



School of the Nations Education Program

The curriculum concentrates on character and intellectual development. At the primary level, about 70% of the time is devoted to English medium education, while the other 30% is devoted to the study of Mandarin Chinese. At the secondary level, the proportion changes to about 80% and 20% respectively.

The English medium curriculum has been adapted from materials coming from Singapore, United Kingdom, United States, Australia and Hong Kong, while the Chinese curriculum comes from Hong Kong and the United States. The program prepares the students to sit for the internationally recognized I.G.C.S.E. certificate as well as the I.B. diploma.

Teaching Methods:

Class sizes at the School of the Nations are limited to a maximum of 18 students in Kindergarten, and 26 students in primary and secondary in order to facilitate greater interaction between the students and teachers. In order to apply the most modern educational research of personality types, learning styles, and brain function, teachers use a variety of methods to stimulate thinking and learning. These include discussion, hands on manipulatives, puppet plays, assignments, role play, reports, projects, questions and answer, group work, cooperative learning techniques, films, and so forth. While class lectures are used to some extent they are generally discouraged.

The emotional relationship between teachers and students is very important. The use of fear and humiliation is not acceptable while intimidation and corporal punishment is not permitted. To enhance learning, teachers and administrators establish a very caring and loving relationship with their students. It is recognized that the children are growing not only intellectually but also emotionally and socially. When necessary students are assisted in small groups and individually.

Curriculum Development:

The School of the Nations is also a centre for curriculum development. To date, significant progress has been made in the kindergarten and secondary levels. At the kindergarten level, the school has produced its own program which integrates language, math and science with character development. The secondary character development program was awarded first prize in 1997 for innovation in curriculum by the Department of Education and Youth Services in Macau. This same program was awarded 3rd prize by the International Schools Services in their worldwide competition for community service programs.