

# ST. MARK'S SCHOOL

INTENTIONALLY SMALL, **THINKING BIG.**

## SCHOOL PROFILE 2019-2020

### School Overview

St. Mark's is a four-year, college preparatory, boarding and day school located 20 miles west of Boston. Originally founded in 1865 as an Episcopal boys' school, St. Mark's merged with the Southborough School for Girls in 1977. Our classes are traditionally referred to as forms: 9th grade is III Form, 10th grade is IV Form, 11th grade is V Form, and 12th grade is VI Form.

The academic program at St. Mark's is a blend of a classical liberal curriculum infused with innovative elements of contemporary pedagogy. Across the curriculum, students are exposed to interdisciplinary work and the opportunity to develop strong scientific inquiry, historical research, collaborative problem-solving, critical thinking, and written communication skills. Over the past four years, we have completely reimagined our curriculum as well as our use of class time in service of better teaching and learning. We are proud of our distinctive academic program and offer greater detail on a few highlights below.

### Signature Programs

**Advanced Curriculum:** With the start of the 2014–2015 school year, St. Mark's began offering teacher-generated, school-specific "Advanced" classes in all core academic disciplines except English, where departmental philosophy drives continued heterogeneous grouping. Courses such as our STEM and History Research Fellowships, along with Advanced Topics classes in Math, Language and Religion and our Independent Study Program (ISP), form the core of our most rigorous options.

**Lion Term:** A three-week, form-based experiential program, Lion Term encourages students to think beyond themselves and provides structure for them to apply their learning to the wider world through internships and independent research. IV, V, and VI Form students may also participate in Lions Roam, an elective course that integrates a travel and immersion experience during Lion Term. The Lions Roam program has visited and explored Bhutan, Iceland, and Spain; in 2019-2020, the Lions Roam embedded immersion course is "Race, Racism, and Reconciliation since 1945: Lions Roam in the American South and South Africa."

**St. Mark's Saturdays:** St. Mark's Saturdays offer students and faculty an innovative opportunity to engage in relevant and developmentally appropriate academic, service, and character and wellness coursework. At the core of each St. Mark's Saturdays offering is a belief in the power of experience to transform student understanding. Our Saturday program allows students to direct their own educational pathways by pursuing current interests and exploring new ones in hands-on, collaborative, and interdisciplinary courses.

**History Fellowship:** The History Fellowship trains talented, aspiring historians in the skills of academic research and historiography. Each Fellow, having selected a topic of personal interest during the spring of the V Form year, then pursues rigorous, in-depth research in venues ranging from libraries to archives, to the halls of Congress, and distant museums. The course culminates in the production of a substantial research paper, which students defend before a panel of faculty members.

**STEM Fellowship:** The STEM Fellowship offers students the chance for deep exploration of their own particular area of interest, while fostering real-world skills needed for high-level scientific research. Fellows work with faculty and mentors from area labs and hospitals to design and conduct their own experiments and apply their research to real-world challenges. Fellows present posters at local and national science fairs.

Click [here](#) for additional information about the academic program.



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## St. Mark's At a Glance

365 students 83 members of the Class of 2020	75% of students board 59 seniors are boarding students
Students come to St. Mark's from 23 US states and 15 nations	32% of students are domestic students of color 19% of students are international students
30% of students receive financial aid	The average award for boarding students is \$54,796 The average for day students is \$25,885
85 faculty members 79% of faculty hold advanced degrees	The average class size is 12 The student to faculty ratio is 6:1

## Diploma Requirements

Subject	Years/Courses Required	Notes
English	4 years	All students complete the same sequence in Forms III and IV. V Formers can choose between American Literature and Books Without Borders. All VI Formers take two semester-long electives; VI Form electives are considered advanced coursework in English.
History	2 years	Students complete Global Seminar and US History in their III and IV Form years, respectively. V and VI Form students choose from a variety of semester-long electives.
Math	3 years	Students must complete Algebra I, Geometry, and Algebra II in sequence. The vast majority of St. Markers complete advanced coursework in mathematics beyond Algebra II.
Science	2 years of lab science	Students often go beyond the two-year diploma requirement, taking full advantage of course offerings across the life and physical sciences, as well as courses in computer science, robotics, and engineering.
Modern and Classical Languages	Through Level III of a single language	Students choose between Chinese, French, German, and Spanish in Modern Languages as well as Greek and Latin in Classical Languages.
Religion	1 year	Students are required to study three religious systems of thought (Judaism, Christianity, and Islam) as well as one other meaning-making system of a religious, humanist, ethical, philosophical, aesthetic, or historical perspective.
Arts	1 year	Students can select courses in visual arts, theater, and vocal and instrumental music.

### Special Diplomas

**Classics Diploma:** Students can earn a Classics Diploma by completing a combined five years of Greek and Latin and engaging in a senior project.

**Global Diploma:** St. Mark's will award the first Global Diplomas in 2020. Global Diploma candidates meet regularly as a cohort to reflect on their course of study and on local and global engagement; students also complete a capstone experience.

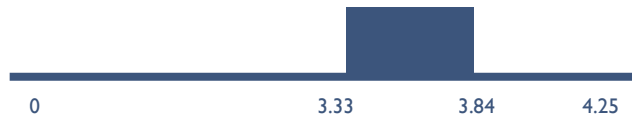
## Advanced Courses by Department

Starting in the fall of 2014, our most rigorous courses are designated Advanced (**Adv.**) rather than AP. These courses meet or exceed the challenge of the relevant Advanced Placement curriculum and allow for greater flexibility in curriculum design.

History	Adv. U.S. History, Adv. U.S. Government and Politics, History Research Fellowship, Adv. Studies in Global Citizenship
Mathematics	Adv. Statistics, Adv. AB Calculus, Adv. BC Calculus, Adv. Topics in Mathematics, Mathematical Research
Science	Adv. Biology, Adv. Chemistry, Adv. Environmental Science, Adv. Physics, STEM Research Fellowship
Computer Science	Adv. Topics in Computer Science
Languages	Adv. Chinese, Adv. French: Contemporary Themes, Adv. Topics in Spanish Literature, Adv. Topics in Latin Literature
Religion	Adv. Religion: Modern Philosophy and the Challenges of Unbelief
Arts	Adv. Studio Art, Adv. Art History, Adv. Ceramics, Adv. Music Theory, Adv. Topics in Music, Adv. Theater Workshop

## Academic Information: Class of 2020

### Class of 2020 Unweighted GPA Distribution through V Form



Mean GPA = 3.56

The middle 50% of the Class of 2020 has a GPA between 3.33 and 3.84.

GPA includes only courses taken at St. Mark's School. St. Mark's does not weight grades, compute class rank, or release individual GPAs to colleges.

### Grade Distribution in V Form Courses

*Note: Includes courses enrolling 5 or more V Formers during 2018-2019; does not include performing arts courses.*

Course Name	A+	A	A-	B+	B	B-	C+	C
American Literature		15	17	7	3	2		
Books Without Borders	1	9	17	4	4		2	
US History		7	18	8	11	1		
Advanced US History	1	7	5	9	2	2		
Macroeconomics			2	3	2	1		
Microeconomics		1	1	4				
Judaism, Christianity and Islam		6	1		1			
Advanced Religion		2	2	1				
French IV		1	5	3				
Greek I	1	4						
Spanish III	1	2	7	3	2			
Spanish IV		4	3	2	1	1		
Advanced Spanish Language and Culture		1	2	3				
Algebra II			2		3	1		
Statistics, Functions and Trigonometry			3	2		2		1
Precalculus			6	9	4	3		
Honors Precalculus		1	6	1	2	1		
Calculus		1	1	2	1			
Advanced AB Calculus			1	3	1	1		
Advanced BC Calculus		6	7	3		1		
Biology	1	2	8	6	2			
Advanced Biology		4	6	12	3	2	1	
Advanced Chemistry		7	2	2	1			
Advanced Environmental Science		1	5					
Advanced Physics: Mechanics	1	3	2	1	1			

### SAT and ACT Testing Data as of June 30, 2019

<b>ACT</b>	<b>Middle 50%</b>	<b>Mean</b>
Composite	28.5-33.5	31
<b>SAT</b>	<b>Middle 50%</b>	<b>Mean</b>
EBRW	630-730	674
Math	630-760	689
1600	1270-1470	1363

### Policy on Reporting of Discipline

Consistent with the NACAC Statement of Good Principles of Practice, and our strong belief in the integrity of the application process, St. Mark's students are required to report all disciplinary infractions that result in suspension.

## College Matriculation: 2017–2019

Over the past three years, St. Mark's students have chosen to attend the schools below. On average, students choose sixty different schools a year. Virtually all St. Mark's graduates enroll in a four-year institution immediately upon graduation. Schools listed in bold have enrolled **three or more** St. Markers between 2017-2019.

American University  
Amherst College  
**Babson College**  
Bates College  
**Boston College**  
**Boston University**  
Bowdoin College  
Brandeis University  
**Brown University**  
Bryant University  
Bryn Mawr College  
Bucknell University  
**University of California, Berkeley**  
University of California, Los Angeles  
University of California, San Diego  
University of California, Santa Barbara  
Carleton College  
**Carnegie Mellon University**  
College of Charleston  
University of Chicago  
University of Cincinnati  
**Colby College**  
**Colgate University**  
University of Colorado, Boulder  
Columbia University  
Connecticut College  
University of Connecticut  
**Cornell University**  
**Dartmouth College**  
Davidson College  
Denison University  
**Duke University**  
University College Dublin  
Elmira College  
Elon University  
Emerson College  
ESADE Escuela Superior de Empresas (Spain)  
Fairfield University  
Florida State University  
Fordham University  
**Franklin & Marshall College**

**George Washington University**  
Georgia Institute of Technology  
Gettysburg College  
**Hamilton College**  
**Harvard University**  
Harvey Mudd College  
Haverford College  
Hobart & William Smith Colleges  
**College of the Holy Cross**  
University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign  
Ithaca College  
**Johns Hopkins University**  
The Juilliard School  
Kenyon College  
Lafayette College  
Lehigh University  
Macalester College  
University of Maine  
Manhattan School of Music  
Massachusetts College of Art and Design  
Massachusetts Institute of Technology  
University of Massachusetts, Amherst  
University of Massachusetts, Lowell  
Miami University, Oxford  
**University of Michigan**  
**Middlebury College**  
Mississippi State University  
Muhlenberg College  
University of New Hampshire, Durham  
**New York University**  
The University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill  
North Carolina State University  
**Northeastern University**  
Northwestern University  
Oberlin College  
Oxford College of Emory University  
**University of Pennsylvania**

Pennsylvania State University  
Princeton University  
**Providence College**  
Quinnipiac University  
Reed College  
Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute  
Rhode Island School of Design  
Rhodes College  
University of Richmond  
University of Rochester  
Rochester Institute of Technology  
Rollins College  
Saint Anselm College  
Saint Michael's College  
Skidmore College  
University of South Carolina  
**University of Southern California**  
**Southern Methodist University**  
**University of St. Andrews**  
**St. Lawrence University**  
Stanford University  
Swarthmore College  
**Syracuse University**  
Texas Christian University  
**Trinity College**  
**Tufts University**  
Tulane University  
Union College  
University of Vermont  
University of Virginia  
**Wake Forest University**  
Washington College  
Washington and Lee University  
**Washington University in St. Louis**  
Vanderbilt University  
Wellesley College  
Wesleyan University  
College of William & Mary  
**Williams College**  
University of Wisconsin, Madison  
Yale-NUS College

