



# VERITAS ACADEMY

# 2023 - 2024 PROFILE

13401 Escarpment Blvd., Austin, Texas 78739 | (512) 891-1673 | VeritasAcademy.net

## OUR SCHOOL & COMMUNITY

Veritas Academy is an independent classical, Christian, day school in Austin, Texas serving Preschool through 12th grade. In grades 8-12, students attend classes on a college-like schedule with a mix of one-, two-, and three-day-a-week classes. Veritas accepts students with a variety of learning aptitudes and differences. The academy is an independent 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization and unaffiliated with any church, denomination, or other school as it operates on its own 97-acre campus in the Texas Hill Country.

### Academic & College Advisor

**Kim Williams**  
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Kim.Williams@VeritasAcademy.net

### Registrar

**Jennifer Stewart**  
Registrar@VeritasAcademy.net

### Head of School

**Cameron Cook**

### School of Rhetoric Head

**Angie Thompson**

**CEEB Code: 440367**

## SCHOOL OF RHETORIC (9-12TH GRADES)

### ENROLLMENT

SCHOOL WIDE ..... 674  
SCHOOL OF RHETORIC ..... 168

CLASS OF 2024 ..... 33

AVERAGE CLASS SIZE ..... 16

SCHOOL OF RHETORIC FACULTY ..... 28  
W/ ADVANCED DEGREES ..... 13

### CLASSES OF 2021-2023:

ATTENDING 4 YEAR COLLEGES ..... 80%  
ATTENDING 2 YEAR COLLEGES ..... 12%  
GAP YEAR PROGRAMS ..... 8%

## ACCREDITATION

Cognia (formerly AdvancEd): Southern Association of Colleges and Schools / Council on Accreditation and School Improvement (SACS CASI)

## MEMBERSHIPS

National (& Texas) Association for College Admission Counseling (NACAC | TACAC)

University Model Schools International (UMSI/NAUMS)

Texas Association of Private and Parochial Schools (TAPPS)

Association of College Counselors in Independent Schools (ACCIS)

Association of Classical Chapter Schools (ACCS)

Society for Classical Learning (SCL)

## DIPLOMA PLANS & REQUIREMENTS

### VERITAS DIPLOMA

Students earn a Veritas Diploma by completing all Veritas graduation requirements below.

### DIPLOMA REQUIREMENTS

1 credit is equal to a year-long course meeting 3 hrs/wk. Required credits:

|  |  |   |                       |
|--|--|---|-----------------------|
| 4.0<br>History<br><i>includes Government &amp; Econ.</i> | 4.0<br>Math                                  | 4.0<br>Science                                  | 4.0<br>English        |
| 1.0<br>Latin   | 3.0<br>Foreign Language<br><i>sequential</i> | 2.0<br>Leadership<br><i>0.5 credit per year</i> | 1.0<br>Athletics/P.E. |
| 1.0<br>Fine Arts   | 0.5<br>Logic                                 | 0.5<br>Speech                                   | 1.0<br>Electives      |

### CLASSICAL CORE DIPLOMA

Students earning this diploma complete all the requirements for Veritas Diploma with the following differences: only 3.0 credits of math and lab science are required, only 2.0 consecutive credits of a foreign language are required, but students must complete an extra 1.0 credit of electives.

### DISTINGUISHED DIPLOMA

Students earn this distinction by completing all requirements of the Veritas Diploma and additionally completing three weighted courses, earning a GPA of 3.5 or higher in Leadership, and maintaining an overall GPA of 3.5 or higher.

## GRADING & POLICIES

### GRADING CALENDAR & SCALE

|    |     |         |    |     |        |
|----|-----|---------|----|-----|--------|
| A  | 4.0 | 93-100% | C  | 2.0 | 73-76% |
| A- | 3.7 | 90-92%  | C- | 1.7 | 70-72% |
| B+ | 3.3 | 87-89%  | D+ | 1.3 | 67-69% |
| B  | 3.0 | 83-86%  | D  | 1.0 | 63-66% |
| B- | 2.7 | 80-82%  | D- | 0.7 | 60-62% |
| C+ | 2.3 | 77-79%  | F  | 0.0 | <60%   |

|  |      |
|--|------|
| <b>GPA's</b>   |      |
| (Average Class of 2022)  |      |
| Un-weighted GPA .....  | 3.37 |
| Weighted GPA .....   | 3.54 |
| <b>Highest Historical GPA's</b>  |      |
| The valedictorians of Veritas Academy's eleven graduating classes have earned an average GPA of 3.99 (unweighted). |      |

**ITALICS = no course credit.** Though modest GPA points accrue for grades of 60-69% (D), course credit is awarded only for courses in which mastery is demonstrated, as indicated by a grade of 70% (C-) or higher.

### RANKING POLICY

A traditional ranking system provides an inaccurate comparison of our students to students from larger schools and does not offer a true distinction between members of a highly talented class. Therefore, Veritas Academy provides only a numeric rank for the top ten percent in a class.

### DISCIPLINARY ACTION

Upon request, Veritas will disclose if a student has been subject to serious disciplinary action since entering 9th Grade. This includes any dramatic change to grades, out-of-school suspension, dismissal, or withdrawal from the school.

**CLASSICAL CURRICULUM**

Classical education is a return to the ancient goal of education: teaching children to live as virtuous, civic-minded, lifelong learners by imparting to them the tools of learning. It is an approach rooted in the ancient medieval concept of the Trivium. The Trivium is comprised of three basic tools of learning in the order they naturally develop: Grammar (the tool of knowledge), Logic (the tool of reasoning) and Rhetoric (the tool of communication and expression). Classical education places focus on classic works of literature, language learning (including Latin), inquiry-based study and class discussion, as well as training in formal logic.

**AP & HONORS COURSES**

All core courses and languages at Veritas are taught at the advanced level; the following courses are the most advanced in their disciplines. Students are typically not permitted to take weighted courses until their 11th grade year. The following are weighted (+1.0) in the calculation of GPA:

**English**

Honors English 11  
Honors English 12

**Mathematics**

Honors Pre-Calculus/Trigonometry  
AP Calculus AB  
AP Statistics

**Science**

AP Physics I & II  
Honors Molecular Biology

**History & Social Science**

Honors Government & Economics  
AP United States History

**Foreign Language**

Honors American Sign Language IV  
AP Latin IV  
AP Spanish IV  
Honors Spanish Literature & Poetics

**Sample Humanities Reading List** (does not include poetry and essays)

*Beowulf, Dante's Inferno, Odyssey, The Iliad, The Epic of Gilgamesh, The Tragedy of Julius Caesar, Till We Have Faces, Sir Gawain and the Green Knight, Paradise Lost, Romeo and Juliet, The Canterbury Tales, Frankenstein, Narrative of the Life of Frederick Douglas, The Great Gatsby, The Scarlet Letter, Of Mice and Men, East of Eden, Grapes of Wrath, Moby Dick, Pride and Prejudice, Crime and Punishment, Brave New World, Much Ado About Nothing, The Picture of Dorian Gray, The Prince, Things Fall Apart, Anna Karenina, As I Lay Dying*

**Capstone Project**

Honors Senior Thesis or  
XRT: Honors Experimental Research Thesis

**Electives**

AP Computer Science Principles

**NOTES**

- Official transcripts provide both weighted and non-weighted GPAs.
- The weighted GPA includes an additional (1.0) added to the earned grade points in weighted courses; unweighted courses are based on the values under *Grading Calendar and Scale*.

**UNIQUE GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS**

**Senior Thesis**

Senior Thesis is a year-long independent research project, culminating with a written report and then an oral presentation (20 minutes) and defense (20 minutes of Q&A) before a panel of judges at the end of senior year. Honors Senior Thesis must be fully memorized, presented, and defended publicly.

**Leadership**

All graduates take a four-year course of study cultivating leadership skills in: Apologetics, Worldviews, Christian Ethics, and the Senior Leadership Seminar.

**Service**

All K-12 Veritas students, parents, and teachers regularly partner with local charitable organizations to serve and stay involved with the local community. A minimum of at least 70 hours of unpaid community service with a non-profit organization must be completed and submitted to College Advising after completion of 8th grade and before April of the student's senior year.

**UNIQUE OPPORTUNITIES**

- Class Trips:
  - Outdoor Adventure to Colorado (9th)
  - College Tours (10th)
  - Study Abroad in Europe (11th)
- Individualized student support services for those with learning or language differences
- House System for all in the School of Rhetoric:
  - Augustinian House
  - House of Bonhoeffer
  - Franciscan House
  - House of Müller
- Over 25 different student-led clubs

TEST SCORES

**NATIONAL MERIT**

Among the 370 students in the first twelve graduating classes, 15% have earned National Merit Recognition:

- Finalist/Semi-Finalists: 15
- Commended Scholars: 36
- Hispanic: 6

**AP SCORES (Spring 2022 – Class of 2023)**

Total AP Students: 37  
Total Number of Exams: 62  
Total % of Exams Receiving 3, 4, or 5: 71%

**ACT SCORES\***

Mid 50%, Class of 2023

**COMPOSITE: 26-29**

English: 24-34      Math: 25-27

Reading: 26-32      Science: 24-27

**SAT SCORES\***

Mid 50%, Class of 2023

**TOTAL: 1140-1370**

EBRW: 570-700

Math: 540-690

\*Reflects mid 50% of all tests taken. As of July 2023, 60% of the Class of 2024 have taken an SAT exam; 13% have taken an ACT exam.

COLLEGE ACCEPTANCES (CLASSES '12-'23)

Abilene Christian Univ\*  
Allegheny College  
Alvin Community College  
AMD A (NY and CA)  
American Univ  
Angelo State Univ\*  
Appalachian St Univ  
Arizona St Univ  
Arkansas State Univ  
Auburn Univ  
Austin College  
Austin Comm College  
Azusa Pacific Univ  
Babson College  
Bard College  
Baylor Univ\*  
Belhaven Univ  
Belmont Abbey College\*  
Belmont Univ\*  
Berry College  
Bethel Univ  
Blinn College  
Boston College  
Boston Univ  
Boyce College  
Bradley Univ  
Brenau Univ  
Butler Univ  
Cal Poly, SLO  
Calvin College  
Case Western Reserve Univ  
Centre College  
Chatham Univ  
Clark Univ  
Clemson Univ\*  
College of Charleston\*  
College of the Atlantic  
Colorado Christian Univ  
Colorado Mesa Univ  
Colorado School of Mines  
Colorado State Univ\*  
Columbia College, Chicago  
Columbus College of Art & Design  
Concordia Univ  
Connecticut College  
Cornell College  
Creighton Univ  
Culinary Institute of America (NY)  
Culver-Stockton College  
Dallas Baptist Univ  
Dartmouth College  
DePaul Univ  
Dickinson College  
Drake Univ  
Drexel Univ  
Duke Univ  
Eastern Univ  
Elmhurst College  
Embry-Riddle Aero Univ (FL)  
Emerson College

Emory Univ/Oxford of Emory  
Flagler College  
Florida Southern College  
Florida State Univ  
Fordham Univ  
Furman Univ  
George Washington Univ  
Georgia College and St Univ  
Georgia Institute of Tech  
Gordon College  
Hamilton College  
Hardin-Simmons Univ  
Harding Univ  
Hawaii Pacific Univ  
Hendrix College  
Hillsdale College  
Hofstra Univ  
Hollins Univ  
Hope College  
Houghton College  
Houston Baptist Univ\*  
Howard Payne Univ  
Illinois Wesleyan Univ  
Indiana Wesleyan Univ, Marion  
John Brown Univ  
John Cabot Univ (Italy)  
Johns Hopkins Univ  
Johnson and Wales Univ  
Kalamazoo College  
Kansas State Univ  
Kent State Univ  
Lake Forest College  
LeTourneau Univ  
Lewis Univ  
Liberty Univ  
Lindenwood Univ  
Louisiana State Univ  
Loyola Univ, Chicago  
Loyola Univ, Maryland  
Macalester College  
Maryville Univ (MO)  
McGill Univ (Canada)  
McLennan Comm College  
McMurry Univ  
Miami Univ (OH)  
Millsaps College  
Mississippi State Univ  
Missouri State Univ  
Missouri Univ of Sci & Tech  
Montana State Univ  
New York Univ  
Northeastern Univ  
Northwestern College  
Northwest Nazarene Univ  
Occidental College  
Oklahoma Baptist Univ  
Oklahoma City Univ  
Oklahoma State Univ  
Olivet Nazarene Univ\*  
Oral Roberts Univ

Pace Univ  
Pacific Lutheran Univ  
Pacific Univ  
Palm Beach Atlantic Univ  
Pepperdine Univ  
Point Loma Nazarene Univ  
Point Park Univ  
Point Univ  
Purdue Univ  
Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute  
Rhodes College  
Rice Univ  
Rider Univ  
Ritsumeikan Asia Pacific Univ  
Rose-Hulman Inst of Tech  
Rutgers Univ  
Saint Ambrose Univ  
Sam Houston State Univ  
Samford Univ\*  
San Diego State Univ  
San Jose State Univ\*  
Savannah College of Art & Design  
Schreiner Univ  
Schreiner Univ, Greystone Prep  
Sewanee: Univ of the South  
Simmons Univ  
Southern Methodist Univ\*  
Southwestern Assem. of God Univ  
Southwestern Univ  
St. Edward's Univ  
St. John's College, Annapolis  
St. Mary's College of Maryland  
Stephen F. Austin State Univ  
Stevens College  
Sul Ross State Univ  
Syracuse Univ  
Tarleton State Univ  
Texas A&M Univ\*  
Texas A&M, Commerce  
Texas A&M, Corpus Christi  
Texas A&M, Galveston  
Texas Christian Univ  
Texas Lutheran Univ  
Texas State Univ\*  
Texas Tech Univ\*  
Texas Woman's Univ  
The Catholic Univ of America  
The King's College (NY)  
The New School  
The Ohio State Univ  
The Univ of Arizona  
The Univ of Northern CO\*  
The Univ of Texas at Austin\*  
The Univ of Texas at Dallas\*  
The Univ of Texas at San Antonio  
The Univ of Texas at Tyler  
The Univ of the Arts  
Trinity Univ (TX)  
Union Univ (TN)

Univ of Alabama\*  
Univ of Alabama at BHM  
Univ of Arkansas\*  
Univ of Arizona  
Univ of California, LA  
Univ of California, San Diego  
Univ of California, Santa Barbara  
Univ of Chicago  
Univ of Cincinnati  
Univ of Colorado, Boulder  
Univ of Colorado, CO Springs  
Univ of Dallas\*  
Univ of Dayton  
Univ of Delaware  
Univ of Denver  
Univ of Florida  
Univ of Georgia  
Univ of Houston\*  
Univ of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign  
Univ of the Incarnate World  
Univ of Iowa  
Univ of Maine  
Univ of Mary Hardin-Baylor\*  
Univ of Miami (FL)  
Univ of Mississippi\*  
Univ of Missouri  
Univ of Nebraska, Omaha  
Univ of New Mexico\*  
Univ of the Ozarks  
Univ of Vermont  
UNC, Charlotte  
UNC, Greensboro  
Univ of North Texas\*  
Univ of Notre Dame  
Univ of Oklahoma  
Univ of Pennsylvania  
Univ of Richmond  
Univ of Rochester  
Univ of San Francisco  
Univ of South Carolina  
Univ of Southern California  
Univ of Tennessee, Knoxville  
Univ of Tulsa  
Univ of Utah  
Univ of Virginia  
Univ of Washington  
Univ of Wisconsin, Madison  
Vassar College  
Villanova Univ  
Virginia Military Institute  
Washington State Univ  
Washington Univ in St. Louis  
West Virginia Univ  
Westminster College (PA)  
Westminster College (UT)  
Westmont College  
Wheaton College (IL)  
Whitworth Univ

\*denotes honors