



SHADY SIDE

ACADEMY

423 Fox Chapel Road
Pittsburgh, PA 15238
(t) 412-968-3000
(f) 412-968-3231
www.shadysideacademy.org

ADMINISTRATION

Bartley P. Griffith Jr. '93
President

Trixie Sabundayo
Head of Senior School

COLLEGE COUNSELORS

Lauren Lieberman '98
Director of College Counseling
llieberman@shadysideacademy.org

Julie A. Hertz
Associate Director of College Counseling
jhertz@shadysideacademy.org

Lucas Frankel
Associate Director of College Counseling
lfrankel@shadysideacademy.org

Kelsey Leigh
College Counseling Coordinator
kwilliams@shadysideacademy.org

CEEB: # 393901

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

ENROLLMENT (PK-12) 1,142

Country Day School	161
Junior School	296
Middle School	206
Senior School	479
CLASS OF 2022	127
Boarders	14%
Students of Color	34%
Male/Female	54%/46%

SENIOR SCHOOL STATS

Full-Time Faculty	73
Faculty-Advanced Degrees	80%
Faculty:Student Ratio	1:8
Average Class Size	13
Financial Assistance Granted	25%

2021-2022 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. Shady Side welcome students from 58 ZIP codes in Allegheny County, plus 13 other PA counties, 13 states and eight countries. Shady Side embraces differences and backgrounds, and knows that diversity adds to the richness and depth of our student's overall learning experience.

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 (The Association of College Counselors in Independent Schools)

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

- Grade point averages (GPA) are not weighted
- GPAs are calculated based on year-end grades
- Shady Side Academy does not rank
- Highest GPA in the Class of 2022: 4.21
- Average GPA in the Class of 2022: 3.51

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

ADVANCED PLACEMENT OR HONORS 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.**

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 the pandemic, we made the following 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
- 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.
- 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 tests that were taken by students in the classes of 2019, 2020 and 2021.

SAT (287 Tests)

Mean | 1338
Middle 50% | 1230=1470

ACT (186 Tests)

Mean | 29
Middle 50% | 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 & 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

Math I

Math 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 I

Physics IA

Physics II: Algebra

Physics II: Calculus

Summer Research Seminar

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 App Development

3D Modeling

Robotics

Computer

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

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

Drawing

COLLEGE ENROLLMENTS FROM THE CLASSES OF 2019, 2020 AND 2021

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