



SHADY SIDE ACADEMY

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ADMINISTRATION

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Guiding Principles that act as fundamental points of guidance: **Honesty, Respect, Responsibility, Kindness and Safety.**

ENROLLMENT (PK-12)	1,108
Country Day School	152
Junior School	279
Middle School	204
Senior School	473
<i>Class of 2021</i>	<i>118</i>
<i>Boards</i>	<i>81</i>
<i>Students of Color</i>	<i>32%</i>
<i>Male/Female</i>	<i>54% / 46%</i>

SENIOR SCHOOL STATS

Full-Time Faculty	73
Faculty - Advanced Degrees	80%
Faculty:Student Ratio	1:8
Average Class Size	15
Financial Assistance Granted	30%

2020-2021 SCHOOL PROFILE

Shady Side Academy is a nationally respected, co-educational private school in Pittsburgh for grades PK–12. The **Senior School**, located in the suburban Fox Chapel neighborhood of Pittsburgh on a 130-acre college-like campus with six academic buildings, is a college-preparatory school with an optional five- or seven-day boarding experience. With students from **73 different ZIP codes in Pennsylvania, 15 states and seven countries**, Shady Side is a diverse and unique learning community.

Accreditations: PAIS (Pennsylvania Association of Independent Schools), NAIS (National Association of Independent Schools), Middle States Association, TABS (The Association of Boarding Schools), PCIS (Pittsburgh Consortium of Independent Schools), NACAC (The National Association for College Admission Counselors), PACAC (Pennsylvania Association for College Admission Counselors), and ACCIS

SENIOR SCHOOL CURRICULUM

The Senior School has a rigorous college preparatory curriculum, where education is viewed as building the skills and habits of inquiry, research, creativity, critical thinking and problem solving.

GRADING AND RANKING

Shady Side Academy maintains rigorous standards of grading and awards letter grades as follows:

A+	4.33	C+	2.33
A	4.0	C	2.0
A-	3.67	C-	1.67
B+	3.33	D+	1.33
B	3.0	D	1.0
B-	2.67	D-	.067

A student's grade point average is calculated based on year-end grades. **GPA's are not weighted.**
Shady Side Academy does not rank.
The highest GPA in the class of 2021: 4.2

Note: Beginning in the 2018-2019 school year, all visual arts classes are graded on a pass/fail grading scale. There is also the option to take these classes for a grade.

COURSE NUMBERING ON TRANSCRIPTS

Because Shady Side Academy offers so few designated advanced classes, we use an internal numbering system on our transcripts. The course numbering system indicates curricular sequence as follows: 100 level - 9th grade or introductory; 200 level - 10th grade; 300 level - 11th grade; 400 level - 12th grade, 500 level - AP or highest level offered.

HONORS/ADVANCED PLACEMENT COURSES

Shady Side does not designate any courses as "honors" because all courses follow a rigorous college preparatory curriculum.

Advanced Placement courses are offered in **three** subject areas: math, foreign language and computer science. Therefore, most SSA students do not take more than two AP courses during their time at SSA.

REPORTING OF DISCIPLINE

Students are expected to act with integrity in all academic and personal matters. Shady Side Academy complies with NACAC's Code of Ethics and Professional Practices. Applicable disciplinary issues will be reported to colleges accordingly.

ADAPTING TO THE COVID-19 PANDEMIC

Starting at the end of March 2020, Shady Side Academy transitioned to distance learning, offering a mix of synchronous and asynchronous coursework. Given the unprecedented nature of this time, we made a series of changes to our policies and procedures.

Spring 2020 Adaptations

- Pass/Fail grading for Term 3 of the 2019-2020 school year
- Final grades for the 2019-2020 school year were an average of Term 1 and Term 2 grades
- Final exams were cancelled in Spring 2020
- Athletic seasons were cancelled for Spring 2020

Fall 2020 Adaptations

- Opened school in early September in-person with an option for students to attend school remotely if unable to be physically present
- Welcomed 90% of students back to school in person
- Divided each trimester into two sessions with each student carrying fewer courses in each session with longer class periods.
- Made significant changes to most athletic teams' practice and competition schedules

Community Standards Upheld

- Community time, advising, assemblies and the typical spring ceremonies were modified as appropriate and continued to be an integral part of our learning experience.
- Attendance, participation, engagement and upholding of Shady Side Academy's Guiding Principles were consistently upheld through distance learning.
- Guiding Principles (Respect, Responsibility, Kindness, Safety, Honesty) reinforced the highest standards of academic excellence and commitment.

STANDARDIZED TESTING

Because of the impact of COVID, many of our students were unable to take an SAT or ACT. These testing ranges are based on the class of 2020 and those for whom we have scores in the class of 2021.

SAT (140 Tests)

Test Section	Mean	Middle 50%
Math	673	605-750
Evidence Based Reading & Writing	661	610-710
Total	1334	1220-1450

ACT (84 Tests)

Test Section	Mean	Middle 50%
English	30	26-34
Math	29	25-33
Reading	30	25-35
Science	28	25-33
Composite	29	26-33

THE SHADY SIDE EXPERIENCE

THINK *Expansively*

The majority of students explore a passion project or chosen profession through an **INDEPENDENT STUDY** or **SENIOR PROJECT**.

Senior Project topics (small sample):

- Building a motorcycle
- Composing a musical
- Shadowing a cardiologist
- EMT training and certification

GLOBAL PERSPECTIVE

Global travel opportunities include:

- International service projects through the Parkin Fellowships
- Exchange programs in France, Germany, Spain, and China and a biannual theater trip to Scotland

SCIENCE RESEARCH SEMINAR

Students engage in a year-long class to develop research and analysis skills to be applied in cutting-edge science and engineering research through university partnerships.

SSA students are empowered to make choices from a broad array of opportunities.



ACT *Ethically*

Students are selected as associates of each academic department, providing an important voice in major curricular decisions and departmental policies.

Students serve as voting members on multiple committees that help shape the future of

the school, including:

- Discipline Committee
- Admissions Committee



LEAD *Responsibly*

- LEAD@SSA is a student-led leadership conference held annually to develop leadership skills in students.



- Peer-to-peer student mentors lead orientation and help new students transition to SSA.

Discipline/Graduation Requirements

TYPICAL COURSE PROGRESSION

ENGLISH
4 full years
12 credits

GRADE 9

Foundations of Literature and Writing I

GRADE 10

Foundations of Literature and Writing II

GRADES 11-12

The Art of Persuasion (1 term)

50 different one-term English courses offered to juniors and seniors across broad literary themes such as British/European Literature before 1800, Literature of the United States, Focus on the World/Non-Anglophone Literature, and more.

GLIMCHER TECH & DESIGN HUB ADVANCED OFFERINGS

Entrepreneurship for Tech and Design
Community Connections Through Tech & Design
Projects for Tech & Design

HISTORY
3 full years
9 credits
U.S. History research paper

GRADE 9

Problems in World History

GRADE 10

Patterns of Western Identity

GRADE 11

United States History

GRADE 12

Economics

Intro to Philosophy

9 upper-level History electives, including Pittsburgh History and Modern Social Justice & Revolutions

5 upper-level one-term Economics, Philosophy and Ethics electives

MATH
3 full years
9 credits

GRADES 9-12

Problem-Based Mathematics I

Problem-Based Mathematics II

Math III

Trigonometry and Function Analysis (TFA)

Trigonometry and Introductory Calculus (TIC)

CHS Statistics

CHS Calculus

AP Calculus AB

AP Calculus BC

Multivariable Calculus

7 upper-level one-term Math electives, such as Linear Algebra, Differential Equations and Fractal Geometry

SCIENCE
2 full years
2 lab sciences
6 credits

GRADE 9

Physics I
Chemistry

GRADE 10

Chemistry

Biology I

GRADES 11-12

Biology I

Physics IA

Physics II: Algebra

Physics II: Calculus

Summer Research Seminar

Physics II: Algebra

Physics II: Calculus

Advanced Topics in Astronomy

Advanced Topics in Physics and Engineering

Advanced Biology

Environmental Science

Psychology

Organic Chemistry

6 upper-level one-term Inorganic Chemistry electives

WORLD LANGUAGES
Through Level 3

GRADE 9

Chinese 1, 2, 2A

French 1, 2, 2A

German 1, 2

Latin 1, 2

Spanish 1, 2, 2A

GRADE 10

Chinese 2, 2A, 3, 3A

French 2, 2A, 3, 3A

German 2, 3

Latin 2, 3

Spanish 2, 2A, 3, 3A

GRADE 11

Chinese 3, 3A, 4, 4A

French 3, 3A, 4, 4A

German 3, 4A

Latin 3, 4A

Spanish 3, 3A, 4, 4A

GRADE 12

Chinese 4, 4A, 5, 5AP

French 4, 4A, 5AP

German 4A, 5AP

Latin 4A, 5A

Spanish 4, 4A, 5, 5AP

COMPUTER SCIENCE
2 terms
2 credits

GRADES 9-12

Problem Solving: Karel & Elementary Graphics

Web Design

Game Design

Artificial Intelligence

Mobile Apps

3D Modeling

Robotics

Computer Architecture

ADVANCED OFFERINGS

Options above, PLUS:

AP Computer Science

Discrete Structures

Advanced Topics: Virtual Reality

Advanced Topics: Advanced Data Structures and Algorithms

Advanced Topics: Machine Learning

Advanced Topics in Computer Science

ARTS VISUAL AND PERFORMING
3 credits
All arts classes are pass/fail

GRADES 9-12

Concert Choir

Chamber Choir

Concert Band

Symphonic Band

Jazz Ensemble

String Orchestra

Electronic Sound Studio

Music Theory

Music Workshop: Guitar or Piano

Acting

Studio Art 2D

Studio Art 3D

Advanced Portfolio Studio Art

Architecture

Ceramics

Digital Photography

Metal

Painting

Dark Room

Lab Photography

COLLEGE ENROLLMENTS FROM THE CLASSES OF 2018, 2019 AND 2020

Allegheny College	Eckerd College	Nazareth College	University of Cincinnati
American University	Elon University	New York University	University of Colorado Boulder
Amherst College	Emory University	Northeastern University	University of Denver
Arizona State University	Fordham University	Northwestern University	University of Maryland
Babson College	Franklin and Marshall College	Norwich University	University of Massachusetts
Barnard College	Gannon University	Ohio University	University of Miami
Bates College	George Washington University	Ohio State University	University of Michigan
Boston College	Georgetown University	Pennsylvania State University	University of Mount Union
Boston University	Georgia Institute of Technology	Point Park University	The University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill
Bowling Green State University	Gordon College	Princeton University	University of Notre Dame
Brown University	Goucher College	Purdue University	University of Pennsylvania
Bryn Mawr College	Grove City College	Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute	University of Pittsburgh
Bucknell University	Harvard University	Rhode Island School of Design	University of Richmond
Carleton College	Hobart and William Smith Colleges	Rice University	University of Rochester
Carnegie Mellon University	Howard University	Rochester Institute of Technology	University of San Diego
Case Western Reserve University	Ithaca College	Rose-Hulman Institute of Technology	University of Southern California
Chapman University	John Carroll University	Sarah Lawrence College	University of St. Andrews
Chatham University	Johns Hopkins University	Slippery Rock University of PA	University of Virginia
Colby College	Kent State University at Kent	Southern Methodist University	University of Wisconsin
Colgate University	Kenyon College	St. Lawrence University	Vanderbilt University
College of Charleston	Lafayette College	St. Olaf College	Villanova University
College of the Holy Cross	Lake Forest College	Stanford University	Virginia Tech
College of Wooster	Lehigh University	Swarthmore College	Wake Forest University
Colorado State University	Loyola Marymount University	Syracuse University	Walsh University
Columbia University	Loyola University Chicago	Texas Christian University	Washington & Jefferson College
Connecticut College	Marietta College	Tufts University	Washington and Lee University
Cornell University	Massachusetts Institute of Technology	Tulane University of Louisiana	Washington University
Dartmouth College	McGill University	Union College (NY)	Western Michigan University
Davidson College	Mercyhurst University	United States Military Academy	Wilkes University
Denison University	Miami University Oxford	University of Alabama	Williams College
Dickinson College	Michigan State University	University of California-Berkeley	Yale University
Drexel University	Middlebury College	University of California-Los Angeles	York College of Pennsylvania
Duke University	Montana State University	University of Chicago	
Duquesne University			