



# ACADEMIC PROFILE 2022-2023

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CEEB Code 330990

Head of School: **HELEN L. MARLETTE** College Counselor: **ANN LESLIE**



**#1**  
Best All-Girls  
High Schools  
in Buffalo Area

Buffalo Seminary is a selective, nonsectarian, independent day and boarding school for college-bound girls. Founded in 1851, it is a school steeped in traditions and simultaneously forward-thinking.

Enrollment in grades 9 through 12 is 160: 140 day and 20 residential students.

Our international boarding students come from several countries, including the Bahamas, Canada, China, Kenya, Mexico, South Korea, and Vietnam. International students are fully immersed in our academic and extracurricular program; therefore, we do not require students to enroll in an ENL program, though we do provide academic and social support. Although most of our international students are multilingual, they are not exempt from our foreign language requirements; students are required to take either French, Spanish, or Mandarin.

**98%** of graduates are accepted to four-year colleges. **52%** of the students receive need-based financial aid.

**HONOR CODE:** Buffalo Seminary is dedicated to being a school where both Academic Honor and Social Honor guides our thoughts and actions. Academic Honor requires respect for the intellectual and artistic property of others. Social Honor requires treating ourselves and all members of our community with respect. Faculty and students sign the Academic & Social Honor Code poster in an annual fall ceremony.

**COVID-19 RESPONSE:** Pre-Covid, tech was integrated into SEM's teaching and learning. We have been open and in-person since September 2020. Plans and procedures for both online and on-campus learning included reconfigured spaces, reimagined teaching and learning combinations of synchronous and asynchronous remote learning, in-person classes for our day and boarding students. **80%** of our students were on campus for the 2020-2021 school year. **Grading and assessment measures returned to our pre-pandemic standards.** **100%** of our students will be in-person for the 2022-2023 academic year.

**CAPSTONE PROGRAM:** Before she graduates, each SEM student devotes herself to a self-directed project of her own design. With a foundation of research skills under her belt, each SEM junior spends a trimester reflecting on her passions and talents, narrowing down her research question and planning the details of her Capstone project, all under the guidance of a multidisciplinary team of faculty. As a senior, guided by a faculty mentor, she will complete and share her project, which includes an academic piece of writing and an artifact to be presented in an academic symposium (SEMposium).

**HARKNESS LEARNING:** As a college preparatory program, Harkness discussions are a vital part of our teaching and learning. Each of our humanities classrooms contains a classic New England-style Harkness table. A Harkness discussion is a seminar-style, student-led exploration of ideas through open-ended questions and multiple perspectives. Seated at a Harkness table, no girl is unheard and a lifetime of civil discourse is nurtured.

## ADVANCED PLACEMENT POLICY & SCORES:

Students who are enrolled in an AP class are required to sit for the AP exam. Students must receive either teacher or department chair approval to enroll in an AP and/or honors course. We cap the number of AP courses a student can take at 3 per year unless the student has received special permission from the Dean of Students. In May 2021, 71 students sat for 140 total exams.

**CLASS OF 2022:** 47 students

*10 AP Scholars, 5 AP Scholars with Honors, 7 AP Scholar with Distinction*

**COURSE DESIGNATIONS:** AP (Advanced Placement);

H (Honors) - Courses designed to provide more intensive study for students of superior ability and interest; No Letter Designation - College Preparatory course

## GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS

**English** - 4 years

**History** - 3 years

**Foreign Language** - 3 years through advanced level

**Mathematics** - 3 years

**Science** - 3 years

+ A 4th year of either **Math** or **Science**

**Fine Arts** - 5 classes

We are on a trimester system.

All attempted courses appear on a student's transcript.

English electives, with the exception of AP English Language & Composition and Foundational Junior English are open to all juniors and seniors.

Students are required to volunteer 10 hours of community service per trimester.

## VARSITY SPORTS

Basketball	Squash
Bowling	Swimming
Crew	Tennis
Cross Country	3 NCAA
Fencing	Signings in the
Field Hockey	Class of 2022:
Golf	Women's Track &
Lacrosse	Field, Swimming
Sailing	& Diving, Golf
Soccer	

## SCHOOL CLUBS

School Government Association	Drama (2 annual productions)	Model UN
Audio-Visual (AV)	E-Sports	Music Collective
Black Student Union	EnSEMBle	National Honor Society
Book	French	Outdoors
Chinese	Gay-Straight Alliance	Science
Connect Life	Glee	SEMachords (a capella)
Community Service Board	Harry Potter	SEMinaria (yearbook)
Computer Programming	Hornet/Jacket Board	SEM Music Collective
Dance	Jewish Cultural	Ski
Dungeons & Dragons	Journalism	Spanish
	Math	Tea
	Mock Trial	Volleyball

## COURSE OFFERINGS FOR SENIORS FOR THE 2022-23 SCHOOL YEAR

### ENGLISH

Autobiography  
Femininity & Literature  
Nature in Literature  
Shakespeare & History  
Ghosts in Literature  
Harlem Renaissance  
Existentialism in Literature  
New Weird Literature  
Queer Theory  
Poetry  
Science Fiction & Society  
Short Story  
Intro to Moral Philosophy  
The Brontes  
West African Literature  
Greek Drama  
Reel Narrative I & II  
Historical Perspectives in Journalistic Writing

### MATH

AP Calculus AB, BC \*\*  
AP Statistics \*\*  
Introduction to Calculus \*\*  
PreCalculus \*\*  
Financial Algebra ABC

### HISTORY

AP U.S. Government & Politics (two trimesters)  
AP Human Geography \*\*  
The World Today  
America in the 60s  
Contemporary Middle East History  
Urban Studies  
Mongol Empire  
History of Pop Culture  
HERstory  
Marginalized Identities

### FOREIGN LANGUAGE

Introduction, Intermediate, or Advanced Spanish/French \*\*  
Intermediate or Advanced Mandarin \*\*  
Spanish: ¡Actualidad!  
Spanish: Latin American Short Stories  
Spanish: Latin American Culture  
French: Bon Appetit!  
French: Francophone Culture in Film  
French: L'Actualite

Latin American Cinema  
Latin American Traditional Dances & Gastronomy  
Exploring the Hispanic Community  
French: Les Femmes de Versailles

### SCIENCE

AP Biology \*\*  
AP Chemistry \*\*  
AP Physics \*\*  
Meteorology  
Women in Science & Math Who Changed History  
Oceanography  
Astronomy: Search for Alien Life; Solar System; Stars & Galaxies

### COMPUTER SCIENCE

AP Computer Science A \*\*  
AP Computer Science Principles \*\*  
Introduction to Computer Science  
Video Game Design  
Python II  
Artificial Intelligence

Virtual Reality Lab  
Cybersecurity

### FINE ARTS

Art & Social Activism  
Digital Art  
Introduction to Photography  
Introduction to Acting  
Advanced Acting  
Basic Painting  
Introduction to Drawing  
Foundations in Abstraction  
Representation  
Narrative Art  
Public Art  
Printmaking  
Introduction to Shakespeare  
Advanced Shakespeare  
Searching for Shakespeare  
Playin' with a Playwright  
Foundations of Music  
Elements in Music  
Music in Film  
Photography & Mixed Media  
Women in Photography  
Graphic Design  
Dead Playwrights

Alive: Living Playwrights  
Absurdist Drama  
Theatrical Production  
Advanced Film Photography  
Voice Class  
Composing & Songwriting

### ONE SCHOOLHOUSE (ENROLLEES 2020-21)

AP French Language & Culture  
AP Spanish Language  
AP Microeconomics  
AP Psychology  
Computer Science by Design: Mobile App Development  
Neuroscience  
Happiness!  
The Psychology of What Makes Life Worth Living

\* Classes are one trimester in length unless otherwise noted

\*\* Classes are full year

## EXPLANATION OF GRADES

A+ 100-97	B+ 89-87	C+ 79-77	D 65-69
A 96-93	B 86-83	C 73-76	F 64+
A- 92-90	B- 80-82	C- 70-72	

### Merit Roll:

Earned by students averaging 3.33 (B+) or greater (with no grade lower than C+)

### Honor Roll:

Earned by students averaging 3.67 (A-) or greater (with no grade lower than B)

### High Honor Roll:

Earned by students averaging 4.33 (with no grade lower than A-)

Students are only awarded these honors at the end of the year based on their final grades. For this purpose alone, grade point averages are calculated on a 4-point scale, with added weight given to Honors and Advanced Placement courses. We do not provide a GPA to colleges.

*By policy, SEM students are not ranked.*

## COLLEGE PLACEMENTS CLASS OF 2022

47 STUDENTS

	Number	Percentage
Private	30	65%
Public	16	35%
2-Year	0	0%
4-Year	46	100%
Out of State	26	54%
In State	20	43%

## COLLEGE MATRICULATION

Over the five-year period from 2018-2022, students of Buffalo Seminary have matriculated at the following colleges:

Allegheny College: 2021	Hobart and William Smith Colleges: 2022, 2021, 2019	2018	Riverside 2022
American University: 2021, 2018	Howard University: 2019, 2018	Rochester Institute of Technology: 2022, 2021, 2018	University of California, San Diego: 2021, 2020, 2019
American University of Paris: 2019	Indiana University of Pennsylvania: 2018	Saint John Fisher College: 2020, 2018,	University of California, Santa Barbara: 2018
Amherst College 2022	Ithaca College: 2021, 2020,	St. Lawrence University: 2021, 2020	University of Dayton: 2022, 2020, 2019
Bates College: 2019	Jacksonville University: 2018	Savannah College of Art and Design: 2018	University of Denver: 2020
Belmont University: 2018	John Carroll University: 2019	School of the Art Institute of Chicago : 2018	University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign: 2019
Boston College: 2022, 2021	Kenyon College: 2021, 2020	Skidmore College: 2021, 2019	University of Maine: 2020
Boston University: 2020,	Keuka College 2022	Southern Methodist University: 2019	University of Michigan - Ann Arbor: 2020
Bryn Mawr College: 2021, 2020	LIM College: 2018	SUNY College of Technology at Alfred: 2018	University of Missouri, Columbia: 2020
Canisius College: 2022, 2021, 2019, 2018	Loyola University, Chicago: 2022, 2019	SUNY Binghamton: 2019, 2018	University of New Hampshire: 2019
Carnegie Mellon University: 2019	Loyola University, New Orleans: 2021	SUNY at Buffalo: 2022, 2020, 2019, 2018,	University of Pittsburgh: 2022, 2021, 2020, 2019
Chapman University 2022	Maryland Institute of Art: 2018	SUNY Buffalo State College: 2020, 2019,	University of Rochester: 2019, 2018
Clarkson University: 2018	Massachusetts Institute of Technology 2022	SUNY Canton: 2018	University of St. Andrew's (UK): 2019
Cleveland Institute of Art 2022	Mercyhurst University: 2020	SUNY College of Environmental Science and Forestry: 2021	University of Southern California: 2021
Colgate University 2022	Michigan State University: 2018	SUNY Erie Community College: 2021	University of Toronto (CAN): 2018
College of Charleston: 2020	Missouri University of Science and Technology: 2020	SUNY Fredonia: 2022, 2018	University of Vermont: 2019
College of Wooster: 2020	Mount Holyoke College, 2022, 2021, 2019, 2018	SUNY Geneseo: 2022, 2021, 2020, 2018	University of Virginia: 2021, 2019
Cornell University: 2018	Muhlenberg College: 2021	SUNY New Paltz: 2022, 2021, 2018	University of Washington, Seattle: 2021, 2020
CUNY Bernard M. Baruch College: 2018	Nazareth College: 2020, 2019,	SUNY Oneonta: 2020	University of Western Ontario: 2020
Daemen College: 2021, 2018	New York University: 2021, 2019, 2018	SUNY Oswego: 2022, 2018	Utica College: 2018
Denison University: 2018	Niagara University: 2022, 2020, 2019	SUNY Potsdam: 2018	Wesleyan University: 2019
Duquesne University: 2020, 2019, 2018	Northeastern University: 2022, 2020	SUNY Purchase: 2022, 2021, 2019, 2018	Wellesley College 2022
Durham University: 2018	Norwich University	SUNY Stony Brook: 2021	Western New England University: 2021
D'Youville College: 2020, 2019	Nova Southeastern University: 2021	Suffolk University: 2018,	Williams College 2022
Eckerd College: 2018	Ohio University: 2019	Syracuse University: 2021, 2020	Wittenberg University 2022
Elon University: 2020	Ohio State University: 2021,	Temple University 2022	Wofford University 2022
Emerson College: 2021, 2019	Pace University: 2018	Trinity College Dublin 2022	Worcester Polytechnic Institute: 2018
Emory University: 2018	Pratt Institute: 2020	UCSI University, Malaysia 2022	Xavier University (OH): 2019
Florida Gulf Coast University: 2020	Pennsylvania State University: 2022, 2018,	University of Alabama: 2019	
Fordham University: 2021, 2019, 2018	Purdue University: 2021	University of California,	
Franklin & Marshall College 2022	Quinnipiac University: 2020		
Gannon University: 2020	Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute: 2018		
George Washington University: 2019, 2018	Rhode Island School of Design:		
Hamilton College 2022			
Hampshire College: 2021, 2018			
Harvard University: 2021			
Hilbert College: 2021, 2018			