



THE FINISHING SCHOOL

Established years ago as the last stage of education for women of aristocratic European families, finishing schools taught subjects considered of importance for social and cultural etiquette, art, deportment and graces, entertaining and home management. It was preparation to present a dignified public image, organize the lives of family members and manage a large household. As with anything, it was possible to learn those things by trial and error but formal education guaranteed 'getting it right'.

Over the years career choices for women opened and as places became available in higher education institutions previously closed to them, the demand for finishing schools diminished. The few that survive today are very different from the original model. The curriculum has evolved and expanded, becoming preparation for rigorous professional careers and global lifestyles. International savoir-faire is no longer an option but a necessary attribute for the career person. Classes now are composed of high achieving men and women who recognize that skills acquired in finishing school gives them a competitive edge socially as well as in business.

Institut International, Bermuda is a modern day finishing school with a curriculum based on traditional courses that Swiss finishing schools were famous for, but carefully tailored to the 21st century. Business etiquette and 'Cultural trends in the etiquette and protocol of Europe, Asia, the Middle East, Latin America and Africa' are only two examples of the courses included in the new curriculum.

Graduates are prepared with knowledge that gives them the confidence to comfortably interact in any social or business setting. Our society is no longer insulated from what is happening globally and those who are prepared are the ones who will succeed.

For more information and course descriptions, please contact Ms. Snaith directly.

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