



SCHOOL PROFILE 2020-2021

MISSION STATEMENT

Saint Mary's School, a community dedicated to academic excellence and personal achievement, prepares young women for college and life. To accomplish our mission, Saint Mary's School challenges each young woman to embrace the habits of an intellectual life, engages her with the past and the emerging future, and empowers her to serve and shape her world; fosters in each young woman a spirit of connection to others, guides her in developing her spiritual and ethical integrity, and prepares her to take responsibility for herself and her future.

FACTS & FIGURES

- Founded in 1842 as the 4th oldest girls' boarding and day school in the country
- **Enrollment:**
 - 302 students representing 14 states and 7 countries
 - 80 members of the Class of 2021
 - 10% international students
 - 12% domestic students of color
 - 46% boarding students and 54% day students
 - 32% of students receiving need-based financial aid
- 100% of graduates admitted to 4-year colleges
- 8:1 student-to-faculty ratio; average class size is 14 students
- 80% of faculty hold advanced degrees in their fields, including 5 PhD's
- Accredited by the Southern Association of Independent Schools (SAIS)
- Member of the National Coalition of Girls' Schools, National Association of Independent Schools, Southern Association of Independent Schools, North Carolina Association of Independent Schools, the National Association of Episcopal Schools, The Association of Boarding Schools
- College Counselors are members of the National Association for College Admission Counseling, the Southern Association for College Admission Counseling, and the Association of College Counselors in Independent Schools

ACADEMIC PROGRAM

The curriculum consists of rigorous college-preparatory academics in all subject areas. As such, all courses are taught at either the Advanced Placement (AP) or Honors level. In 2018-19, we removed the "Honors" label on course titles but continue to add weighting in the GPA.

- Saint Mary's School does not calculate class rank.
- 20 AP courses are offered, in addition to the full honors-level curriculum.
- A copy of the Curriculum Guide, including course offerings by department, is available [online](#).
- Students enrolled in an AP course are typically required to take the AP Exam. In May 2020, due to COVID-19, students were permitted to opt out of AP Exams.
- **COVID-19 Information:** Saint Mary's transitioned to remote learning in March 2020 for the remainder of the school year. The daily schedule was slightly condensed, and all classes continued virtually on Microsoft Teams, with students completing academic work and receiving letter grades that are factored into the overall GPA.

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Special Programs:

- Seminar: A required course for all students, Seminar is designed to develop the [10 key competencies](#) through intentional partnerships with outside organizations and is team-taught by our faculty (Pass/Fail).
- Pathways: Available to Juniors and Seniors, students work on an intensive project in one or more of the following areas: academic, creative, service, and career. Pathways projects receive one-half credit per semester (Pass/Fail).
- Independent Studies: Available to students as an in-depth study of an academic interest with a faculty mentor. Independent Studies are graded and receive one-half credit per semester.
- Through our partnerships with [One Schoolhouse](#) and [Laurel Springs](#), students are permitted to enroll in online courses with approval from the Dean of Teaching and Learning. Online courses are listed on the transcript but do not contribute to the Saint Mary's GPA.

GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS FOR THE CLASS OF 2021

The school year is divided into two semesters, and the expected course load is seven courses per semester, including Seminar. Diploma requirements include a minimum of 20 units, including:

English	4 units
Social Studies	4 units, including .5 unit of religion/philosophy and .5 unit of US Government
Mathematics	3 units, including 1 unit beyond Algebra II
Science	3 units, including 1 unit of Biology and 1 unit of a physical science
World Language	2 units (consecutive units of the same language)
Visual & Performing Arts	1 unit
Electives	3 units
Seminar	Required every semester; non-credit bearing

STANDARDIZED TESTING*

Classes of 2019-2021 (3-year average)

SAT Middle 50%: 1140-1380

ACT Composite Middle 50%: 22-30

**based on testing data available through Sept. 2020*

GRADING SCALE

A+ (97-100) = 4.3	C+ (79-77) = 2.3
A (96-93) = 4.0	C (76-73) = 2.0
A- (92-90) = 3.7	C- (72-70) = 1.7
B+ (89-87) = 3.3	D (69-65) = 1.0
B (86-83) = 3.0	F (64-0) = 0
B- (82-80) = 2.7	

GPA WEIGHTING

- AP Courses receive 2 quality points
- All graded courses receive 1 quality point

GPA Weighting through 2017-18:

2 quality points - AP Courses

1 quality point - Honors courses

AP COURSE OFFERINGS 2020-21

AP English Language and Composition
AP English Literature and Composition
AP World History
AP United States History
AP United States Government and Politics
AP Comparative Government and Politics
AP Psychology
AP Statistics
AP Calculus AB
AP Calculus BC
Multivariable Calculus (*post AP*)
Linear Algebra (*post AP*)
AP Computer Science A
AP Biology
AP Chemistry
AP Physics I
AP Environmental Science
AP French Language and Culture
AP Spanish Language and Culture
AP Spanish Literature and Culture (Independent Study 2020-21)
AP Latin
AP 2-D Art and Design
AP Drawing

COLLEGE & UNIVERSITY MATRICULATION | Classes of 2018-2020

The 85 members of the Class of 2020 are attending 45 different colleges in 19 states, with 56% enrolled at institutions outside of North Carolina. The three-year matriculation list below represents the diverse paths our graduates have taken in recent years (number in parentheses indicates multiple attendees).

American University	Randolph-Macon College
Appalachian State University (6)	Rhodes College (2)
Auburn University	Rockford University
Barton College	Saint Anselm College
Bentley University	Savannah College of Art and Design (2)
Boston College (3)	Sewanee: The University of the South (5)
Boston University	Skidmore College
Brandeis University	Southern Methodist University
Brown University	St. John's University
Bryn Mawr College	Texas Christian University
Bucknell University	Tufts University
Carnegie Mellon University	University of Alabama (2)
Centre College	University of California-Los Angeles (2)
Clemson University (7)	University of California-Santa Barbara (2)
College of Charleston (2)	University of Chicago (2)
College of Saint Benedict	University of Colorado Boulder
Colorado College	University of Florida
Davidson College (2)	University of Georgia (5)
Denison University	University of Michigan
Duke University (2)	University of Mississippi (6)
East Carolina University (8)	University of Missouri
Elon University (8)	University of North Carolina at Asheville
Emory University	University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill (28)
Furman University	University of North Carolina at Charlotte (3)
George Washington University (3)	University of North Carolina at Greensboro
Georgia Institute of Technology (2)	University of North Carolina Wilmington (3)
Georgia State University	University of Notre Dame (3)
High Point University (3)	University of Pittsburgh (2)
Indiana University	University of South Carolina (3)
Louisiana State University	University of Southern California
Macalester College	University of Texas at Austin (2)
Marist College	University of Washington
Marymount Manhattan College	University of Wisconsin
McGill University	Vanderbilt University
Meredith College (5)	Villanova University
Miami University-Oxford	Virginia Commonwealth University
New York University (4)	Virginia Tech
North Carolina A & T State University	Wake Forest University (6)
North Carolina State University (18)	Wake Technical Community College
Northeastern University (2)	Washington and Lee University (3)
Oxford College of Emory University	Washington University in St Louis
Pratt Institute	Western Carolina University
Queens University of Charlotte	Wofford College (9)