

## Headmaster

Rene Menard

## Director of School Counseling

Eric Ouellette

## School Counselors

Jeffrey Camire

Mark DeFrancesco

Abigail More

Kelsey Ramsey

Sarah Tibbetts

Lucretia Wallace

## Boarding School Counselor

Melanie Serrano

**CEEB Code:** 200875

## Mission

Thornton Academy offers a rigorous and broad-based program of academic, arts, and athletic opportunities that challenges students to reach their potential. Our graduates are lifelong learners who are prepared to be productive participants in a changing world.

## Historic Independent School

Thornton Academy is a historic, independent school educating 6-12th graders in Saco, Maine. Founded in 1811 and chartered by the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, Thornton Academy is one of New England's oldest independent schools. The upper school students come from diverse geographic, economic, and ethnic backgrounds. Students enroll as: 1) day students who come by municipal contract from public schools in the towns of Saco, Dayton, and Arundel, 2) day students from other towns in southern Maine who apply as tuition students, or 3) residential students who apply from other states and countries.

## Accreditation/Affiliation

Thornton Academy is accredited by the New England Association of Schools & Colleges (NEASC). Affiliations include: National Association of Independent Schools (NAIS), The Association of Boarding Schools (TABS), Independent School Association of Northern New England (ISANNE), Maine Association of Independent Schools (MAIS), the College Board, and is a SEVIS certified school.

## Curriculum, Credits, and Grading

Four-year upper school students complete 22 credits to satisfy graduation requirements, including: English (4), Mathematics (3), Social Science (3), Science (3), Wellness (1.5), Fine Arts (1), and Electives (6.5).

College-bound students are highly encouraged to take a minimum of three years of the same foreign language.

International students who study less than four years must meet the following minimum requirements: 1 year student—6 credits to include: English, Math, Science, US History, and 2 additional credits; 2 year student—11 credits to include: 2 English, 2 Math, 2 Science, 1 US History, 1 Wellness and/or Art, and 3 additional; 3 year student—16 credits including: 3 English, 3 Math, 3 Science, 1 US History, 1 Social Science, 1 Fine Art, 0.5 Wellness, and 3.5 additional.

## Signature Programs

### Advanced Placement

26 Advanced Placement courses are offered: Art & Design, Music Theory, Language & Composition, US Literature & Composition, US History, European History, Government & Politics, Human Geography, Macroeconomics, Microeconomics, Psychology, Chinese, Latin, French, Spanish, Statistics, Calculus AB, Calculus BC, Biology, Chemistry, Physics I&II, Physics C, Environmental Science, Computer Science A, Computer Science Principals

### Honors

42 Honors Courses, including: German I-IV, Arabic I-III, Homeric Greek I-III, Biology, Chemistry, Physics, Honors English 9-12, Statistics, Geometry, Algebra I & II, Calculus A, Pre-Calculus, French I-V, Latin III, Spanish I-IV, Chinese I-IV, Modern US History, Introduction to Engineering, Physical Science, and Visual Arts.

### Arts

32 Courses in Music, Dance, Theater, and Visual Arts.

### School-to-Work

4 courses, plus technical and college preparatory programs offered through Biddeford Regional Center of Technology (BRCOT).

### Foreign Language

36 offerings in seven languages: French, Spanish, Latin, Chinese, Arabic, Homeric Greek, and German.

### Technology & New Media

14 offerings in Movie Making, Graphic Design, and Computer Programming

### Faculty

Thornton Academy has 99.5 full-time equivalent upper school teachers; 70% with a masters degree or higher.

## 2021 Post-Secondary Outcomes

Four Year College	<b>57.7%</b>
Two Year College	<b>12.6%</b>
Gap Year	<b>1.8%</b>
Employment	<b>24.7%</b>
Military	<b>3.1%</b>

## Total Upper School Enrollment

1356

## Boarding Students:

177

## Day Students:

1179

## International Students:

13%

## SAT Scores

Below are mean scores for SAT exams during the 2020-21 school year.

Section	Mean
Math	<b>549</b>
ERW	<b>557</b>
Total	<b>1105</b>

Students Tested  
**128**

## Graduation Distinction:

The class of 2021 had 41 graduates with Summa Cum Laude distinction (GPA of 4.0 or higher), 24 Magna Cum Laude distinction (GPA of 3.9-3.9999), and 24 Cum Laude distinction (GPA of 3.8-3.89999).

## AP Scholar Designation:

In the 2021 Advanced Placement exam season, 180 students took a total of 343 exams. Thornton had 17 AP Scholars (scores of 3 or higher on three or more AP exams), 9 AP Scholars with Honors (scores of 3 or higher on 4 or more AP exams), 15 AP Scholars with Distinction (scores of 3 or higher on 5 or more AP exams), and 2 National AP Scholars (scores of 4 or higher on 8 or more AP exams).

## Special Curricular Features:

Thornton Academy has articulation agreements with both the University of Maine and the University of New England. The University of Maine agreement is for motivated engineering-bound students who strive to challenge themselves while working to earn advanced placement in college. Students who successfully complete the rigorous STEM sequence may gain admission to the renowned UMaine engineering program with sophomore standing. The humanities-focused articulation agreement with the University of New England involves at least 8 Advanced Placement classes in the areas of Math, Science, English, Environmental Science, and Studio Art. Upon successful completion, students may gain admission to the College of Arts and Sciences at UNE with sophomore standing.

## Weighted Rank Conversion Chart

Range	Core	Honors	AP	
A	94-100	4.00	4.20	4.30
A-	90-93	3.67	3.87	3.97
B+	87-89	3.33	3.53	3.63
B	84-86	3.00	3.20	3.29
B-	80-83	2.67	2.87	2.96
C+	77-79	2.33	2.53	2.63
C	74-76	2.00	2.20	2.29
C-	70-73	1.77	1.87	1.96
D+	67-69	1.33	1.53	1.63
D	64-66	1.00	1.20	1.29
D-	60-63	0.67	0.87	0.96
F	0-59	0.00	0.00	0.00

Courses labeled "Foundations", "CR" (credit recovery), or "AE" (Alternative Education) are not considered college preparatory.

## Class of 2021 College Acceptances

Adelphi University	Illinois Institute of Technology	Syracuse University
American University	Indiana University at Bloomington	Temple University
Arizona State University	Ithaca College	Texas A&M University
Assumption College	James Madison University	The Ohio State University
Auburn University	Johnson & Wales University	The University of Tampa
Babson College	Keene State College	Thomas Jefferson University
Bard College	King's College London	Union College (New York)
Bates College	Knox College	United States Military Academy
Bay Path University	Lehigh University	United States Naval Academy
Baylor University	Louisiana State University	
Beloit College	Loyola University Chicago	University of Alberta
Bentley University	Maine College of Art	University of California, Berkeley
Berklee College of Music	Maine Maritime Academy	University of California, Davis
Binghamton University	Marquette University	University of California, Irvine
Boston College	Maryland Institute College of Art	University of California, Los Angeles
Boston University	Massachusetts College of Art and Design	University of California, San Diego
Brandeis University	MCPHS - Massachusetts College of Pharmacy & Health Sciences	University of California, Santa Barbara
Bryant University	McGill University	University of California, Santa Cruz
California Institute of the Arts	Merrimack College	University of Colorado at Boulder
California State Polytechnic University - Pomona	Miami University, Oxford	University of Connecticut
California State University, Fresno	Miann State University	University of Denver
Carleton College	Monmouth University	University of Hartford
Case Western Reserve University	New England Institute of Technology	University of Idaho
Cazenove College	New York University	University of Illinois at Chicago
Clark University	Northeastern University	University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign
Clarkson University	Norwich University	University of Iowa
Clemson University	Otis College of Art and Design	University of Maine
Cleveland Institute of Art	Pace University, New York City	University of Maryland, College Park
Colby College	Palm Beach State College	University of Massachusetts, Amherst
Colgate University	Pennsylvania State University	University of Massachusetts, Boston
College of the Atlantic	Pratt Institute	University of Michigan
Colorado State University	Providence College	University of Minnesota, Twin Cities
Columbia College	Purdue University	University of New England
Connecticut College	Quinnipiac University	University of New Hampshire
Dalhousie University	Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute	University of North Carolina
DePaul University	Rhodes College	University of Oregon
Drake University	Rochester Institute of Technology	University of Pittsburgh
Dickinson College	Roger Williams University	University of Rhode Island
Drexel University	Rutgers University-New Brunswick	University of Rochester
Elon University	Saint Joseph's College-ME	University of South Florida, Tampa
Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University	Saint Louis University	University of Southern California
Emerson College	Salve Regina University	University of Southern Maine
Emmanuel College	Savannah College of Art and Design	University of Toronto
Emory University	School of the Art Institute of Chicago	University of Vermont
Endicott College	Simmons University	University of Washington
Florida Institute of Technology	Southern Maine Community College	University of Wisconsin, Madison
Florida State University	Southern New Hampshire University	Ursinus College
Fordham University	St. John's University	Utah State University
Franklin Pierce University	Stonehill College	Wagner College
Furman University	Stony Brook University	Washington State University
George Washington University	Suffolk University	Wentworth Institute of Technology
Georgetown University	SUNY Binghamton	West Virginia Wesleyan College
Gettysburg College	Susquehanna University	Westminster College
Hampshire College		Wheaton College MA
Hawaii Pacific University		Worcester Polytechnic Institute
Hofstra University		York County Community College
Hult International Business School		York University

## COVID-19 Impacts:

During the academic year 2020-21 Thornton Academy operated under a combined on-campus/remote hybrid model with an 8-course block schedule. Each student has been assigned two on-campus days per week (either M/T or Th/F), with Wednesdays as an asynchronous remote day for all. With the exception of asynchronous Wednesdays, students participate remotely and synchronously on their at-home days. Students received grades of A-F on a traditional grading scale. P (pass) and AUD designations were used as an intervention when COVID related impediments prevented a student from accessing course work.