



ACADEMIC PROFILE 2021-2022

205 Bidwell Parkway, Buffalo, New York 14222
buffaloseminary.org // 716-885-6780 FAX 716-885-6785
CEEB Code 330990

Head of School: **HELEN L. MARLETTE** College Counselor: **ANN LESLIE**



#1
Best All-Girls
High Schools
in Buffalo Area

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 160: 140 day and 20 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.

100% of graduates are accepted to four-year colleges. 35% of the students receive need-based financial aid.

HONOR CODE: Buffalo Seminary is dedicated to being a school where both Academic Honor and Social Honor guide our thoughts and actions. Academic Honor requires respect for the intellectual and artistic property of others. Social Honor requires treating ourselves and all members of our community with respect. Faculty and students sign the Academic & Social Honor Code poster in an annual fall ceremony.

COVID-19 RESPONSE: Pre-Covid, tech was integrated into SEM's teaching and learning. We have been open and in-person since September 2020. Plans and procedures for both online and on-campus learning included reconfigured spaces, reimagined teaching and learning combinations of synchronous and asynchronous remote learning, and in-person classes for our day and boarding students. 80% of our students were on campus for the 2020-2021 school year. **Grading and assessment measures returned to our pre-pandemic standards.** 100% of our students will be in-person for the 2021-2022 academic year.

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).

HARKNESS LEARNING: As a college preparatory program, Harkness discussions are a vital part of our teaching and learning. Each of our humanities classrooms contains a classic New England-style Harkness table. A Harkness discussion is a seminar-style, student-led exploration of ideas through open-ended questions and multiple perspectives. Seated at a Harkness table, no girl is unheard and a lifetime of civil discourse is nurtured.

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 2021, 71 students sat for 140 total exams.

CLASS OF 2021: 47 students

6 AP Scholars, 3 AP Scholars with Honors, 2 AP Scholars 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 - College Preparatory course

GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS

English - 4 years

History - 3 years

Foreign Language - 3 years through advanced level

This requirement does not apply to students for whom English is a second language.

Mathematics - 3 years

Science - 3 years

+ A 4th year of either **Math or Science**

Fine Arts - 5 classes

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 all seniors.

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

VARSITY SPORTS

Basketball	Soccer
Bowling	Squash
Crew	Swimming
Cross Country	Tennis
Fencing	<i>2 NCAA</i>
Field Hockey	<i>Signings in the</i>
Golf	<i>Class of 2021:</i>
Lacrosse	<i>Golf, Ice Hockey</i>
Sailing	

SCHOOL CLUBS

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

COURSE OFFERINGS FOR SENIORS FOR THE 2021-22 SCHOOL YEAR

ENGLISH

AP Literature
 AP Language
 Autobiography
 Femininity & Literature
 Creative Non-Fiction
 Shakespeare & History
 Ghosts in Literature
 Harlem Renaissance
 Existentialism in Literature
 New Weird Literature
 Modern Drama
 Poetry
 Science Fiction & Society
 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: l'Actualidad
 Spanish: Latin American Short Stories
 Spanish: Latin American Stereotypes
 French: Bon Appetit!
 French: Francophone Culture in Film
 French: L'Actualite

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

ONE SCHOOLHOUSE (ENROLEES 2021-22)

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

EXPLANATION OF GRADES

A+ 100-97	B+ 89-87	C+ 79-77	D 65-69
A 96-93	B 86-83	C 73-76	F 64+
A- 92-90	B- 80-82	C- 70-72	

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. *By policy, SEM students are not ranked.*

COLLEGE PLACEMENTS CLASS OF 2021

49 STUDENTS

	Number	Percentage
Private	32	65%
Public	17	35%
2-Year	4	8%
4-Year	45	92%
Out of State	26	53%
In State	23	47%

COLLEGE MATRICULATION

Over the five-year period from 2017-2021, students of Buffalo Seminary have matriculated at the following colleges:

Allegheny College	Goucher College	Pace University	Syracuse University
American University	Hampshire College	Pratt Institute	University of Alabama
American University of Paris	Harvard University	Pennsylvania State University	University of the Arts
Assumption College	Hilbert College	Purdue University	University of California
Bates College	Hobart and William Smith Colleges	Quinnipiac University	Davis
Belmont University	Houghton College	Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute	San Diego
Boston College	Howard University	Rhode Island School of Design	Santa Barbara
Boston University	Indiana University of Pennsylvania	Rochester Institute of Technology	Santa Cruz
Brown University	Indiana University Bloomington	St. John Fisher College	University of Dayton
Bryn Mawr College	Ithaca College	St. Lawrence University	University of Denver
California Institute of Technology	Jacksonville University	Sarah Lawrence College	University of Findlay
Canisius College	John Carroll University	Savannah College of Art and Design	University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign
Carnegie Mellon University	Kent State University	School of the Art Institute of Chicago	University of Maine
Clarkson University	Kenyon College	Skidmore College	University of Michigan Ann Arbor
College of Charleston	LIM College	Southern Methodist University	University of Missouri Columbia
College of Wooster	Loyola University Chicago	State University of New York at Alfred	University of New Hampshire
Cornell University	Loyola University New Orleans	at Binghamton	University of Pittsburgh
CUNY Bernard M. Baruch College	Maryland Institute of Art	at Buffalo	University of Rochester
Daemen College	Medaille College	Buffalo State College	University of St. Andrews (UK)
Davidson College	Mercyhurst University	Canton	University of Southern California
Denison University	Michigan State University	College of Environmental Science and Forestry	University of Toronto (CAN)
DePaul University	Missouri University Science and Technology	Erie Community College	University of Vermont
Drexel University	Mount Holyoke College	Fredonia	University of Virginia
Duquesne University	Muhlenberg College	Geneseo	University of Washington, Seattle
Durham University	Nazareth College	New Paltz	University of Western Ontario
D'Youville College	New York University	Niagara Community College	University of Wisconsin Madison
Eckerd College	Niagara University	Oneonta	Utica College
Elon University	Northeastern University	Oswego	Wesleyan University
Emerson College	Nova Southeastern University	Potsdam	Western New England University
Emory University	Oberlin College	Purchase	Worcester Polytechnic Institute
Fairfield University	Ohio University	Stony Brook	Xavier University (OH)
Florida Gulf Coast University	Ohio State University	Suffolk University	Yale University