St. Mark’s At a Glance 2023-2024

St. Mark’s is a four-year, college preparatory, Episcopal boarding and day school located 25 miles west of Boston. Originally founded in 1865 as a boys’ school, St. Mark’s became coed in 1977 after a merger with the Southborough School for Girls. Our classes are traditionally referred to as forms: 9th grade is III Form, 10th grade is IV Form, 11th grade is V Form, and 12th grade is VI Form.

The academic program at St. Mark’s is a blend of a classical liberal curriculum and innovative contemporary pedagogy. Across the curriculum, students are exposed to interdisciplinary work and the opportunity to develop strong scientific inquiry, historical research, collaborative problem-solving, critical thinking, and written communication skills.

Signature Programs

**History Research Fellowship:** This semester-long Fellowship trains students in the skills of academic research and historiography. Students are admitted by application. Each Fellow, having selected a topic of interest during the spring of V Form, pursues rigorous, in-depth research in venues ranging from libraries to archives, the halls of Congress, and elsewhere. The course culminates in the production of a substantial research paper, which students defend before a faculty panel.

**STEM Fellowship:** This year-long Fellowship offers students the chance for deep exploration of a STEM area of interest, while fostering real-world skills needed for high-level scientific research. Students are admitted by application. Fellows work with faculty and external mentors to design and conduct their own experiments and apply their research to real-world challenges. Fellows present posters at local and national science fairs.

**Lion Term & Lions Roam:** At the end of the school year, all students complete a 10-day Form-based experiential course. Lion Term encourages students to think beyond themselves and provides structure for them to apply their learning to the wider world through internships and independent research. IV, V, and VI Form students may also participate in Lions Roam, an elective course that integrates a travel and immersion experience during Lion Term. This year’s Lions Roam course is Journey into the Past and Present of Ecuador and the Galapagos Islands.

**Advanced Curriculum:** While all classes are rigorous and college preparatory, the highest-level courses in each department are designated “Advanced.” Advanced courses are offered in all core academic disciplines except English, where departmental philosophy drives continued heterogeneous grouping. St. Mark’s does not offer AP classes.
## Advanced Courses by Department

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Department</th>
<th>Courses</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Mathematics</td>
<td>Advanced Topics in Mathematics, Advanced AB Calculus, Advanced BC Calculus, Advanced Statistics</td>
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<tr>
<td>Computer Science</td>
<td>Advanced Topics in Computer Science</td>
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<tr>
<td>Religion</td>
<td>Advanced Religion: Modern Philosophy and the Challenges of Unbelief</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Arts</td>
<td>Advanced Studio Art, Advanced Ceramics, Advanced Art History I and II, Advanced Music Theory</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

Note that other than Advanced courses, classes are unレベルed, with four exceptions: *Honors Algebra II, Honors Precalculus, Honors Chemistry (not offered after 2022-2023)*, and *Honors Latin III (not offered after 2021-2022)*. No other honors classes are available to students at St. Mark’s.

## Diploma Requirements

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Subject</th>
<th>Years/Courses Required</th>
<th>Notes</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>English</td>
<td>4 years</td>
<td>All students take the same course sequence in III through V Forms. VI Formers choose two semester-long electives. All VI Form electives are considered Advanced; no specifically designated Advanced classes are offered.</td>
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<tr>
<td>History &amp; Social Science</td>
<td>2 years</td>
<td>Students must complete The Global Seminar and US History. A variety of year- and semester-long electives are available beyond these courses.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Math</td>
<td>3 years</td>
<td>Students must complete Algebra I, Geometry, and Algebra II in sequence.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Science</td>
<td>2 years of lab science</td>
<td>Courses are offered across the life and physical sciences, as well as in computer science, robotics, and engineering.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Modern and Classical Languages</td>
<td>Through Level III of a single language</td>
<td>Modern languages: Chinese, French, German <em>(not offered after 2022-2023)</em>, Spanish Classical languages: Greek, Latin</td>
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<tr>
<td>Religion</td>
<td>1 year</td>
<td>Students are required to study the three major religious traditions (Judaism, Christianity, Islam). Religion electives focus on ethics, social justice, philosophy, and other meaning-making traditions.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Arts</td>
<td>1 year</td>
<td>Students can select courses in visual arts, theater, and vocal and instrumental music. <em>Students must complete two consecutive years of choir, orchestra, or jazz band to fulfill the arts requirement.</em></td>
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</table>
| Experiential Learning    | **St. Mark’s Saturdays:** 2 courses per year **Lion Term:** 1 course per year | Students take a Saturday course each semester in addition to their Monday through Friday classes. Saturday classes are experiential in nature and allow students to pursue current interests and explore new ones in hands-on, collaborative, interdisciplinary courses.  
As described in *Signature Programs* above, students also enroll in a Lion Term course each spring.  
All St. Mark’s Saturdays and Lion Term courses are pass/fail. They are listed on the second page of students’ transcripts. |

**Special Diplomas**

**Classics Diploma:** Students earn a Classics Diploma by taking 3 years of one classical language and 2 of the other, traveling on the Classics Diploma trip to Greece or Italy, and completing a capstone project.

**Global Diploma:** Students earn a Global Diploma by taking *Advanced Studies in Global Citizenship*, participating in travel/exchange programs, meeting regularly for discussion of local and global issues, and completing a capstone project.

Visit [https://www.stmarksschool.org/academics/academics-programs](https://www.stmarksschool.org/academics/academics-programs) for additional information about our academic program, including course descriptions for all classes.
The GPAs above are unweighted and include only courses taken at St. Mark’s School. St. Mark’s does not compute class rank or release individual GPAs to colleges.

Approximately one-third of all students were remote learners for the entirety of the 2020-2021 school year, with many international students logging in from 12-14 time zones away from Southborough. All students returned to full-time in-person learning in 2021-2022. Our normal A-E grading system was in effect throughout the pandemic.

### Grade Distribution in V Form Courses

*Note: Includes courses enrolling 5 or more V Formers during 2022-2023; does not include arts courses*

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<th>A-</th>
<th>B+</th>
<th>B</th>
<th>B-</th>
<th>C+</th>
<th>C</th>
<th>C-</th>
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### Policy on Reporting of Discipline

Consistent with the NACAC *Guide to Ethical Practice in College Admission*, and our strong belief in the integrity of the application process, St. Mark’s students are required to respond honestly to questions about their disciplinary history.
Over the past three years, St. Mark’s students have chosen to attend the colleges and universities below. On average, students matriculate at 60 different schools in more than 20 states, as well as countries outside the US, each year. Virtually all St. Mark’s graduates enroll in a four-year institution immediately upon graduation. Schools listed in bold have enrolled three or more St. Markers between 2021-2023.

Amherst College
Arizona State University
Babson College
Bard College
Bates College
Baylor University
Boston College
Boston University
Bowdoin College
Brown University
Brown University/Rhode Island School of Design (dual degree)
Bryant University
Bucknell University
Canisius College
Carnegie Mellon University
Colby College
Colgate University
College of the Holy Cross
Colorado College
Columbia University
Connecticut College
Cornell University
Dartmouth College
Davidson College
Denison University
Dickinson College
Elon University
Emerson College
Emory University
Endicott College
Fairfield University
Florida Institute of Technology
Fordham University
Franklin & Marshall College
George Washington University
Georgetown University
Grinnell College
Hamilton College
Harvard University
Harvey Mudd College
Haverford College
Hobart and William Smith Colleges
Indiana University (Bloomington)
Ithaca College
Johns Hopkins University
Kenyon College
Lake Forest College
Lehigh University
Marist College
Marquette University
Massachusetts Institute of Technology
McGill University
Miami University (Oxford)
Middlebury College
Molloy University
Muhlenberg College
New York University
Northeastern University
Northwestern University
Oberlin College
Princeton University
Providence College
Purdue University
Saint Anselm College
Salve Regina University
Santa Clara University
Southern Methodist University
Springfield College
St. Lawrence University
Stanford University
Stonehill College
SUNY College at Brockport
Syracuse University
The College of William and Mary
Trinity College
Tufts University
Tulane University of Louisiana
Union College
University of California (Berkeley)
University of California (Irvine)
University of Chicago
University of Colorado Boulder
University of Connecticut
University of Delaware
University of Florida
University of Hartford
University of Illinois at Chicago
University of King’s College (Canada)
University of Massachusetts (Amherst)
University of Miami
University of Michigan
University of Montreal
University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill
University of Oregon
University of Pennsylvania
University of Richmond
University of Southern California
University of St Andrews
University of Utah
University of Vermont
University of Virginia
Utica University
Vanderbilt University
Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University
Wagner College
Wake Forest University
Washington and Lee University
Washington University in St. Louis
Wellesley College
Wesleyan University
Williams College
Worcester Polytechnic Institute
Yale University

INTENTIONALLY SMALL, THINKING BIG.

ST. MARK’S SCHOOL