MILESTONE INSTITUTE OF ADVANCED STUDIES

The Milestone Institute of Advanced Studies is a non-profit talent enrichment center located in Budapest, Hungary. Founded in 2010, our mission is to act as a catalyst of societal progress through an internationally recognized program of education designed to nurture a community of future leaders within Hungary.

TOP 20
international school according to The Telegraph

30%
of our faculty have a PhD

848
offers from QS top 100 from 2020 to 2025

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THE MILESTONE PROGRAM

Milestone has a highly selective, extracurricular four-year-program taught entirely in English for 14 to 18-year-olds enrolling **411 students in AY 2024/2025** from Freshman through to Senior Year.

Our students come from over 120 high schools across Hungary and even beyond the borders, and they all attend the program in addition to their high school studies. Selection is based on a three-part written entry test developed by the Institute and oral interviews. Enrollment is possible at the beginning of each program year.
Building on the foundations students receive in their respective high schools and taking it further, we are committed to a student-centred education that stresses **independent study**, emphasizes **original research** and **project work**, and encourages **immersion in advanced academic topics** as well as empirical encounters. Students are taught individually through mentoring or in small groups and are supported in setting up societies in order to develop transferable skills and find the field that best corresponds to their talents.
We encourage students to **recognize their strengths** and **make use of the opportunities** offered by the Institute and their schools.

SCHOLARSHIPS

We are committed to nurturing talent regardless of students' circumstances, family background and socio-economic status. **10.5% of our students hold need- or merit-based scholarships.**
We cover the full tuition expenses for our Bridge Scholars, who are students with Roma heritage and/or are from socioeconomically disadvantaged backgrounds.
Our scholarship rates vary on the diverse rate between **10% and 70%, and in AY 2024/25**, **13 students** were offered to study at our institute completely tuition-free.

TEACHING METHOD AND CURRICULUM

Milestone Institute's student-centred education is delivered through the following three main pillars: Module Teaching, Mentoring, and Student Life.

MODULES

Modules are taught by **subject expert faculty**, who design and deliver 8-week-long classes corresponding to an **undergraduate / AP-level curriculum**. There are 85 different modules being taught in the current academic year, which are broadly categorized into four main divisions: Arts & Humanities, Natural Sciences, Social Sciences, and Numerical Sciences. A Milestone student is given full autonomy to decide which modules to take up; this decision happens at the beginning of every trimester after discussion with their mentor. As the modules expose students to topics not normally covered in their high school and integrate a broad range of methodologies, theories, and ideas, they serve as a valuable opportunity for students to **explore their academic interests, practice autonomy, and gain critical thinking skills.**

HIGHLIGHTS FROM THE MODULE CATALOG

- Architecture of Memories
- Artificial Minds
- Biomedical Science
- Celestial Mechanics
- Chaos, Order, and Dimensionality
- Cinematography
- Crisis and Progress
- Differentiation (Calculus I)
- Genetic Engineering
- Global Poverty
- Imperialism
- Integration (Calculus II)
- Lab Research
- Language, Perception, and Cognition
- Machine Learning
- Macroeconomics
- Microeconomics
- Murder
- Philosophy of Law
- Public vs. History (Historiography)
- Relativity and Quanta
- Researching Social Problems
- Robotics Lab
- State Theory
- The Human Body and Anthropological Methods

MENTORING

Students engage in **one-on-one** mentoring for the duration of the **whole academic year**. Our mentors are experts in fields that are relevant to the student's interests or personal development, and are carefully allocated at the beginning of each academic year by the Year Heads. In bi-weekly meetings of 30–60 minutes, students are immersed in opportunities for **independent learning**, be it preparing for an **academic competition**, working on a **research project**, or **exploring a particular text or topic of interest.** Mentors also aid the students in completing year-specific projects, through which development of diverse strengths and abilities are encouraged.

STUDENT LIFE

13
STUDENT ORGANIZATIONS

Students at Milestone are strongly encouraged to participate in and establish societies and clubs, through which they can explore their interests and passions with like-minded peers, and forge a sense of community outside of their classroom. All 13 student organizations are entirely student led, and the independent Student Council further serves as a bridge between the student body and the faculty.

Societies include:
Applied Mathematics, Debate, Business, Arts, MUN, Chinese, and others

GRADING AND RANKING

Outstanding	Excellent		Good		Satisfactory	Needs work	Fail		
10	9	8	7	6	5	4	3	2	1

The average grade across modules is 6.

Transcript, Rank, GPA
Transcripts are issued upon request.
The Institute does not use a class ranking system and does not calculate GPA.

1, 2 and 3: Awarded if a combination of problems – low attendance, lack of completed coursework, low quality coursework and plagiarism– occurs. These grades constitute a failed module (please note that students may be advised to leave the programme based on a failed module).
4: Awarded to constitute a pass, where a low number of the above combination of problems is present, but effort has been made on the part of the student to complete the module despite them.
5: Awarded to students who completed all the requirements yet have performed low on the assessment criteria.
6: Awarded to students that have completed all the requirements and have both observed and managed to perform according to the assessment criteria.
7: Awarded to students that have made efforts beyond the standard requirements of the curriculum, and have handed in good quality coursework.
8: Awarded to students that have performed outstandingly during the module, made additional effort with tasks, sought opportunities to develop far beyond the requirements and demonstrated real talent for the subject. (Oxbridge Hopeful, Ivy League Hopeful).
9: Awarded to students that can be considered amongst the best amongst in relation to their national peer group in the particular discipline, both for their effort and talent – their grasp and work far surpass their age. (Oxbridge Entry Level, Ivy League Entry Level).
10: Awarded to students that have performed outstandingly during the module and can be considered amongst the best in relation to their international peer group.

MILESTONE
INSTITUTE

CLASS OF 2025

There were 110 graduates in the Class of 2025.

100% *admitted to university (bachelor's programs)*

5 *offers from Oxford and Cambridge*

12 *offers from US top 30 schools (US News)*

AWARDS AND DISTINCTIONS WON BETWEEN 2020 AND 2025.

1st Place: British Biology Olympiad (BBO), International Geography Olympiad (iGeo), Baltic Sea Philosophy Essay Event (BSPEE), Hungarian qualifiers of World School Debating Championships (WSDC), National Conference of Student Researchers (TUDOK), Mary Renault Prize (St. Hugh's College, Oxford), Oxford Schools' International Debating Competition (Oxford Union), University College London (UCL) Essay Competition, UK-MT Intermediate Mathematical Challenge, The Duke of Edinburgh's Gold Award.
2nd Place: ISEF 2025 Grand Awards, International Biology Olympiad (IBO), International Chemistry Tournament (IChTo), British Chemistry Olympiad (BCO), Baltic Sea Philosophy Essay Event (BSPEE), International Geography Olympiad (iGeo), International Olympiad on Astronomy and Astrophysics (IOAA), British Biology Olympiad (BBO), International Physics Olympiad (IPO), International Economics Olympiad (IEO).
3rd Place: International Linguistics Olympiad (ILO), MUN Conference of Porgmun, IChTo (team).
Other: Published in International Journal of High School Research and Dialexicon, Shortlisted essay and High/Very High Commendations at John Locke Essay Competition, Shortlisted essay at R.A. Butler Prize, Honorable Mention at ISEF 2023.

QS TOP 100 UNIVERSITIES WHERE OUR STUDENTS HAVE CONTINUED THEIR STUDIES, 2020-2025

US AND CANADA			
Bard College	2	UC Berkeley	1
Columbia University	2	UCLA	2
Dartmouth College	1	University of Illinois - Urbana-Champaign	1
Georgia Tech	2	University of Michigan	1
Hamilton College	1	University of Pennsylvania	4
Harvard University	3	University of Toronto	7
Johns Hopkins University	1	USC WBB	1
McGill University	1	Vanderbilt University	1
New York University	2	Washington & Lee University	1
Princeton University	1	Yale University	2
UK			
Bath University	1	LSE	9
Durham University	2	U of Manchester	1
Edinburgh University	8	UCL	35
Imperial College	25	University of Cambridge	32
King's College	19	University of Oxford	7
Lancaster University	1	University of St Andrews	6
Loughborough University	2	Warwick University	17
EU			
AUC	11	Groningen University	16
Bard College Berlin	2	KU Leuven	7
Bocconi University	21	Leiden University	16
CEU	12	Sciences Po	14
École Polytechnique	1	TU Delft	0
Eindhoven University	5	Utrecht University	12
ETH Zürich	3	UvA	37

571 *Number of graduating students*

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Memberships and registrations: Registered center Cambridge Assessment International Education UCAS Member INTERNATIONAL ACAC