



## MOUNT SAINT DOMINIC ACADEMY 2022-2023 SCHOOL PROFILE

**School and Community** - Mount Saint Dominic Academy is a private, Catholic, college preparatory school established in 1892 by the Sisters of Saint Dominic of Caldwell. Staff includes the Sisters of Saint Dominic and carefully chosen lay faculty, who are dedicated to the values and missions of the academy. The student population is diverse in ethnic, religious, and economic backgrounds and resides in Essex, Morris, Passaic, Union, Bergen, Sussex, Hunterdon, and Hudson Counties.

**Mission** - The Mount community is committed to seeking the Truth in all aspects of life. The students are able to realize their individual gifts and talents in an atmosphere that fosters academic excellence, respect for diversity, appreciation for the gifts of creation, moral integrity, and a heritage rich in Christ-centered values.

**Accreditation** – The school is accredited by the Middle States Association of Secondary Schools and Colleges and holds membership in the New Jersey Association of Independent Schools.

### ACADEMIC & SIGNATURE PROGRAMS

**Honors and AP Courses** - Admission to honors and advanced placement courses are by approval of the Academic Dean. There are 17 Advanced Placement courses offered to juniors and seniors. All students enrolled in an AP course(s) are required to sit for the respective AP Exam(s).

**Health Sciences and Social Justice Concentrations** - These concentrations, similar to minors or concentrations in college, allow students to focus academic and community service efforts in a specific area of interest. Students complete a series of intellectual pursuits; commit to and complete a specified number of service hours each year; and participate in a senior seminar.

**Senior Capstone in Directed Research** – This course allows seniors to design, plan, and implement a yearlong investigation to address a research question related to their interests. Students learn research methods; employ ethical research practices; and access, analyze, and synthesize information in preparation for a paper and presentation with oral defense.

**Entrepreneurship Program** - This two-year intensive, taught by faculty, business experts, and professional entrepreneurs, encompasses the full life cycle of creating a business or product from ideation to launch, with the focus on *Leadership, Entrepreneurship, and Opportunities* (L.E.O). The annual LionWorks Competition puts student teams in front of actual investors so they can pitch their innovative idea to win funding and turn it into an actual business.

**Peer Leadership Program** - Fourteen senior leaders are trained to guide incoming freshmen in weekly group sessions to discuss time management, social skills and general well-being. The application process is highly competitive and a position on the team is considered one of the highest honors.

**Oration/Preaching** - This program offers students the opportunity to deepen their oratory and reflection skills. Students plan and participate in prayer services, liturgies, and public speaking/broadcasting venues. Emphasis is placed on preparedness, presentation, and homiletics and the ability to utilize these skills in all aspects of community life.

### ADMISSIONS

Admission to Mount Saint Dominic Academy is based on one or more of the following:

- Scholastic Testing Services Inc. High School Placement Test
- Applicant's Elementary School Record
- Recommendation of Elementary School Principal
- Personal Interviews

MSDA

## GRADING SYSTEM

The grading system is a numerical one with 70 as the lowest passing mark. Grades are distributed four times a year. The calendar is divided into two semesters of approximately 18 weeks with each semester followed by a week of examinations. Semester grades include exam grades. Lab sciences grant 6 credits for the year and all other major courses grant five credits for the year.

### GRADING SCALE

95-100=A+=4.5	85-89=B+=3.5	75-79=C+=2.5
90-94=A =4.0	80-84=B =3.0	70-74=C =2.0

**Weighting Policy** - Students receive an extra 3 points for honors classes and 5 points for AP classes. The weighting is **only** reflected in their GPA, not individual grades.

**To Qualify for First Honors** - The total weighted average for major courses must be 93 or higher. All grades for courses in the marking period must be 90 or higher, including all exam marks in the second and fourth marking periods.

**To Qualify for Second Honors** - The total weighted average for major courses must be 90 or higher. All grades for courses in the marking period must be 85 or higher, including all exam marks in the second and fourth marking periods.

**RANK** - Due to the challenging and competitive nature of the academic curriculum, MSDA **does not rank** its students.

## GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS FOR THE CLASS OF 2023

Students must earn at least 149 credits in order to graduate. The following subjects are required:

Religious Studies	20 Credits
* English	20 Credits
* World Language	10 Credits
* Mathematics	15 Credits
Health, Safety, Physical Education	7 Credits
* Science	12 Credits
* US History	10 Credits
* World History	5 Credits
* Visual & Performing Arts	2.5 Credits
* Technology	2.5 Credits
Academic Electives	45 Credits

### Class of 2023 at a Glance

Class Size: 74  
Highest GPA: 101.575  
Number of Students who have participated in AP Courses: 64

### Class of 2022 by the Numbers

Data about the 40 Seniors in the Class of 2022:  
\$9,142,244 awarded in merit scholarships  
Average GPA of 94.054  
Students going on to play varsity collegiate sports - 3

# MSDA

## COURSES OFFERED FOR THE CLASS OF 2023

### **ENGLISH**

English I\*  
English II\*  
English III\*  
English IV\*  
AP English Literature and Composition  
AP English Language and Composition  
Contemporary Novels  
Journalism and Digital Media  
Intro to Philosophy

### **MATHEMATICS**

Algebra I\*  
Geometry & Trigonometry\*  
Algebra II\*  
Pre-Calculus\*  
AP Calculus AB  
AP Calculus BC  
AP Statistics  
Statistics  
Multivariable Calculus

### **PHYSICAL EDUCATION**

Physical Education I, II  
Health I, III, IV  
Driver Education Theory

### **TECHNOLOGY**

Robotics and Computer Programming  
AP Computer Science A  
AP CS Principles  
Introduction to Research  
Cybersecurity

### **RELIGION**

Living in Christ I  
Living in Christ II  
Church History/Morality  
Justice & Journeys of Faith

### **WORLD LANGUAGE**

French I\*/Spanish I\*/Latin I  
French II\*/Spanish II\*/Latin II  
French III\*/Spanish III\*/Latin III  
French IV\*/Spanish IV\*  
AP Spanish Language & Culture  
Chinese I\*/Chinese II\*

### **FINE ARTS**

Art of Public Speaking  
3D Design  
Photography  
Drawing  
Painting  
Introduction to Music  
Advanced Studio Art\*

### **SOCIAL STUDIES**

World History I\*  
World History II\*  
AP World History  
US History\*  
AP US History  
AP US Government and Politics

### **SOCIAL STUDIES (Cont'd)**

AP European History  
AP Human Geography  
Holocaust/Genocide Studies  
Intro to Psychology  
AP Psychology  
Economics  
Microeconomics  
Social Justice Seminar

### **SCIENCE**

Biology\*  
AP Biology  
Chemistry\*  
AP Chemistry  
Physics\*  
AP Physics  
AP Environmental Science  
Anatomy & Physiology\*  
Intro to Microbiology  
Forensic Science  
Health Sciences Seminar  
Senior Directed Research Capstone  
Entrepreneurship I, II

\*Honors level is available for that course

## STUDENT ENGAGEMENT AT MSDA

### **SCHOOL ORGANIZATIONS**

Student Council  
National Honor Society  
National French Honor Society  
National Spanish Honor Society  
National Science Honor Society  
National Art Honor Society  
International Thespian Society  
Dominican Preachers

### **PUBLICATIONS**

Argosy      *School Newspaper*  
Golden Fleece      *Literary Magazine*  
Lumen      *School Yearbook*

### **ATHLETICS**

13 Varsity Sports

**\*Over 25 Clubs and Activities**

72% of our students participate in one or more athletic team

24% of students are involved in the fine and performing arts

Service hours are required for each grade level, for a total of 72 hours over 4 years. This call to service deepens each students understanding of our Dominican spirit and tradition and the role it plays in her life.



# MSDA

100% of our graduates were accepted to four-year colleges and 100% plan to attend four-year colleges immediately after graduation. Below are some of the colleges to which students have been accepted over the last three years.

American University  
 Arizona State University  
 Baylor University  
 Boston College  
 Boston University  
 Brandeis University  
 Bucknell University  
 Catholic University of America  
 Clemson University  
 Colgate University  
 College of Charleston  
 College of New Jersey  
 College of the Holy Cross  
 Connecticut College  
 Dickinson College  
 Drew University  
 Drexel University  
 Duke Kunshan University  
 Duke University  
 Duquesne University  
 Elon University  
 Emerson College  
 Fairfield University  
 Fairleigh Dickinson University  
 Fashion Institute of Technology  
 Florida State University  
 Fordham University  
 Franklin & Marshall College  
 George Washington University  
 Georgetown University  
 Georgia Institute of Technology  
 Gettysburg College  
 High Point University  
 Hofstra University  
 Howard University  
 Indiana University  
 Ithaca College  
 James Madison University  
 Johns Hopkins University  
 Lafayette College  
 Lehigh University

Loyola University Chicago  
 Loyola University Maryland  
 Manhattan College  
 Marist College  
 Messiah University  
 Miami University Ohio  
 Michigan State University  
 Monmouth University  
 Montclair State University  
 Moravian College  
 Muhlenberg College  
 New Jersey Institute of Technology  
 New York University  
 North Carolina State University  
 Northeastern University  
 Nova Southeastern University  
 Ohio State University  
 Pace University  
 Pennsylvania State University  
 Pepperdine University  
 Providence College  
 Purdue University  
 Quinnipiac University  
 Ramapo College  
 Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute  
 Rhodes College  
 Rider University  
 Rochester Institute of Technology  
 Rowan University  
 Rutgers University  
 Sacred Heart University  
 Saint Anselm College  
 Saint John's University  
 Saint Joseph's University  
 Saint Michael's College  
 Salve Regina University  
 Seton Hall University  
 Siena College  
 Smith College  
 Southern Methodist University  
 Stetson University

Stevens Institute of Technology  
 Stony Brook University  
 Susquehanna University  
 Syracuse University  
 Temple University  
 Texas A & M University  
 Texas Christian University  
 Trinity College  
 Tufts University  
 Tulane University  
 University of Alabama  
 University of Arizona  
 University of California  
 University of Colorado  
 University of Connecticut  
 University of Dallas  
 University of Delaware  
 University of Florida  
 University of Georgia  
 University of Maryland  
 University of Massachusetts  
 University of Miami  
 University of Michigan  
 University of Mississippi  
 University of New Hampshire  
 University of North Carolina  
 University of Notre Dame  
 University of Pennsylvania  
 University of Pittsburgh  
 University of Rhode Island  
 University of Richmond  
 University of Rochester  
 University of San Francisco  
 University of Scranton  
 University of South Carolina  
 University of Tennessee  
 University of Vermont  
 University of Washington  
 University of Wisconsin  
 Villanova University  
 Virginia Polytechnic Institute

## HEAD OF SCHOOL

Dr. Christopher Hampton.....Ext.1110

## SCHOOL COUNSELING DEPARTMENT

Linda Grancagnolo (Director)..... Ext.1121

Pauline Condon (School Counselor).....Ext.1128

**CEEB Code: 310180**