

# The POST OAK SCHOOL

Founded in 1963, The Post Oak School is an independent, coeducational day school offering comprehensive education from infancy through high school.

## MISSION

The mission of The Post Oak School is to prepare an outstanding Montessori environment that fosters collaboration, cooperation and peace, and to provide experiences that promote curiosity, inquiry and engagement. Designed according to the physical, emotional, social, and intellectual characteristics and needs of the learner, our methods guide and nurture each individual from infancy to adulthood. The school's approach is grounded in the principles of AMI Montessori education.

## MONTESSORI IN HIGH SCHOOL

Students possess a strong ability to self-direct and work independently. Coursework requires significant amounts of reading, research, and practical application; students must be comfortable using state-of-the-art technology. Individual classes use roundtable seminar, field experiences, independent study, lecture, and small or large group work.

## CURRICULUM

The school offers a challenging curriculum preparing students to earn both the Post Oak and International Baccalaureate (IB) diplomas. The IB curriculum fits well with the student-centered, critical thinking, and developmental approach at The Post Oak School. All students in grades eleven and twelve participate in the IB Diploma Program and all seniors sit for the IB exams in May.



## OBSERVANCES

The Post Oak School is non-sectarian. Among our core values are respect for all people and international peace.

## MATRICULATION

Ninety-nine percent of Post Oak graduates enroll in a four-year college or university.

## COVID-19 UPDATE

In March of 2020, due to the Covid-19 pandemic, The Post Oak School transitioned to virtual learning with live instruction for the remainder of the 2019–2020 school year. For the 2020–2021 school year, we transitioned into a hybrid model, with most students returning to in-person learning.

## ADMINISTRATION

### Head of School

Maura Joyce, [maurajoyce@postoakschool.org](mailto:maurajoyce@postoakschool.org)

### College Counselor

Louis Dorsey, [louisdorsey@postoakschool.org](mailto:louisdorsey@postoakschool.org)

### High School Director

James Quillin, PhD, [jamesquillin@postoakschool.org](mailto:jamesquillin@postoakschool.org)

### Associate Admission Director

Tiffney Trimble, [tiffneytrimble@postoakschool.org](mailto:tiffneytrimble@postoakschool.org)

### Registrar

Tonia Merideth, [toniamerideth@postoakschool.org](mailto:toniamerideth@postoakschool.org)

CEEB Code: 440562

## ACADEMIC PROGRAM

Lower Level Courses (Grades 9–10)	IB Upper Level Courses (Grades 11–12)
English Language Arts	Language and Literature SL or HL
Mandarin Chinese	Mandarin SL or HL
Spanish	Spanish SL or HL
Integrated History and Social Sciences	Economics in Historical Context HL Global Politics in Historical Context HL
Integrated Natural Sciences	Biology SL or HL                      Computer Science SL or HL Chemistry SL or HL
Integrated Math	Math Applications SL Math Analysis SL or HL
Design Tech Music Theater Visual Arts	Film SL or HL Music SL or HL Theater SL or HL Visual Arts SL or HL

Standard Level (SL), Higher Level (HL)

Core Requirements	Mini-Course Intensives (change yearly)
Theory of Knowledge	Classes have included: 3D Printing, Allocating Capital, Art of Cooking, China Travel, Costa Rica Field School, Creative and Critical Writing, DIY Product Design, Falmouth Field School (Jamaica), Farming and Social Practices, Hispanic Culture in Houston, Historical Game Design, Ireland Travel, Managua Field School, Paleontology Fieldwork, Personal Finance, Physical Computing, and Positive Psychology
Extended Essay	
Creativity, Activity, Service	
Physical Fitness I/II	

## GRADING SCALE

Evaluation	Numeric
Exemplary	4.5–5.0
Advanced	4.0–4.4
Proficient	3.5–3.9
Basic	2.5–3.4
Limited	1.5–2.4
Minimal	0.5–1.4
No Demonstrated Understanding	0.0–0.4

Marks below 3.5 are not passing

Students receive narrative grades in their evaluations. Refer to the chart above for the numeric comparison.

## TESTING DATA

The Class of 2021 Standardized Testing Averages:

ACT: 29

SAT: 1229

## POST OAK DIPLOMA REQUIREMENTS

Subject	Credits
English Language Arts and Literature	4
Second Language(s)	4
History and Social Sciences	4
Natural Sciences	4
Mathematics	4
Arts	4
Mini-Course Intensives	4
Theory of Knowledge	4
Extended Essay	½
Physical Fitness (9th and 10th grades)	2
Upper Level HL courses	6

## FIELDWORK & COMMUNITY SERVICE

### Internships

Students identify an area of interest to work with professionals at a partner institution. Examples include paleontology research at the Houston Museum of Natural Science, assisting a cardiothoracic surgeon with patient education programs in the Medical Center, learning coding at Flat Iron, and studying capital investments with fund managers. Due to the pandemic, many students were not afforded the opportunity to undertake or continue their internship.

Post Oak places a high priority on executive function skills and self management. Students enjoy a significant level of independence within the academic setting and must demonstrate maturity and responsibility when researching, applying for, and travelling to internships and field school opportunities. Beginning with the initial interview and continuing throughout their work, students are expected to communicate in a professional and courteous manner.

### Mini-Course Intensives

These two-week courses in January and April offer students the opportunity to dive deeply into specific areas of interest and develop complex skills, travel locally or internationally (before the pandemic), perform community service, and conduct cultural, scientific, or arts-related studies.

### Community Service

Complementing the intensives, students undertake volunteer work in support of local organizations throughout Houston. Additionally, the vast majority of internships are unpaid, benefitting both the student and partner institutions.

## ATHLETICS & STUDENT ACTIVITIES

The Post Oak School has many opportunities for participation in individual and team athletics as well as other activities. As a small school, much of what is possible will be determined by student interest from year to year (due to the pandemic, last year's competitive sports were limited to volleyball and cross country). Examples include:

- ♦ Basketball
- ♦ Cross country
- ♦ Flag football
- ♦ Golf
- ♦ Soccer
- ♦ Track
- ♦ Volleyball
- ♦ Yoga
- ♦ American Unity Movement
- ♦ Chess
- ♦ Climbing
- ♦ Creative writing
- ♦ Dungeons & Dragons
- ♦ Film
- ♦ Model United Nations
- ♦ Photography
- ♦ Poker
- ♦ Woodworking
- ♦ Yearbook

## DEMOGRAPHICS

### Faculty & Staff (High School)

12 full-time faculty, 6 part-time faculty, and 5 staff  
61% hold a master's or doctoral post-graduate degree

### Students

Enrollment: Total school: 501 | High School: 90

*9th:* 25

*10th:* 21

*11th:* 23

*12th:* 21

## RANKING/GPA

The Post Oak School does not rank students. The cumulative GPA is unweighted.

## COLLEGE REPORTING POLICY

The Post Oak School does not report disciplinary infractions to colleges. However, we encourage students to be honest and self-report disciplinary actions to colleges and universities.

## ACCREDITATIONS

- ♦ Independent Schools Association of the Southwest (ISAS)
- ♦ International Baccalaureate (IB)

## PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIPS

- ♦ Association of College Admission Counselors in Independent Schools (ACCIS)
- ♦ Houston Association of Independent Schools (HAIS)
- ♦ Independent School Management (ISM)
- ♦ Montessori Peer Review Council (MPRC)
- ♦ National Association of Independent Schools (NAIS)
- ♦ North American Montessori Teachers Association (NAMTA)
- ♦ National Association of College Admission Counselors (NACAC)
- ♦ Texas Association of College Admission Counselors (TACAC)
- ♦ Texas IB Schools (TIBS)
- ♦ Texas Private Schools Association (TPSA)

## COLLEGE MATRICULATIONS

Below are the college matriculations for the classes of 2017 through 2021.

- ♦ Austin College
- ♦ Bard College
- ♦ Baylor University
- ♦ Belmont University
- ♦ Brandeis University
- ♦ Brown University
- ♦ Bryn Mawr College
- ♦ Bucknell University
- ♦ Carleton College
- ♦ Colorado College
- ♦ Colorado School of Mines
- ♦ Colorado State University
- ♦ Columbia University
- ♦ Cornell College
- ♦ Cornell University
- ♦ Davidson College
- ♦ Duke University
- ♦ Emory University
- ♦ The George Washington University
- ♦ Goucher College
- ♦ High Point University
- ♦ Hofstra University
- ♦ Ithaca College
- ♦ Kilgore College
- ♦ Lawrence University
- ♦ Lewis & Clark College
- ♦ Loyola Marymount University
- ♦ Marlboro College
- ♦ New York University
- ♦ Oberlin College
- ♦ Pitzer College
- ♦ Pomona College
- ♦ Reed College
- ♦ Rhode Island School of Design
- ♦ Rice University
- ♦ Savannah College of Art and Design
- ♦ Southwestern University
- ♦ Stephen F. Austin State University
- ♦ Texas A&M University
- ♦ Texas A&M University, Kingsville
- ♦ Texas Christian University
- ♦ Texas Tech University
- ♦ Trinity University
- ♦ Tulane University
- ♦ University of California, Los Angeles
- ♦ University of Denver
- ♦ University of Florida
- ♦ University of Houston
- ♦ University of Michigan, Ann Arbor
- ♦ University of Pittsburgh
- ♦ University of San Francisco
- ♦ University of St. Andrews
- ♦ The University of Texas at Austin
- ♦ Wake Forest University
- ♦ Washington University in St. Louis
- ♦ Wesleyan University

The 25 seniors in the class of 2021 received merit scholarship offers totalling \$5,649,000.

Please visit our website for a complete list of college acceptances as well.

*The*  
POST OAK  
SCHOOL

