



# INCARNATE WORD ACADEMY

## School Profile 2020 - 2021

### Mission

Incarnate Word Academy provides young women with a Catholic college preparatory education helping them grow in their relationship with Jesus, the Incarnate Word, and live according to His values.

### School Community

Incarnate Word Academy, a Catholic college preparatory high school for young women, is the oldest Catholic high school in Houston. Incarnate Word Academy is owned and operated by the Sisters of the Incarnate Word and Blessed Sacrament and is celebrating 145 years since its inception in 1873.

### Location

Incarnate Word Academy is uniquely situated in downtown Houston surrounded by Minute Maid Park, Discovery Green, the George R. Brown Convention Center, and bustling centers of business and the arts.

### Young Leaders Program (YLP)

The Young Leaders Program provides IWA students with the opportunity to develop in-demand leadership skills built upon a foundation of strong personal character. YLP is the only high school program in the country that combines a formal character and leadership development curriculum, opportunities to apply their knowledge in all their school activities, and a coaching program to assist them in their journey.

The program combines collegiate-level curriculum and experiential opportunities to empower students to take on lead and serve in their communities. YLP consists of a 4-course curriculum, known as the Young Leaders Concentration, that provides an in-depth exposure to the leadership discipline. The four courses are: Leading with Character, Leading with Business, Leading with Service, and Leading with Personal Finance. These courses leverage nationally recognized materials from institutions such as Santa Clara University and the Wharton School of Business at the University of Pennsylvania.

The program also provides out-of-class experiences for each grade classification. For freshmen and sophomores, the focus is on character: challenging each student to be virtuous by doing the right things, the right way, and, thus, becoming a role model. Juniors and seniors focus on leadership by applying learned leadership skills into action in a variety of community service projects, student-run businesses and in school organizations. IWA also teams up with corporate partners and national organizations such as PwC and Chick-Fil-A to provide nationally recognized real-world leadership lessons to our students. Finally, students are eligible to graduate as a Distinguished Leader if they complete the Young Leaders Concentration curriculum and fulfill the co-curricular requirements.

### Accreditations & Affiliations

IWA is accredited by the Texas Catholic Conference of Bishops Education Department under aegis of the Texas Education Agency and by AdvancEd. Memberships include the National Catholic Education Association, Texas Association of Private and Parochial Schools, Houston Area Independent Schools, Texas Association for College Admissions Counseling, National Association for College Admissions Counseling, College Board, and Greater Houston Partnership.

### Honor Societies

## Leadership

**President**, Sister Lauren Beck, C.V.I.

**Principal**, Andrea Smith

**Academic Dean**, Stefanie Howard

**College Counselor**, Stephanie Perez-Gill

**Director of Character & Leadership**, Eric Kerr-Herally

## IWA at a glance

|  |   |                                    |
|--|---|------------------------------------|
| Total enrollment: 331<br>12th grade enrollment: 76                       | African American/Black: 7%<br>Asian or Pacific Islander: 12%<br>Hispanic: 14%<br>All other ethnicities: 67% | Catholic: 86%<br>Non-Catholic: 14% |
| Number of Faculty (Full & Part Time): 35<br>Doctoral: 6%<br>Masters: 57% |   |                                    |

## College Preparatory Curriculum

IWA's curriculum exceeds the TEA's recommended program, and allows students to expand upon their strengths and interests with diverse academic electives such as Honors Engineering Design, Leading with Service, and Leading with Business, a course in partnership with the Wharton School of business. In addition to the academic requirements, students are required to complete 75 Service Learning Hours, 60 of which are with a single agency.

|  |                                 |                        |    |
|--|---------------------------------|------------------------|----|
| <b>28 credits are required for graduation:</b> | World Languages (same language) | 3                      |    |
| Theology                                       | 4                               | Physical Education     | 1  |
| English  | 4                               | Health Education       |    |
| Mathematics                                    | 4                               | .5                     |    |
| Science (Biology, Chemistry, Physics)          | 4                               | Computer Science       | .5 |
| Social Studies                                 | 3                               | Fine Arts              | 1  |
| Government                                     | .5                              | Leading with Character | .5 |
| Economics                                      | .5                              | Elective               |    |
|  |                                 | 1.5                    |    |

IWA students may earn a STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering & Math) endorsement consisting of one of the following options: 1. Complete 5 credits in Math by either: a. Placing out of Algebra 1 b. Taking an additional math elective such as AP Statistics or AP Computer Science 2. Complete 5 credits in Science by taking one additional Science elective.

## GPA & Class Rank

GPA is determined using a 4.0 scale with an additional weight of 1.0 for honors and AP courses. The GPA is cumulative and weighted from 9th grade. Transfer grades are not calculated into GPA. **IWA does not rank students.**

|          | Grade    | On-Level | AP/Honors |
|----------|----------|----------|-----------|
| <b>A</b> | 90-100   | 4.0      | 5.0       |
| <b>B</b> | 80-89    | 3.0      | 4.0       |
| <b>C</b> | 75-79    | 2.0      | 3.0       |
| <b>D</b> | 70-74    | 1.0      | 2.0       |
| <b>F</b> | Below 70 | 0        | 0         |

## Honors & Advanced Placement Courses

IWA offers 16 honors courses and 15 AP courses. Each department determines its enrollment standards for academic performance, participation and faculty recommendation. There is no limit to the number of honors/AP courses a student may take, and each course is given a one-point weight in the student's GPA. All students enrolled in an AP course must sit for the AP exam.

| Honors Courses     |  | AP Courses                       |                            |
|--------------------|--|----------------------------------|----------------------------|
| Algebra I          | Geometry                                 | Biology                          | French Language & Culture  |
| Algebra II         | Latin III                                | Calculus AB                      | Culture                    |
| Biology            | Physics                                  | Calculus BC                      | Spanish Language & Culture |
| Chemistry          | Pre-Calculus                             | Chemistry                        | Statistics                 |
| Economics          | Spanish III                              | Computer Science A               | US Government & Politics   |
| Engineering Design | World Geography and History from 1500 CE | Computer Science Principles      | United States History      |
| English I          |  | English Language & Composition   | World History: Modern      |
| English II         |  | English Literature & Composition |                            |
| French III         |  | Latin                            |                            |

## Modified Block Schedule & Flex Time

IWA used a modified block schedule prior to academic year 2020-2021 (see below.) Students attend all eight classes on Mondays, Thursdays, and Fridays, four of their classes on Tuesdays, and the other four on Wednesdays. This allowed more time for experiential learning and reflection and decreased the homework load two nights per week. Students learned time-management skills through Flex Time, 40 minutes at the end of each school day that is used at the student's discretion. Flex Time provided opportunities for students to engage in tutoring, collaborate in groups, plan for the week or participate in enrichment activities such as speakers or stress management workshops.

## COVID-19 Response

From March 22 through May 29 of 2020, students participated in asynchronous remote learning. Traditional assessments such as tests and quizzes were replaced with more project-based learning or essays/papers. Teachers were required to collect one grade per week during remote learning. Final exams were not administered for the 2019-2020 school year. Students in AP classes were still required to sit for the modified version of the AP exam for that class to receive credit for the course. However, the school day administration of the SAT had to be cancelled in 2020. This greatly impacted the class of 2021 as more than 75% of juniors were not able to sit for the SAT due to the cancellation of this exam administration. No other changes were made to grading policy or procedures.

The 2020-2021 academic year began on a full block, asynchronous remote learning schedule which will run until Sept. 21, 2020. IWA will offer two options for learning beginning September 21. Option 1: Provided it is safe to return to on-campus instruction, IWA will follow a hybrid model using a block schedule four days a week and one eight period remote learning day. Option 2: Fully remote instructional plan utilizing synchronous and asynchronous learning. Families will have the ability to change to Option 1 learning plan each quarter.

The schedule for both the remote learning and hybrid model is listed below.

|                          | Monday          | Tuesday     | Wednesday     |   | Thursday    | Friday      |
|--------------------------|-----------------|-------------|---------------|---|-------------|-------------|
| 8:00 - 9:25 AM           | 1               | 2           | 8:00 - 8:40   | 1 | 1           | 2           |
|                          |                 |             | 8:45 - 9:25   | 2 |             |             |
| 9:30 - 10:55 AM          | 3               | 4           | 9:30 - 10:10  | 3 | 3           | 4           |
|                          |                 |             | 10:15 - 10:55 | 4 |             |             |
| 11:00 - 12:00 PM         | LUNCH           |             |               |   |             |             |
| 12:00 - 1:25 PM          | 5               | 6           | 12:00 - 12:40 | 5 | 5           | 6           |
|                          |                 |             | 12:45 - 1:25  | 6 |             |             |
| 1:30 - 3:00 PM           | 7               | 8           | 1:30 - 2:10   | 7 | 7           | 8           |
|                          |                 |             | 2:15 - 2:55   | 8 |             |             |
| 3:00 - 3:30 PM           | FLEX (optional) |             |               |   |             |             |
| Total Instructional Time | 345 minutes     | 345 minutes | 320 minutes   |   | 345 minutes | 345 minutes |

## Standardized Testing

| SAT SCORES      |               |               |               |
|-----------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|
| Middle 50%      |               |               |               |
|                 | Class of 2020 | Class of 2019 | Class of 2018 |
| Students Tested | 81            | 70            | 57            |
| EBRW            | 555-675       | 550-660       | 570-670       |
| Math            | 505-620       | 520-630       | 510-630       |

| ACT SCORES      |               |               |               |
|-----------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|
| Middle 50%      |               |               |               |
|                 | Class of 2020 | Class of 2019 | Class of 2018 |
| Students Tested | 55            | 42            | 58            |
| ELA             | 18-27         | 17-25         | 20-24         |
| English         | 21-31         | 22-29         | 22-26         |
| Math            | 17-26         | 21-31         | 18-25         |
| Reading         | 23-33         | 19-25         | 22-30         |
| Science         | 21-25         | 21-27         | 21-25         |
| STEM            | 19-26         | 20-26         | 19-24         |
| Composite       | 20-29         | 21-28         | 21-25         |

## AP Scores

|   | 2020 | 2019 | 2018 | 2017 |
|---|------|------|------|------|
| 11 <sup>th</sup> /12 <sup>th</sup> graders taking at least 1 exam | 75%  | 63%  | 65%  | 68%  |
| Total exams   | 296  | 280  | 243  | 252  |
| Students with scores 3+   | 79%  | 76%  | 74%  | 80%  |

## National Recognition

### 2020 Advanced Placement Recognition

|                              |    |
|------------------------------|----|
| AP Scholars                  | 22 |
| AP Scholars with Honor       | 11 |
| AP Scholars with Distinction | 15 |
| National AP Scholar          | 1  |

### Students in National Merit Scholarship Program

|               |                |
|---------------|----------------|
| Class of 2021 | <i>pending</i> |
| Class of 2020 | 2              |
| Class of 2019 | 2              |
| Class of 2018 | 4              |

## Cumulative GPA Distribution (six semesters)

|               | 4.0 | 3.75-3.99 | 3.5-3.74 | 3.25-3.49 | 3.0-3.24 | < 3.0 |
|---------------|-----|-----------|----------|-----------|----------|-------|
| Class of 2021 | 51% | 16%       | 11%      | 6%        | 11%      | 5%    |
| Class of 2020 | 40% | 8%        | 14%      | 16%       | 14%      | 8%    |
| Class of 2019 | 37% | 7%        | 7%       | 15%       | 7%       | 27%   |
| Class of 2018 | 36% | 5%        | 8%       | 13%       | 10%      | 28%   |
| Class of 2017 | 38% | 15%       | 10%      | 10%       | 14%      | 13%   |

## College Matriculation

Size of graduating class: 85

|                   |     |
|-------------------|-----|
| 4 year university | 95% |
| 2 year university | 5%  |
| Public            | 70% |
| Private           | 30% |
| In-State          | 60% |
| Out of State      | 40% |

## College Acceptances 2020

The class of 2020 was accepted to 116 different colleges and universities across the country and around the world. Graduating seniors earned over \$7.8 million in merit scholarships, with 75% of students receiving at least one scholarship award. Schools bolded in the list of acceptances below demonstrate matriculation for the class of 2020.

|   |
|---|
| The University of Alabama   |
| American University   |
| Arizona State University  |
| <b>University of Arkansas</b>                                     |
| <b>Auburn University</b>  |
| <b>Baylor University</b>  |
| <b>Belmont Abbey College</b>                                      |
| Benedictine College   |
| <b>Blinn College</b>  |
| Boston College  |
| Butler University   |
| <b>The Catholic University of America</b>                         |
| Clemson University  |
| <b>Cleveland State University</b>                                 |
| College of Charleston   |
| <b>College of the Holy Cross</b>                                  |
| University of Colorado, Colorado Springs                          |
| University of Dallas  |
| University of Denver  |
| <b>DePaul University</b>  |
| Drexel University   |
| <b>Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University - Prescott</b>            |
| <b>Fashion Institute of Design and Merchandising, Los Angeles</b> |
| Fairfield University  |
| Florida Southern College  |
| Florida State University  |
| Fordham University  |
| Franciscan University of Steubenville                             |
| Georgia Institute of Technology                                   |
| University of Guelph  |
| Hawaii Pacific University   |
| Hofstra University  |
| <b>Houston Baptist University</b>                                 |
| <b>University of Houston</b>                                      |
| University of Houston, Downtown                                   |
| <b>University of Houston, Honors College</b>                      |
| Howard Payne University   |
| Ithaca College  |
| John Paul the Great Catholic University                           |
| University of Kentucky  |
| Lamar University  |
| <b>Louisiana State University</b>                                 |

|   |
|---|
| University of Louisiana at Lafayette      |
| University of Louisiana                   |
| Loyola University Chicago                 |
| Loyola University Maryland                |
| <b>Loyola University, New Orleans</b>     |
| University of Mary Hardin-Baylor          |
| McNeese State University                  |
| <b>University of Mississippi</b>          |
| Mississippi State University              |
| <b>Morgan State University</b>            |
| University of New Haven                   |
| <b>The New School</b>                     |
| North Carolina State University           |
| North Dakota State University             |
| University of North Texas                 |
| Northeastern University                   |
| <b>Oklahoma State University</b>          |
| The University of Oklahoma                |
| <b>Olin College of Engineering</b>        |
| University of Ottawa                      |
| Pace University                           |
| Pennsylvania State University             |
| <b>University of Puerto Rico</b>          |
| University of Pittsburgh                  |
| Providence College                        |
| Purdue University                         |
| Regis University                          |
| Rose-Hulman Institute of Technology       |
| Saint Francis University                  |
| Saint Joseph's University                 |
| Saint Louis University                    |
| Saint Mary's College                      |
| Saint Mary's College of California        |
| Sam Houston State University              |
| San Diego State University                |
| <b>University of San Diego</b>            |
| University of San Francisco               |
| <b>Savannah College of Art and Design</b> |
| School of the Art Institute of Chicago    |
| <b>Seattle University</b>                 |
| <b>Southwestern University</b>            |
| Spring Hill College                       |
| St. Catherine University - St. Paul       |
| <b>St. Edward's University</b>            |
| St. John's University                     |
| St. Mary's University of San Antonio      |
| <b>Stephen F. Austin State University</b> |
| Sweet Briar College                       |
| Tarleton State University                 |
| <b>Texas A&amp;M University</b>           |

|   |
|---|
| <b>Texas A&amp;M University, Corpus Christi</b> |
| Texas A&M University, Galveston                 |
| Texas A&M University, San Antonio               |
| <b>Texas Christian University</b>               |
| <b>Texas State University</b>                   |
| <b>Texas Tech University</b>                    |
| Texas Woman's University                        |
| <b>The University of Texas, Austin</b>          |
| <b>The University of Texas, Dallas</b>          |
| <b>The University of Texas, San Antonio</b>     |
| The University of Texas, Tyler                  |
| <b>Trinity University</b>                       |
| Tulane University                               |
| University of Tulsa                             |
| <b>University of St. Thomas</b>                 |
| <b>University of the Incarnate Word</b>         |
| University of Waterloo                          |
| Wilfrid Laurier University                      |
| <b>Western University</b>                       |
| Worcester Polytechnic Institute                 |
| Xavier University                               |
| Xavier University of Louisiana                  |