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**Michelle Hayden**  
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Dean of Academic Affairs  
Director of College Counseling

**Pamela Applegate**  
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**Rosemary Rehmer**  
College Counselors

**C.E.E.B. CODE: 060 - 535**

## Our Educational Philosophy

As a single-sex high school, St. Mary's Academy provides young women with unequaled access to rigorous academics in a highly supportive and collaborative environment. Our students excel in math, science, world languages, and the arts and humanities, and have the tools necessary to lead and succeed in a complex, global environment. We inspire leaders to act with integrity, seek justice, build community, and change the world.

**EDUCATING DENVER SINCE 1864**  
PRESCHOOL THROUGH GRADE 8 | CO-EDUCATIONAL  
HIGH SCHOOL | ALL-GIRLS

## Graduation Requirements for the Class of 2025

Total credits required for graduation: **25.0**

### Departmental Requirements

SUBJECT	CREDITS
English	4.0
World Language	Level 3 or higher
Mathematics	4.0
Science	4.0
Social Studies	4.0
Fine Arts	2.0
Physical Education	2.0
Theological Studies	4.0
<b>TOTAL:</b>	<b>25.0</b>

Service learning hours are a requirement for graduation.

### Grading Scale

The G.P.A. is based on a 4.0 point scale as follows:

Advanced Placement course grades are weighted. **A (5.0)**

**A (4.0)** = course expectations have been met and exceeded in every area to an unquestioned degree of excellence.

**B (3.0)** = course expectations have been met and in some areas surpassed.

**C (2.0)** = course expectations have been satisfactorily met.

**D (1.0)** = course expectations have been met minimally or not at all.

**F (0.0)** = course expectations have not been met. No credit given.

*St. Mary's Academy fosters the holistic growth of young women by requiring serious study in all the core disciplines and world language, and providing extensive opportunities for personal development in sports participation, the fine arts program, and service learning. The school values and encourages the talents of each individual.*

The interdisciplinary focus of the **Math Department and Science Department** emphasizes the inherent logic in both disciplines and challenges students to acquire the habit of thinking critically and analytically. Students are prepared for their technological future through extensive laboratory work, real-life applications, cooperative problem-solving techniques, and mastery of fundamental principles in both disciplines.

The **Humanities Department** coordinates English, social studies, and theological studies focusing on critical thinking, written and oral communication, and moral reasoning. The World Visions program for tenth graders is centered on cross-cultural studies and presented through an interdisciplinary approach. The required and elective courses aim to enable students to become thoughtful, analytical communicators.

The **World Language Department** allows students to see themselves as world citizens by studying countries' cultural, intellectual, and political aspects.

**Fine Arts** requirements in both visual and performing arts promote competency in the theory and skills of various media. Studio work, choral and instrumental ensembles, and theatrical productions encourage students' self-expression and an appreciation for the work of their peers and other artists.

The **Athletics Program** provides opportunities for interscholastic team play for students in grades 9-12 in the Metropolitan League of the Colorado High School Activities Association. Our athletes compete across various classifications: 2A in golf; 3A in cross country, soccer, swimming and diving, tennis, track and field, and volleyball; 4A in basketball and lacrosse; and statewide in field hockey. We also offer a noncompetitive dance program.

The **Service Learning Program** provides opportunities to develop lifelong habits of service. Students spend a minimum of 100 hours in volunteer positions throughout the Denver area. They work directly with the people being served by the chosen agencies, thereby facilitating an exchange of talents.

**St. Mary's Academy** is Denver's premier independent, Catholic, co-educational Preschool-Grade 8 and All-Girls High School, established in 1864 by the Sisters of Loretto. It awarded the first diploma in the Colorado Territory in 1875. The High School is accredited by the State of Colorado, the Association of Colorado Independent Schools and the North Central Association of Colleges and Schools (since 1925). St. Mary's Academy is a member of the National Association of Independent Schools and the National Coalition of Girls Schools.

**Admission** is based on records and recommendations of the previous school, placement testing, and a personal interview. Accepted students reflect diverse backgrounds, high motivation to learn, and an understanding and acceptance of the opportunities inherent in single-sex education. Each student is scheduled for classes that meet her current needs and challenge her growth, with college counseling established in the freshman year.

High School Enrollment:

**266** young women  
in grades 9 - 12

High School Faculty: **36**

**75%** hold advanced degrees

# St. Mary's Academy High School Curriculum

ST. MARY'S ACADEMY OPERATES ON A 4 x 4 SEMESTER BLOCK SCHEDULE

## HUMANITIES DEPARTMENT

### ENGLISH

All English courses place equal emphasis on writing and literature.

- 9<sup>th</sup> Grade Literature
- African Literature
- American Feminist Poets
- British Literature
- Contemporary Literature
- Creative Writing
- Gothic Literature
- Introduction to College Writing
- **AP Language and Composition**
- Literary Magazine Production
- **AP Literature and Composition**
- Magical Realism
- Modern Feminist American Poetry
- Multicultural Literature
- Nature in the Literary Imagination
- Science Fiction
- Voices of Justice: Poetry

### SOCIAL STUDIES

- **AP Art History**
- Business Communications
- Business Marketing
- Current World Issues
- Economics
- **AP European History**
- Global Citizenship: Civics and World Geography
- **AP Human Geography**
- Introduction to Business
- Introduction to Economics and Finance
- Introduction to Entrepreneurship
- Latin American Studies
- **AP Microeconomics**
- Principles of Marketing I, II
- **AP Psychology**
- Strategic Marketing
- **AP United States Government and Politics**
- US History
- **AP US History**
- US History: Reconstruction to Present
- US History through American Art
- US History through Social Movement
- US History with an Emphasis on Women
- Women and Gender Studies
- World Geography

### THEOLOGICAL STUDIES

- Theological Studies I:  
God, Revelation, and Faith
- Theological Studies II:  
God's Presence in the World
- Theological Studies III:  
Living the Ways of Love and Justice
- Theological Studies IV:  
Sacraments and Prayer

## WORLD LANGUAGE DEPARTMENT

- American Sign Language I, II, III
- Chinese I, II, III, IV
- **AP Chinese Language**
- Culture, Cuisine, and Conversation: Comparative Studies
- French I, II, III, IV, V
- French Cuisine and Conversation
- **AP French Language**
- Multiculturalism in French Society
- Spanish I, II, III, IV
- Spanish Culture and Conversation
- Spanish for Heritage Speakers
- **AP Spanish Language**
- Spanish & Latin American History in Film

## MATH DEPARTMENT

- Algebra I
- Algebra II
- Accelerated Algebra I
- Advanced Algebra and Trigonometry
- Honors Advanced Algebra and Trigonometry
- College Algebra
- Business Math and Statistics
- Pre-AP Calculus
- Calculus
- **AP Calculus AB**
- **AP Calculus BC**
- Geometry
- Honors Geometry
- Trigonometry and Transcendentals
- **AP Statistics**

## SCIENCE DEPARTMENT

All science classes include extensive laboratory work.

- Anatomy and Physiology
- Astronomy: Hydrogen to Humans
- Astronomy: The Universe and the Mirror
- Astronomy 2: The Second Stage
- Biology
- **AP Biology**
- Chemistry
- **AP Chemistry**
- **AP Computer Science A**
- **AP Computer Science Principles**
- **AP Environmental Science**
- Engineering and Design Thinking
- Human Anatomy
- Human Physiology
- Programming in Python
- Physics
- **AP Physics C Mechanics**

\* *World Visions* is an interdisciplinary humanities program in tenth grade that coordinates English, history and world religions, focusing on cross-cultural studies.

## FINE ARTS DEPARTMENT

- 3D Art: Jewelry
- 3D Art: Sculpture
- Academy Singers
- Acting
- Acting and Directing
- **AP Art History**
- Ceramics I, II
- Ceramics Portfolio Development
- IS Ceramics Studio Assistant
- Comedic Acting
- Drawing and Painting I, II
- Fiber and Textile Arts
- Introduction to Musical Theatre
- Jazz Band
- Jewelry I
- Music Production and Keyboarding
- Music Theory
- **AP Music Theory**
- Musical Theatre Performance Technique
- Orchestra
- Photography I, II
- Publications – Yearbook
- SAIMARAC Honor Choir
- Sculpture I/Jewelry
- Student Theatre Production
- **AP Studio Art: 2D Design**
- **AP Studio Art: 3D Design**
- **AP Studio Art: Drawing Portfolio**
- The Illustrated Book: Concept, Design, and Production

## PHYSICAL EDUCATION DEPARTMENT

- Independent Study
- Interscholastic Athletics



### Careers in Focus

SMA partners with industry leaders and community organizations for transformative summer internships and mentorships.

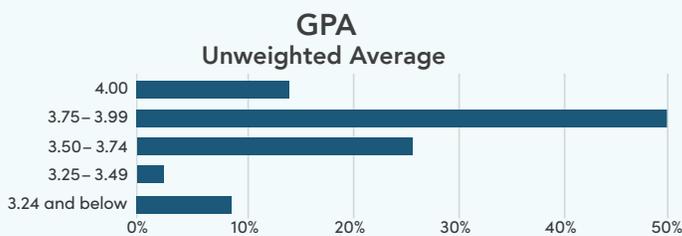
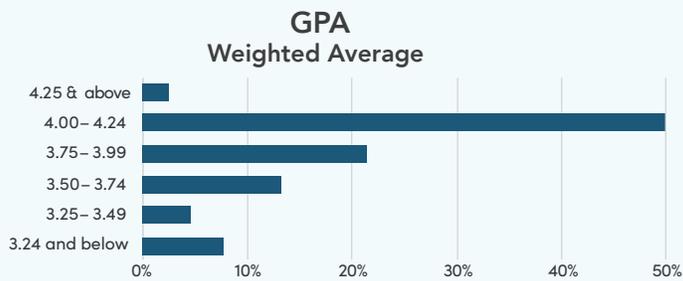
## St. Mary's Academy Ranking Policy

St. Mary's Academy, like many small, independent secondary schools, does not rank its students. The size of our graduating class, composition of our student body, and the rigor of our curriculum all suggest that ranking is not appropriate at our school. We are more than willing to provide further information and to discuss individual students with a college or university.

### Grade Distribution: Class of 2025 through Grade 11

**Weighted Average**  
Range: 2.68 – 4.33  
Mean: 3.89  
Median: 4.02

**Unweighted Average**  
Range: 2.68 – 4.00  
Mean: 3.75  
Median: 3.86



### Test Scores: Class of 2023

SAT	Reading & Writing	Math
SMA Mean:	632	607
SMA mid 50%:	600 – 680	540 – 680
National Mean:	520	508

ACT	
SMA Composite Mean:	26.2
SMA Composite mid 50%:	23 – 30
National Mean:	19.5

**Non-Discrimination Policy:** St. Mary's Academy is a Catholic independent school, co-ed through grade eight and an all-girls high school. St. Mary's Academy admits students of any race, creed, color, national and ethnic origin, citizenship, religion, sexual orientation, to all the rights, privileges, programs, and activities generally accorded or made available to students at the school. We do not discriminate on the basis of race, creed, color, disability, national and ethnic origin, citizenship, religion, or sexual orientation in administration of our educational policies, admissions policies, scholarship and loan programs, athletic and other school-administered programs.

## A sampling of colleges and universities granting admission to St. Mary's Academy Seniors from the Classes of 2021-2024:

- American University
- Amherst College
- Baylor University
- Boston College
- Boston University
- Brandeis University
- Brown University
- Bryn Mawr College
- Bucknell University
- California Polytechnic State University
- Carleton College
- Carnegie Mellon University
- Case Western Reserve University
- Catholic University of America
- Chapman University
- Claremont McKenna College
- Colgate University
- Colorado College
- Colorado School of Mines
- Colorado State University
- Cornell University
- Creighton University
- Denison University
- DePauw University
- Drexel University
- Duke University
- Elon University
- Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University-Prescott
- Emory University
- Fordham University
- Franklin University Switzerland
- George Washington University
- Georgia Institute of Technology
- Gonzaga University
- Goucher College
- Grand Canyon University
- High Point University
- Hofstra University
- Howard University
- Indiana University
- Johns Hopkins University
- Juniata College
- Kenyon College
- Lehigh University
- Lewis & Clark College
- Loyola Marymount University
- Loyola University Chicago
- Macalester College
- Massachusetts Institute of Technology
- McGill University
- Miami University
- Michigan State University
- Mount Holyoke College
- New York University
- Northeastern University
- Northwestern University
- Occidental College
- Ohio State University
- Ohio Wesleyan University
- Pepperdine University
- Pomona College
- Princeton University
- Queen's University Canada
- Reed College
- Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute
- Rhodes College
- Rice University
- Rochester Institute of Technology
- Saint Louis University
- Saint Mary's College of California
- Santa Clara University
- Scripps College
- Seattle University
- Smith College
- Southern Methodist University
- St. Olaf College
- Syracuse University
- Texas Christian University
- Trinity University
- Tulane University
- University of Aberdeen
- University of Alabama
- University of Arizona
- University of British Columbia
- University of California-Berkeley
- University of California-Davis
- University of California-Irvine
- University of California-Los Angeles
- University of California-San Diego
- University of California-Santa Barbara
- University of California-Santa Cruz
- University of Chicago
- University of Colorado Boulder
- University of Denver
- University of Edinburgh
- University of Georgia
- University of Hawaii
- University of Kansas
- University of Maryland-College Park
- University of Massachusetts
- University of Miami
- University of Michigan
- University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill
- University of Notre Dame
- University of Oregon
- University of Pennsylvania
- University of Portland
- University of Puget Sound
- University of Redlands
- University of Richmond
- University of San Diego
- University of San Francisco
- University of Southern California
- University of St. Andrews
- University of Stirling
- University of Texas at Austin
- University of Vermont
- University of Virginia
- University of Washington
- University of Waterloo
- University of Wisconsin
- Vanderbilt University
- Vassar College
- Villanova University
- Washington University in St. Louis
- Whitman College
- Willamette University
- William & Mary
- Xavier University
- Xavier University of Louisiana
- Yale University