

School Profile 2020-2021

History & Philosophy

Established in 1957, Dunn School is a grade 6-12, co-educational, independent school for boarding and day students, located in Santa Barbara County on California's Central Coast. The school is characterized by seminar-style classes that privilege curiosity and open inquiry, responsiveness to a range of learning styles, and a close community of educators who value both intellectual and personal growth.

Mission & Values

The Dunn community educates the whole student to his or her fullest potential in preparation for a life of learning and responsible leadership in society.

We strive toward the balanced education of the whole person. Our curriculum, both in the classroom and beyond, is designed around five core values: Emotional Wellness, Physical Readiness, Intellectual Growth, Social Responsibility, and Moral Courage.



ADDRESS

PO Box 98
2555 West Highway 154
Los Olivos, CA 93441
Ph: 805.688.6471
CEEB Code: 051863
www.dunnschool.org

CONTACTS

LIZ TYNG

Director of College Counseling
ltyng@dunnschool.org
o: 805.686.0637
c: 310.743.7151

ERIN COOK

College Counselor/
Dean of Academics
ecook@dunnschool.org
o: 805.686.0624
c: 805.325.3326

AIMEE MARVEL

College Counseling Assistant
amarvel@dunnschool.org
o: 805.686.0628

JILLIAN HAIG

Registrar
jhaig@dunnschool.org
o: 805.686.0640

ACCREDITATION



Students & Setting

46 Class of 2021	53% Male	30% Domestic Students of Color	64% Upper School Students Receiving Financial Aid	5:1 Student-to-Faculty Ratio
172 Upper School Enrollment	44% Female	20% International Students	100% Class of 2020 4-year College Admission	9 Average Class Size
46/54% Boarding/Day	3% Non Binary	14 Nations of Origin		55 Acre Rural Campus

Covid-19 Update

Spring 2020

- Transitioned to a fully online model of instruction
- Course rigor, class participation expectations, and letter based grading system remained the same
- Community service requirements were waived, and Spring outdoor education trips and athletics were canceled
- Students faced unforeseen challenges including quarantining in their home countries, time zone differences, and limited/inconsistent internet access

Fall 2020

- The year began with online instruction modeled after Stanford Online High School and in late October, we shifted to in-person learning
- 50% of boarding students are currently residing on campus
- Grade level cohorts were used as a containment strategy, resulting in students having less class choice/flexibility and more students enrolled in 5 classes instead of the typical 6
- Competitive athletics continue to be on hiatus and will resume in December with condensed seasons (2 instead of 3), causing some conflicts for multi sport athletes
- Clubs and student government continue to meet virtually

Academics & Grading System

Academics

Dunn’s academic curriculum privileges intellectual growth and skill mastery. Our highly supportive and accessible faculty promote creativity, intellectual courage, curiosity, and ethics in the learning process. This balanced approach allows us to engage a broad range of learners across disciplines in an authentic and purpose-driven approach to their academic life.

Advanced Curriculum

Dunn’s advanced curriculum is responsive to the interests, abilities and aspirations of our students and the unique strengths of our faculty. In addition to high intellectual standards, our advanced courses place a greater emphasis on creative thought, evidence-based arguments, and intellectual risk - emphasizing skill mastery through multiple modes of assessment. Students in these courses engage with more sophisticated materials across all disciplines and are held to a higher standard of participation. The course selection process, including placement in advanced courses, includes oversight by the Academic Dean, Director of College Counseling, and faculty advisors, to ensure appropriate rigor and balance. Most students are encouraged to take no more than 2-3 advanced courses per year in their areas of greatest interest.

Experiential & Enrichment Curriculum

Central to our whole student philosophy, we dedicate over 100 hours each year to experiential-based learning. Our week-long wilderness trips focus on character development and community mindedness. Our Wednesday enrichment classes and week-long Mini Term encourage students to connect with their passions. Here students are given the opportunity to share their personal interests as well as interact with faculty outside of the academic setting. This further promotes the concept of faculty as mentor and students’ personal discovery and development.

Learning Strategies

Dunn School’s Learning Strategies program offers highly personalized academic support designed to meet the needs of students with mild learning differences. Twenty percent of the student body participates in this program and meets with an academic advisor four class periods per week via one-on-one meetings or in small groups.

Discipline Policy

Dunn reports discipline in accordance with application requirements. Students are counseled to truthfully answer all questions regarding disciplinary actions rendered during their Dunn tenure. Additional context is provided by the college counseling team in the written evaluation.

Grading System

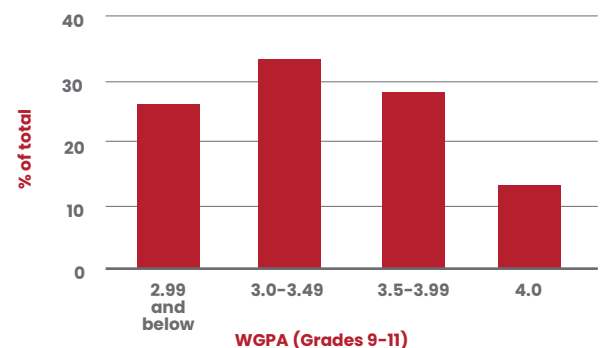
- 34 instructional weeks
- 2 semesters with grades issued 2 times per year
- 4.0 scale
- Advanced or AP classes received 1.0 bonus point/semester
- Honors classes received 0.5 bonus point/semester
- Both weighted and unweighted GPAs are reported
- Remediated classes taken at Dunn School replace previous grades earned in like classes while those taken at other institutions are incorporated into the overall GPA
- For transfer students from domestic high schools, grades issued on a semester basis are factored into their Dunn GPA
- Grades earned at international schools or via a trimester or quarter system are not incorporated into students’ cumulative grade point averages
- Class rank is not computed nor reported

Grading Scale

A	93-100%	4.0
A-	90-92.99%	3.7
B+	87-89.99%	3.3
B	83-86.99%	3.0
B-	80-82.99%	2.7
C+	77-79.99%	2.3
C	73-76.99%	2.0
C-	70-72.99%	1.7*
D+	67-69.99%	1.3
D	63-66.99%	1.0
D-	60-62.99%	0.7
F	0-59.99%	0.0

*minimum passing grade

Class of 2021 GPA Distribution



Standardized Testing

At the time of printing, the vast majority of Dunn School seniors were unable to access standardized exams due to limited availability resulting from Covid-19 related school closures & restrictions in California and abroad. Our data is insufficient and could be misleading, therefore in fairness to all students we will not be sharing Class of 2021 averages.

Courses Offered Fall 2017– Spring 2021 *indicates most challenging course

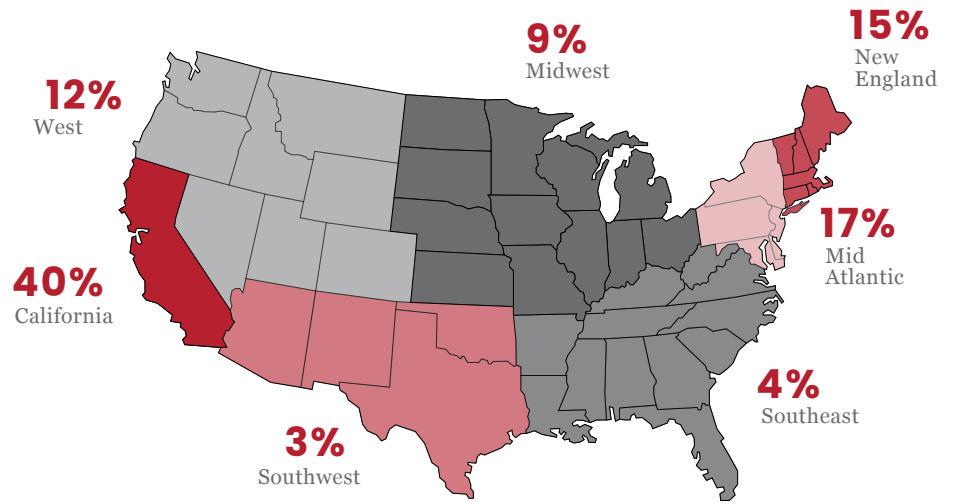
Discipline (Required Courses)	Grade 9 (2017-2018)	Grade 10 (2018-2019)	Grade 11 (2019-2020)	Grade 12 (2020-2021)
English (4 years)	English 9	English 10 English 10 Honors*	English 11 Advanced English 11*	English 12 Advanced English 12*
History (3 years) (World & U.S.)	History 9	History 10 (World History) Advanced World History*	U.S. History Advanced U.S. History*	American Studies Advanced American Studies*
Mathematics (3 years) (Int Math 1-3)	Integrated Math 1 Integrated Math 1 Honors*	Integrated Math 2 Integrated Math 2 Honors*	Integrated Math 3 Advanced Integrated Math 3* Advanced Statistics*	Integrated Math 4 Advanced Calculus AB*
Science (3 years) (Chemistry and Biology)	Research & Development	Chemistry	Biology Physics Chemistry	
			Advanced Biology 1* Advanced Chemistry II*	Advanced Biology II* Anatomy & Physiology Advanced Environmental Studies*
	Introduction to Engineering Design			
	Makerspace Engineering			
World Language (2 years)	Spanish 1, Spanish 2, Spanish 3, Spanish 4, Multi-Lingual Support (ESL)			
	Spanish 2 Honors* Spanish 3 Honors* Spanish 4 Honors*	Spanish 2 Honors* Spanish 3 Honors* AP Spanish*	Advanced Spanish 2* Advanced Spanish 3*	Advanced Spanish 3* Advanced Spanish*
	French 1	French 1 French 2	French 2 (online) French 3 (online)	French 3 (online) French 4 (online)
Visual and Performing Arts (1 year)	Ceramics 1 Photography 1 Studio Art 1 Acting Applied Music: Guitar/ Instrumental Vocal Ensemble	Ceramics 1/2, Studio Art 1/2, Acting, Jazz Ensemble 1/2/3, Vocal Ensemble, Applied Music: Guitar/Instrumental		
		Photography 1/2 Classical/Instrumental Ensemble		
		Ceramics 3: Portfolio Development Studio Art 3: Portfolio Development		
		Photography 3: Portfolio Development	Ceramics 3: Portfolio Completion Photography 3: Portfolio Completion Studio Art 3: Portfolio Completion	
Electives	Earwig Inc. (Business Entrepreneurship Class)			
	AP Computer Science Principles*	Advanced Computer Science*		
Physical Readiness	Year round participation in sports activity is required with 1 mandatory season of competitive sport			
Community Service	10 hours each academic year			

Educational Outcomes

100% of the Class of 2020 obtained a diploma and continued on to postsecondary education.

The class garnered 219 acceptances at 191 different colleges and universities.

8% of graduates enrolled in community college and 92% will attend four year colleges.



Sample College Acceptances & Matriculation 2018-2020

University of California System

- University of California-Berkeley
- University of California-Davis*
- University of California-Irvine*
- University of California-Los Angeles*

- University of California-Riverside
- University of California-Santa Barbara*
- University of California-Santa Cruz*
- University of California, San Diego*

California State University System

- Cal Poly, Pomona
- Cal Poly, San Luis Obispo*
- California State University-Channel Islands
- California State University-Chico
- California State University-Dominguez Hills

- California State University-Long Beach
- California State University-Los Angeles

California State University-Monterey Bay

- California State University-Northridge
- California State University-San Marcos

- California State University-Stanislaus

- Humboldt State University
- San Diego State University
- San Francisco State University
- Sonoma State University

Colleges That Change Lives Colleges

- Bard College*
- Beloit College
- Clark University
- Cornell College
- Denison University
- Eckerd College
- Hampshire College
- Reed College
- Rhodes College
- Saint Mary's College of California*
- Southwestern University
- St. John's College
- The College of Wooster
- University of Puget Sound

Whitman College

International Universities

- University of St Andrews
- Public Universities
- Arizona State University-Tempe*
- Baruch College of the CUNY

- Binghamton University
- Boise State University
- Clemson University
- Coastal Carolina University
- College of Charleston
- Colorado School of Mines
- Colorado State University-Fort Collins*
- Colorado State University-Pueblo
- Eastern Washington University
- George Mason University
- Idaho State University
- Illinois State University

Indiana University-Bloomington

Kansas State University

- Michigan State University
- Michigan Technological University
- Montana State University

Oklahoma State University

- Pennsylvania State University
- Purdue University
- Rutgers University-New Brunswick

Santa Barbara City College*

- Stony Brook University, SUNY
- Texas Tech University

The University of Arizona

- University of Arkansas
- University of Colorado-Boulder*

- University of Colorado-Denver
- University of Connecticut
- University of Hawaii at Manoa

University of Idaho

- University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign

- University of Massachusetts-Amherst
- University of Massachusetts-Boston

- University of Michigan
- University of Minnesota
- University of Mississippi

- University of North Dakota

- University of North Texas
- University of Oregon*
- University of Pittsburgh
- University of Virginia
- University of Washington, Seattle
- University of Wisconsin-Madison
- University of Wyoming
- Virginia Polytechnic
- Washington State University

Private Colleges & Universities

- Albion College
- Art Center College of Design
- Azusa Pacific University
- Babson College
- Barnard College
- Baylor University
- Belmont University
- Boston College
- Boston University*
- Brandeis University
- Bucknell University
- California College of the Arts
- California Lutheran University
- Case Western Reserve University
- Chapman University*
- Clarkson University
- Columbia College Chicago
- Columbia University
- Connecticut College
- Cooper Union
- DePaul University
- DePauw University
- Dickinson College
- Dominican University of California
- Drew University
- Drexel University*
- Elon University
- Emerson College
- Florida Institute of Technology
- Florida Southern College
- Fordham University*
- George Washington University
- Gonzaga University
- Grinnell College
- Hamilton College
- Haverford College
- Hawaii Pacific University
- Hult International Business School
- Johns Hopkins University
- Kenyon College
- Lafayette College
- Lesley University

- Lewis & Clark College
- Linfield University
- Loyola Marymount University*
- Macalester College
- Marquette University
- Miami University-Oxford
- Mills College
- Mount Holyoke College
- New York University
- Northeastern University*
- Oberlin College
- Otis College of Art and Design
- Pace University-New York
- Pepperdine University*
- Pomona College
- Pratt Institute
- Rochester Institute of Technology
- Santa Clara University
- Savannah College of Art and Design
- School of Visual Arts
- Seattle University*
- Skidmore College
- Smith College
- Syracuse University
- The New School*
- The University of Findlay
- Trinity College
- Tulane University
- University of Denver*
- University of Evansville
- University of Miami
- University of Portland
- University of Redlands*
- University of Rochester
- University of San Diego*
- University of San Francisco*
- University of Southern California*
- University of Tampa
- University of the Pacific
- Vassar College
- Villanova University
- Wagner College
- Warren Wilson College
- Wellesley College
- Westmont College
- Wesleyan University
- Wheaton College - Massachusetts

*More than 5 acceptances
Matriculation