Buffalo Seminary is a selective, nonsectarian, independent day and boarding school for college-bound girls. Founded in 1851, it is a school steeped in traditions and simultaneously forward-thinking.

Enrollment in grades 9 through 12 is 173-146 day and 27 residential students.

Our international boarding students come from several countries, including the Bahamas, Canada, China, Kenya, Mexico, South Korea, and Vietnam. International students are fully immersed in our academic and extracurricular program; therefore, we do not require students to enroll in an ENL program, though we do provide academic and social support. Although most of our international students are multilingual, they are not exempt from our foreign language requirements; students are required to take either French, Spanish, or Mandarin.

98% of graduates enroll in four-year colleges. 52% of the students receive need-based financial aid.

HONOR CODE: Buffalo Seminary is dedicated to being a school where integrity, honesty, and empathy guide our thoughts and deeds. Academic Honor requires respect for the intellectual and artistic property of others. Social Honor requires treating ourselves and the other members of our community with respect, communicating honestly with one another, valuing our differences, and representing our school in a positive way. The Honor Pledge is written on all tests, papers, examinations, and designated homework assignments: “I pledge on my honor that I have neither given nor received unauthorized assistance.” Faculty and students sign the Academic & Social Honor Code poster in an annual fall ceremony.

COVID-19 RESPONSE / REMOTE LEARNING: In March of 2020, in response to the global pandemic, we transitioned to remote learning. For the remainder of the school year classes were held through Zoom. While our schedule and delivery method changed, on the whole, our academic program remained intact. Students, much to their credit, were engaged in their coursework and capitalized on the once-in-a-lifetime opportunity to truly test their resilience, flexibility, and self-reliance. Grading and assessment measures were mostly unchanged, and students earned letter grades for their work rather than a pass/fail designation. Merit roll was determined by where a students’ grade stood at the end of the second trimester. We did not administer final exams, but many classes still assigned final papers and/or projects. Fall of 2020 we opened with 16% of our students as remote learners comprising students from both abroad and from the region. Students may opt to attend remotely by trimester.

CAPSTONE PROGRAM: Before she graduates, each SEM student devotes herself to a self-directed project of her own design. With a foundation of research skills under her belt, each SEM junior spends a trimester reflecting on her passions and talents, narrowing down her research question and planning the details of her Capstone project, all under the guidance of a multidisciplinary team of faculty. As a senior, guided by a faculty mentor, she will complete and share her project, which includes an academic piece of writing and an artifact to be presented in an academic symposium (SEMposium).

COMMITTED STEINWAY SELECT SCHOOL
As part of SEM’s commitment to the arts, in 2019 the school undertook the process to be certified by the venerable piano manufacturer Steinway & Sons as a Steinway Select School. In 2020 there are only 16 Steinway Select K-12 schools in the world; we are on track to join them.
ADVANCED PLACEMENT POLICY & SCORES: Students who are enrolled in an AP class are required to sit for the AP exam. Students must receive either teacher or department chair approval to enroll in an AP and/or honors course. We cap the number of AP courses a student can take at 3 per year unless the student has received special permission from the Dean of Students. In May 2020, 72 students sat for 137 total exams. Students earned a score of 3 or higher on 77% of those exams.

CLASS OF 2021: 49 students
8 AP Scholars, 5 AP Scholars with Honors, 1 AP Scholar with Distinction

COURSE DESIGNATIONS: AP (Advanced Placement); H (Honors) – Courses designed to provide more intensive study for students of superior ability and interest; No Letter Designation (Standard) - College Preparatory course

VARSITY SPORTS
Basketball
Bowling
Crew
Cross Country
Field Hockey
Golf
Indoor Track
Lacrosse
Sailing
Soccer
Squash
Swimming
Tennis

5 NCAA Signings in the Class of 2020:
- LAX, Soccer
- Squash
- Swimming (2)

SCHOOL CLUBS
School Government Association
Audio-Visual (AV)
Black Student Union
Book
Chinese
Connect Life
Community Service Board
Computer Programming
Dance
Dungeons & Dragons
Drama (2 annual productions)
EnSEMble
French
Gay-Straight Alliance
Glee
Harry Potter
Hornet/Jacket Board
Jewish Cultural
Math
Mock Trial
Model UN
National Honor Society
Outdoors
Science
SEMachords (a capella)
SEMimarina (yearbook)
SEM Music Collective
Ski
Spanish
Tea
Volleyball

GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS
English - 4 years
History - 3 years
Foreign Language - 3 years through advanced level
Mathematics - 3 years
Science - 3 years
* A 4th year of either Math or Science
Fine Arts - 2 years and 2 trimesters

We are on a trimester system.

All attempted courses appear on a student's transcript.

English electives, with the exception of AP English Language & Composition and Foundational Junior English are open to juniors and seniors.

Students are encouraged to volunteer 10 hours of community service per trimester.

COURSE DESIGNATIONS:
AP (Advanced Placement); H (Honors) – Courses designed to provide more intensive study for students of superior ability and interest; No Letter Designation (Standard) - College Preparatory course

ENGLISH
Autobiography
Femininity & Literature
Nature in Literature
Shakespeare & History
Ghosts in Literature
Harlem Renaissance
Existentialism in Literature
New Weird Literature
Queer Theory
Poetry
Young Adult Literature
Science Fiction & Society
Utopian & Dystopian Literature
Female Friendship
Short Story

MATH
AP Calculus AB, BC **
AP Statistics **
Introduction to Calculus **
PreCalculus **
Financial Algebra ABC

HISTORY
AP U.S. Government & Politics (two trimesters)
AP Human Geography **
Comparative Religion
The World Today
The World Wars
America in the 60s

FOREIGN LANGUAGE
AP Spanish Language **
Introduction, Intermediate, or Advanced
Spanish/French
Intermediate or Advanced Mandarin
Spanish: I'Actualidad
Spanish: Latin American Short Stories
Spanish: Latin American Stereotypes
French: Bon Appetit!
French: Francophone
Culture in Film
French: LAcutalite

SCIENCE
AP Biology **
AP Chemistry **
AP Physics **
Meteorology
Women in Science & Math
Who Changed History
Oceanography
Astronomy: Search for Alien Life; Solar System; Stars & Galaxies

COMPUTER SCIENCE
AP Computer Science A **
AP Computer Science Principles **
Introduction to Computer Science
Technology & Entrepreneurship
Video Game Design
Python II
Artificial Intelligence
Virtual Reality Lab

FINE ARTS
Art & Activism
Digital Art
Introduction to Photography
Introduction to Acting
Basic Painting
Introduction to Drawing
Foundations in Abstraction
Representation
Narrative Art
Comics
Printmaking
Introduction to Acting
Introduction to Shakespeare
Advanced Shakespeare
Searching for Shakespeare
Playin' with a Playwright
Foundations of Music
Elements in Music
Music in Film
Women of Music
Photography & Mixed Media
Women in Photography
Graphic Design
Video & Animation

ONLINE SCHOOL FOR GIRLS (ENROLLEES 2020-21)
AP French Language & Culture
AP Microeconomics
AP Psychology
Computer Science by Design:
Mobile App Development
Neuroscience
Happiness!
The Psychology of What Makes Life Worth Living

* Classes are one trimester in length unless otherwise noted
** Classes are full year

* Courses are for the 2020-21 School Year

COURSES OFFERED FOR SENIORS FOR THE 2020-21 SCHOOL YEAR
EXPLANATION OF GRADES

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Grade</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>A+</td>
<td>100-97</td>
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<tr>
<td>A</td>
<td>96-93</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A-</td>
<td>92-90</td>
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<tr>
<td>B+</td>
<td>89-87</td>
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<tr>
<td>B</td>
<td>86-83</td>
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<tr>
<td>B-</td>
<td>80-82</td>
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<tr>
<td>C+</td>
<td>79-77</td>
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<tr>
<td>C</td>
<td>73-76</td>
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<tr>
<td>D</td>
<td>65-69</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>F</td>
<td>64- below</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Merit Roll:
Earned by students averaging 3.33 (B+) or greater
(with no grade lower than C+)

Honor Roll:
Earned by students averaging 3.67 (A-) or greater
(with no grade lower than B)

High Honor Roll:
Earned by students averaging 4.33
(with no grade lower than A-)

Students are only awarded these honors at the end of the year based on their final grades. For this purpose alone, grade point averages are calculated on a 4-point scale, with added weight given to Honors and Advanced Placement courses. We do not provide a GPA to colleges.

FINAL JUNIOR YEAR GRADE DISTRIBUTION

ACADEMIC COURSES FOR CLASS OF 2020

*Unweighted*

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Subject</th>
<th>A+</th>
<th>A</th>
<th>A-</th>
<th>B+</th>
<th>B</th>
<th>B-</th>
<th>C+</th>
<th>C</th>
<th>C-</th>
<th>D or below</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>English*</td>
<td>42</td>
<td>49</td>
<td>27</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>11</td>
<td>5</td>
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<td>7</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>4</td>
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<td>1</td>
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<td>Science</td>
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<td>9</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>7</td>
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<td>Fine Arts*</td>
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<td>18</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>5</td>
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<td>Foreign Language</td>
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<td>12</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>12</td>
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<tr>
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<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*final trimester grades, not final year grades

COLLEGE MATRICULATION

Over the five-year period from 2016-2020, students of Buffalo Seminary have matriculated at the following colleges:

- Alfred University
- Allegheny College
- American University
- Assumption College
- Babson College
- Bates College
- Belmont University
- Boston University
- Brown University
- Bryn Mawr College
- California Institute of Technology
- Canisius College
- Carnegie Mellon University
- Case Western Reserve University
- Clarkson University
- Colgate University
- College of Charleston
- Cornell University
- City University of New York
- Baruch
- Daemen College
- Davidson University
- Denison University
- DePaul University
- Drexel University
- Duquesne University
- D’Youville College
- Eckerd College
- Elon University
- Emerson College
- Emory University
- Fairfield University
- Florida Gulf Coast University
- Fordham University
- Franklin & Marshall College
- Gannon University
- Georgetown University
- Gettysburg College
- Goucher College
- Hampshire College
- Hampton University
- Hawaii Pacific University
- Hillbert College
- Hobart and William Smith Colleges
- Houghton College
- Howard University
- Indiana University
- Bloomington
- Indiana University of Pennsylvania
- Ithaca College
- Jacksonville University
- John Carroll University
- Kent State University
- Kenyon College
- LIM College
- Lincoln University
- Long Island University
- Loyola University Chicago
- Marymount College of Art
- Massachusetts Institute of Technology
- Medaille College
- Mercyhurst University
- Michigan State University
- Mount Holyoke College
- Nazareth College
- New York University
- Niagara County Community College
- Niagara University
- Northeastern University
- Oberlin College of Arts and Sciences
- Ohio State University
- Ohio Wesleyan University
- Pace University
- Pennsylvania State University
- Pratt Institute
- Quinnipiac University
- Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute
- Rhode Island School of Design
- Rochester Institute of Technology
- Sarah Lawrence
- Savannah College of Art and Design
- Skidmore College
- Southern Methodist University
- St. Edward’s University
- St. John Fisher College
- St. Lawrence University
- Suffolk University
- State University of New York
- (SUNY)
- Alfred State
- at Binghamton
- at Buffalo
- Buffalo State
- Canton
- Fredonia
- Geneseo
- New Paltz
- Oneonta
- Oswego
- Potsdam
- Purchase
- Syracuse University
- The American University of Paris
- The College of Wooster
- The George Washington University
- The University of the Arts
- The University of Findlay
- University of Alabama
- University of California
- Davis
- San Diego
- Santa Barbara
- Santa Cruz
- University of Connecticut
- University of Dayton
- University of Denver
- University of Illinois
- Urbana-Champaign
- University of Maine
- University of Miami
- University of Michigan
- University of Missouri
- University of New Hampshire
- University of Oregon
- University of Pittsburgh
- University of Rochester
- University of St. Andrews
- University of Toronto
- University of Utah
- University of Vermont
- University of Virginia
- University of Washington
- University of Wisconsin
- Madison
- Utica College
- Washington College
- Wesleyan University
- Western University
- Wesleyan University
- Western University (CAN)
- Western Polytechnic Institute
- Xavier University (OH)
- Yale University

ACCREDITED BY: 

Members of: