

# 2020-2021 PROFILE

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Gill St. Bernard's School is the result of the 1972 merger of the Gill School (1934) and the St. Bernard's School (1900). Today the school is a Preschool – Grade 12 co-educational, college preparatory, non-sectarian, day school enrolling approximately 650 students from about sixty north-central New Jersey communities. This year's senior class has 98 students.

The Upper School academic program offers a rich and varied curriculum in the liberal arts and sciences. Opportunities for enrichment and advanced study encourage students to achieve their personal best. Extracurricular participation is also an important part of the Gill St. Bernard's experience. Students participate in athletics (19 varsity teams), community service, performing arts and other activities such as Model U.N., Mock Trial, and the literary magazine. This involvement promotes the vitality, warmth, and sense of community among students, faculty, and administration which characterizes the school. GSB encourages each student to fully participate in our program offerings.

The school's motto, *The World Is Our Classroom*, reflects an important component of a Gill St. Bernard's education. The school regularly sponsors activities that bring world affairs to the attention of the student body. In addition Upper School students spend the last two weeks of the academic year in an intensive learning experience, the Spring Unit, which often includes travel or independent study.

# Gill St. Bernard's School Statement of Philosophy

"The school is committed to developing intelligent, capable young people who can find success in higher education and who can think critically and analytically, act with integrity and compassion, and become responsible citizens of the world."

S. A. Rowell Head of School

**Dr.Joel Coleman** Director of Upper School

**Kerri Small** Director of College Guidance and Assistant Director of Upper School

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# **ACCREDITATION/MEMBERSHIPS**

Gill St. Bernard's is accredited by the Middle States Association of Colleges and Secondary Schools and the New Jersey Association of Independent Schools. Among the organizations to which the school holds memberships are: College Entrance Examination Board, Council for Advancement and Support of Education, National Association for College Admission Counseling, National Association of Independent Schools, New Jersey Association of Independent Schools Athletic Association, and New Jersey State Interscholastic Athletic Association.

#### **GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS**

A minimum of 23 academic credits are required for graduation. Eighteen of these are specified as follows: four (4) English, three (3) history, three (3) science, three (3) math, three (3) world language, one (1) Ninth Grade Seminar, and one (1) Fine Art. Beyond these minimums, at least five (5) additional credits are required.

#### **SCHEDULE**

Prior to late March 2020, GSB operated on a modified block schedule, with five of six academic classes meeting four times a week—two for 45 minutes, one for 55 minutes, and one for 70 minutes. With the onset of Covid-19, GSB went to a virtual learning environment in the spring of 2020, during which academic classes met both synchronously and asynchronously. For the academic year 2020-2021, GSB is offering both campus-based and virtual learning options for students. The schedule for 2020-2021 is a 10-day, rotating block schedule with academic classes meeting 90 minutes per day.

### RANKING/GPA

Gill St. Bernard's does not rank its students. A cumulative weighted grade point average is calculated at the end of the junior year, based on a +4.0 scale. Only Gill St. Bernard's School course work is used in computing the GPA.

#### **HONORS AND AP COURSES**

Honors and Advanced Placement courses are labeled as such on the transcript. Grades in Honors courses carry more weight in computing the grade point average (.33 is added to the numerical equivalent of the letter grade). Advanced Placement courses are also weighted as the GPA is computed (.67 is added to the numerical equivalent of the letter grade). Gill St. Bernard's School is fully compliant with the AP audit process as established by the College Board.

A member of the Class of 2021 would have the following advanced course work available through four years of high school:

**Fourteen honors courses:** Algebra II/ Trigonometry, American Literature, Biology, British Literature, Calculus, Chemistry, Environmental Science, Physics, Precalculus, Spanish (II, III, and IV), and World Literature.

**Twenty-one AP Courses:** Biology, Calculus AB, Calculus BC, Chemistry, Computer Science A, Computer Science Principles, English Language and Composition, English Literature, Environmental Science, French Language, Human Geography, Latin, Microeconomics, Modern European History, Physics, Psychology, Spanish Language, Statistics, Studio Art, Government and Politics: U.S. and U.S. History. (Note: Final test is required for AP distinction.)

#### **COURSES OF INTEREST**

Several required courses in our Upper School are distinctive. In the ninth grade, every student takes Comparative World Cultures. This course puts a premium on interdisciplinary learning, and actively integrates the academic disciplines of geography, history, anthropology, evolutionary biology, art history, and environmental science. In the same year, students take a ninth-grade seminar course through which they learn research methodology that includes databases and focused instruction on assessing Internet source material. Public speaking skills are emphasized in this course, as presentations are a regular component of the class.

In sophomore year, each student engages in a formal research project. Topics are often, but not exclusively, based in the humanities. This project allows students to deepen their understanding of research techniques to include sources of literary criticism or artistic criticism. Writing and research skills are further developed as part of junior year science course work. As juniors, each student undertakes a research project that includes a literature review of peer reviewed journals and other pertinent sources.

For the last two weeks of the school year, all Upper School students pursue the Spring Unit. This is a two-week experiential learning program that allows students and faculty to cooperatively engage in opportunities, such as intensive studio art time, community service work, cultural learning, environmental study, professional work in various fields, etc. Regularly, experts are brought to campus or are consulted for their expertise to enrich the Unit experience. Some Unit programs are locally based. Others take students and faculty out of state or even abroad. Unit courses earn grades but not academic credit.

# STATEMENT ON DISCLOSURE

Gill St. Bernard's believes in maintaining confidentiality in matters of student discipline. Our main interests are in helping students learn from inappropriate behavior and in refocusing their actions toward more positive outcomes. Therefore, it is our policy not to respond to specific inquiries regarding a student's disciplinary history. Exceptions may be made when the safety of students could be affected, when the criminal code is violated, when grave disciplinary offenses occur, when the student has been expelled from GSB, or when the student requests disclosure.

# **COLLEGE LIST**

100% of all GSB students are granted matriculation to schools of higher education. The following is a list of recent enrollments.

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American University	Duke University	Miami University, Oxford	Stockton University	University of Maryland,
Andrews University	Elon University	Monmouth University	Syracuse University	College Park
Auburn University	Emory University	Moravian College	Texas Christian University	University of Massachusetts, Amherst
Babson College	Fairfield University	Mount Holyoke College	The Catholic University of America	University of Massachusetts, Lowell
Barnard College	Fairleigh Dickinson University	Muhlenberg College	The College of New Jersey	University of Miami
Bates College	Fordham University	New Jersey Institute of Technology	The George Washington University	University of Michigan
Baylor University	Franklin & Marshall College	New York University	The New School	University of North Carolina
Bentley University	Furman University	Northeastern University	The Ohio State University	at Chapel Hill
Binghamton University	Georgetown University	Northwestern University	The University of Alabama	University of Pennsylvania
Boston College	George Washington University	Pennsylvania State University	The University of North Carolina	University of Pittsburgh
Boston University	Georgia Institute of Technology	Pratt Institute	at Chapel Hill	University of Richmond
Brown University	Gettysburg College	Princeton University	The University of Scranton	University of Rochester
Bucknell University	Hamilton College - NY	Providence College	Trinity College	University of South Carolina
Carnegie Mellon University	Harvard University	Purdue University	Tufts University	University of Southern California
Case Western Reserve University	Haverford College	Queen's University	Tulane University	University of Vermont
Champlain College	High Point University	Quinnipiac University	Union College	University of Virginia
Chapman University	Hobart and William Smith Colleges	Rice University	United States Military Academy - Army	University of Washington
Chatham University	Indiana University at Bloomington	Rutgers, The State University	United States Naval Academy - Navy	Vanderbilt University
Clemson University	Ithaca College	of New Jersey	University of California, Berkeley	Vassar College
Colgate University	James Madison University	Sacred Heart University	University of California, Davis	Villanova University
College of Charleston	Johns Hopkins University	Saint Joseph's University	University of California, Los Angeles	Virginia Tech
College of the Holy Cross	King's College London	Saint Louis University	University of California, San Diego	Virginia Union University
College of William and Mary	Lafayette College	Sarah Lawrence College	University of California, Santa Cruz	Wake Forest University
Columbia University	Lehigh University	Skidmore College	University of Chicago	Washington and Lee University
Cornell University	Lewis & Clark College	Smith College	University of Colorado at Boulder	Washington University in St. Louis
Davidson College	Loyola Marymount University	Southern Methodist University	University of Delaware	Wellesley College
Dickinson College	Loyola University Maryland	Springfield College	University of Florida	Williams College
Drew University	Marist College	St. Lawrence University	University of Houston	Worcester Polytechnic Institute
Drexel University	Marymount Manhattan College	Stevens Institute of Technology	University of Illinois at	Yale University

Urbana-Champaign