



# GRACE ACADEMY

225 Grace Blvd., Georgetown, TX 78633  
(Phone) 512-864-9500 ♦ (Fax) 512-868-5429  
Email: [info@gracetx.org](mailto:info@gracetx.org) ♦ [www.gracetx.org](http://www.gracetx.org)  
Head of School: Andy Cantwell, MBA, JD  
College Adviser: Susan Schwab, MS

## SCHOOL

Grace Academy is an independent, coed, classical and Christian K-12 school founded in 1999. Located in a suburb of Austin, Texas, Grace Academy has a campus of 35 acres and an enrollment of 255 students in 2020-21. Tuition assistance is distributed to 23% of the student body.

## MISSION

The mission of Grace Academy is to glorify God by serving parents in providing their children a distinctly Christ-centered, academically excellent, classical education as a foundation for life-long learning

## ACCREDITATION AND MEMBERSHIP

Grace Academy is accredited by the Association of Classical & Christian Schools (ACCS) which is recognized by the Texas Private Schools Association (TEPSAC).

## FACULTY

71% of Grace Academy's full-time high school faculty holds an advanced degree. All faculty members are supported in ongoing intellectual engagement, and many serve as leaders in their disciplines by publishing in journals and presenting at conferences.

## ADMISSIONS

Grace Academy has a rigorous and highly selective admissions process. All students must demonstrate grade-level competency on entrance exams in reading comprehension and analysis, composition, and math. Admittance to the high school also requires recommendations, interviews, and the ability, desire, and commitment to succeed in an advanced curriculum.

## SCHOOL DISTINCTIONS

Grace Academy provides a distinctly Christ-centered, academically excellent, classical education with a curriculum composed of the liberal arts and sciences, foreign languages, philosophy, theology, and fine arts. This course of study includes close scrutiny of the great writings, people, events, and ideas that have formed and reformed civilization.

## MATH AND SCIENCE

Students take four years of math (in addition to Algebra I in 8<sup>th</sup> grade) and four years of science.

## HISTORY AND LITERATURE

Students take four years of history and literature that focus on the ancient, medieval, and modern eras, as well as American history and literature. Based on an in-depth examination of primary and secondary sources, these courses provide a deep understanding of the roots of western civilization and equip students to intelligently engage with and respond to contemporary society.

## LOGIC AND RHETORIC

In 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> grade students complete a study of informal and formal logic which provides a natural foundation for Speech and Debate, as well as Classical Rhetoric I and II. The Rhetoric and Senior Thesis courses focus on learning from the ancients to hone composition and presentation skills.

## SENIOR THESIS

This culminating, year-long, required project offers students an opportunity to deeply explore a topic with a faculty member who guides the process of research, composition, and presentation. Each student writes, publicly presents, and orally defends a 15-20 page research paper.

## FOREIGN LANGUAGE

All students are required to take Latin in 3<sup>rd</sup> – 8<sup>th</sup> grades. Starting in 9<sup>th</sup> grade, students may either continue in Latin or begin a sequence in Greek. This study of classical languages provides a strong foundation for learning modern languages.

## Selections from the 7<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup> Grade Reading List

Herodotus, *The Histories*; Plato, *Apology* and *The Republic*; Plutarch, *Lives*; Homer, *The Iliad* and *The Odyssey*; Virgil, *Aeneid*; Caesar, *Galic War*; Ovid, *Metamorphoses*; Tacitus, *Annals of Imperial Rome*; *The Magna Carta*; Augustine, *Confessions* and *City of God*; *Beowulf*; Dante, *The Divine Comedy*; Chaucer, *Canterbury Tales*; *Travels of Marco Polo*; Machiavelli, *The Prince*; Malory, *Le Morte d'Arthur*; Milton, *Paradise Lost*; Paine, *Common Sense*; Tocqueville, *Democracy in*

America; Rousseau, *The Social Contract*; Marx, *The Communist Manifesto*; Thoreau, *On Civil Disobedience*; Dickens, *A Tale of Two Cities*; Austen, *Pride and Prejudice*; Hawthorne, *The Scarlet Letter*; Twain, *The Adventures of Tom Sawyer* and *Huckleberry Finn*; London, *Sea-Wolf*; Hemingway, *A Farewell to Arms*; Fitzgerald, *The Great Gatsby*; Morrison, *Paradise*; Remarque, *All Quiet on the Western Front*; Lee, *To Kill a Mockingbird*; Douglass, *Narrative of the Life of Frederick Douglass*; Orwell, *Animal Farm* and *1984*; Huxley, *A Brave New World*. Plays by Aeschylus, Euripides, Sophocles, Shakespeare, Miller, and Shaw. Poetry by Virgil, Horace, Shakespeare, Milton, Tennyson, Shelley, Frost, Herbert, Whitman, and others.

### HONORS CLASSES

Grace Academy does not differentiate in the GPA scale between any courses, Honors, AP or otherwise.

### CLASS RANK

Due to selective admissions and rigorous curriculum and grading standards, Grace Academy generally does not rank students. However, the top ten percent of each class are ranked for the purpose of admission to Texas public universities.

### GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS

27 credits Required

Arts: 2

Athletics: 1

Electives: 2

Foreign Language: 3

History: 4

Literature: 4

Math: 4

Rhetoric: 2.5

Science: 3

Theology: 1.5

+ All students are required to take at least two high school credits of a classical language (Latin or Greek).

### STANDARDIZED TESTING

**ACT** Average 2015 - 2019:

26

**SAT** Averages 2016 - 2019:

Reading: 658

Math: 618

(Scores not yet updated due to test cancellations resulting from COVID-19)

Class of 2021	History	Literature	Theology	Rhetoric	Math	Science	Foreign Languages	Electives
9 <sup>th</sup> Grade	American History	American Literature	Historical Theology I	Speech & Debate	Geometry	Biology	Latin III or Greek I	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Art Appreciation</li> <li>• Art-Drawing</li> <li>• Athletic Conditioning</li> <li>• Government*◇</li> <li>• Understanding Politics*◇</li> </ul>
10 <sup>th</sup> Grade	Ancient History	Ancient Literature	Historical Theology II	Classical Rhetoric I	Algebra 2	Chemistry	Latin IV or Greek II	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Leadership</li> <li>• Studio Art</li> <li>• Theater</li> <li>• Worship Music</li> <li>• Yearbook</li> <li>• World of Business*◇</li> </ul>
11 <sup>th</sup> Grade	Medieval History	Medieval Literature	Apologetics	Classical Rhetoric II	Pre-Calculus	Physics	AP Latin or Greek III	
12 <sup>th</sup> Grade	Modern World History	Modern World Literature◇	Senior Thesis		AP Calculus or Finite Math	Anatomy & Physiology	Greek IV*	<p>*Denotes an elective</p> <p>◇Dual-credit via Houston Baptist University</p>

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