in 2022, GayLussac has been a prominent participant in the national bilingual essay writing competition. Our students have featured in the top twenty on both occasions, one of whom was 7th in 2022, achieving the highest grade in the category of Leadership.

Our students also have the opportunity to participate in **Summer Exchange Programs**, such as **Cognita's It's UK – It's US** and **Oxford Certificate Programmes at Worcester College**. 2026 will also mark the return of Instituto GayLussac to the **British English Olympics** in the UK.

## GRADING SYSTEM

Our school year is divided into three phases with points allocated as follows: Phase 1: 110 pts; Phase 2: 140 pts; Phase 3: 150 pts. Most subjects, involve multiple evaluations made of homework, weekly tests, project work, end-of-phase exams, and 10% of the grade is allocated to attitude and behavior. In the case of Art, Physical Education, Safeguarding and Citizenship, Programming, Mandarin, Human Rights and Sociology, the grade for attitude and behavior is 30%. Students require a minimum of 60% (240 pts) to pass the year.

Grade Distribution: Class of 2024

Highest Average	Mean Average	Lowest Average
363.8 (90.9%)	301.5 (75.4%)	238.6 (59.6%)

Annual Course Load (Hours)

9 <sup>th</sup> Grade	10 <sup>th</sup> Grade	11 <sup>th</sup> Grade	12 <sup>th</sup> Grade
1200	1520	1520	1840

## RANKING SYSTEM

GayLussac has a ranking system based on academic performance that rewards merit scholarships to the top 6 students of the grade for each stage (10th grade onwards).

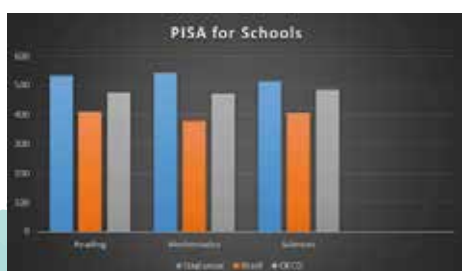
## How do we compare?

### SCHOOL RESULTS ON ENEM (EXAME NACIONAL DO ENSINO MÉDIO), THE STANDARDIZED HIGH SCHOOL TEST:

YEAR	Average Grade of GayLussac Students	National Average
2020	761.96	550.2
2021	772.04	572.9
2022	785.25	576.9
2023	782.63	570.0

For the past 15 years, Instituto GayLussac has been the **number one ranked school in Niterói, RJ**, based on student performance. The most competitive part of the ENEM exam is writing performance and our students scored an average of 890.4 points out of 1000 **in the essay section** in 2023 to elevate our ranking to **4th in the state of Rio de Janeiro, and 15th in Brazil**. In 2024, GayLussac placed 2nd in Rio de Janeiro and 7th in Brazil.

## PISA FOR SCHOOLS



The PISA for Schools digital assessment project compares 15-year-old students' abilities in Reading, Mathematics and Science to the national and OECD (Organization for Economic Co-operation and Development) average. The 2024 average for students at Instituto GayLussac was significantly higher than that of Brazil, even when accounting for socio-economic factors, and was well above the average performance of OECD countries.

## FOREIGN UNIVERSITY ACCEPTANCES:

- **Canada:**

University of British Columbia  
University of Calgary  
St Thomas University  
University of Toronto  
Western University

- **China:**

Fudan University  
The Hong Kong University

- **Germany:**

Universität Regensburg

- **Ireland:**

Trinity College, Dublin  
University College Dublin

- **Italy:**

Instituto Marangoni (Milan)  
University of Milan

- **Netherlands:**

University of Amsterdam  
The Hague University of Applied Sciences  
Leiden University  
Maastricht University  
Twente University  
Utrecht University

- **Portugal:**

Universidade de Coimbra  
Universidade de Lisboa  
Universidade do Minho  
Nova School of Business and Economics (Lisbon)  
Universidade do Porto

- **Spain:**

Universidad de Barcelona  
Universidad de Granada  
IE University (Madrid)

- **United Kingdom:**

King's College London  
University of Liverpool  
London School of Economics  
University of Warwick

- **USA:**

Arizona State University  
Augustana University  
Baylor University  
Brown University  
University of California - Santa Barbara  
University of California - San Diego

- **USA:**

Chapman University  
University of Chicago  
California Lutheran University  
University of Colorado Boulder  
Colorado State  
Columbia University  
Cowley College  
Denison University  
Drexel University, Philadelphia  
Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University  
University of Florida  
Florida International University  
Fordham University  
Hofstra University  
Hult International Business School  
University of Illinois at Chicago  
University of Illinois Urbana Champaign  
Ithaca College  
University of Kentucky  
Lehigh University  
University of Maine  
University of Maine at Farmington  
University of Massachusetts Amherst  
McMurry University  
University of Miami  
Michigan State University  
University of Michigan, Ann-Arbor  
Milwaukee School of Engineering  
University of Minnesota  
Missouri State University  
Missouri University of Science and Technology  
New College of Florida  
The College of New Jersey  
New York Film Academy  
New York University  
University of North Florida  
University of Notre Dame  
NSU - Nova Southeastern University  
Occidental College  
Oral Roberts University  
University of Oklahoma  
Palm Beach Atlantic University  
Penn State University  
Point Loma Nazarene University  
Purdue University  
Rollins College  
University of San Diego  
University of Southern California  
University of South Florida  
Syracuse University  
Texas Tech University  
Trevecca Nazarene University  
Wesleyan University  
The University of West Florida  
University of Wisconsin-Madison  
Virginia Tech