



SCHOOL CODE: 060275

6155 Fountain Valley School Road
Colorado Springs, CO 80911
(719) 390-7035
www.fvs.edu

Megan Harlan, Head of School:

mharlan@fvs.edu | (719) 391-5356

Jeff Kurtzman, Director of College Counseling:

jkurtzman@fvs.edu | (719) 391-5287

Stephen Jackson, Associate Director of College Counseling:

sjackson@fvs.edu | (719) 391-5374

Vicki Foster, College Counseling Assistant:

vfoster@fvs.edu | (719) 391-5239

2023-24 College Profile

About Fountain Valley School

Founded in 1930, Fountain Valley School of Colorado is an independent, college preparatory, co-educational, day and boarding school for students grades 9-12. The 1,100-acre main campus is located at the foot of Pikes Peak in Colorado Springs. FVS combines intellectual rigor with a spirit for adventure and exploration, offering a rigorous college preparatory program to motivated students seeking a diverse and challenging learning experience within a close-knit, supportive community.

FVS is proud of its Western heritage and encourages students to embrace the School's unique setting. In addition to the main campus in Colorado Springs, the School maintains a 40-acre Mountain Campus adjacent to the Collegiate Peaks of central Colorado. This site serves as a base for seminars, class retreats and outdoor adventures.

Mission

Fountain Valley School of Colorado provides a transformative curriculum in a supportive environment where students are challenged to think critically, become leaders, and live by our core values: Courage, Compassion, Curiosity, Self-Reliance, Open-Mindedness.

Accreditation and Memberships

FVS is accredited by the Association of Colorado Independent Schools (ACIS) and holds membership in the National Association of Independent Schools (NAIS), The Association of Boarding Schools (TABS), Western Boarding School Association (WBSA), Round Square (a consortium of international schools), CollegeBoard, Association for College Counselors in Independent Schools (ACCIS), National Association of College Admission Counseling (NACAC), and Rocky Mountain Association of College Admission Counseling (RMACAC).

Student Body

FVS's 218 students in grades 9-12 come from 21 states, and 30 percent from 13 other countries. Sixty-five percent of students board on campus and approximately 15 percent identify as students of color. The Class of 2024 currently has 56 members.

Faculty

FVS has 36 full-time teaching faculty, with 60 percent holding advanced degrees and more than 90 percent living on campus. The average class size is 12 students, and the student to faculty ratio is 6:1. Faculty also act as academic advisors, club sponsors, and coaches, and serve in the residence halls.

Graduation Requirements

Twenty academic credits are required for graduation, including:

- 4 credits of English
- 3 credits of mathematics
- 3 credits of science
- 3.5 credits of history
- 1.5 credits of art
- Completion of Level III of one language
- A one semester Senior Capstone project

Course Load

Most students take 5 or 6 classes per semester.

Grading and Ranking

Due to the rigorous nature of our college preparatory program, FVS does not calculate class rank. Unweighted grades are shown on the transcript:

- A+ (4.30) 97-100
- A (4.0) 93-96
- A- (3.67) 90-92
- B+ (3.33) 87-89
- B (3.0) 83-86
- B- (2.67) 80-82
- C+ (2.33) 77-79
- C (2.0) 73-76
- C- (1.67) 70-72
- D+ (1.33) 67-69
- D (1.0) 63-66
- D- (0.67) 60-62
- E (0) <60

Course Levels

All FVS classes are college-preparatory courses. Advanced Placement courses are not offered, but the following Advanced courses are taught at the AP level and some students do take AP tests on their own.

Arts: Advanced Studio Art: 2-D; Advanced Studio Art: 3D

English: Advanced English Language and Composition; Advanced English Literature and Composition

History and Social Science: Advanced United States History; Advanced US Government and Politics; Advanced World History

Mathematics: Advanced Calculus AB; Advanced Calculus BC; Advanced Statistics; Advanced Precalculus

Sciences: Advanced Biology; Advanced Chemistry; Advanced Environmental Science; Advanced Physics C: Mechanics

World Languages: Advanced Chinese Language and Culture; Advanced French Language and Culture; Advanced Spanish Language and Culture; Advanced Spanish Literature and Culture

“Post-AP” college-level courses include Honors Linear Algebra and Honors Discrete Mathematics.

Round Square

FVS is a member of Round Square, an international consortium of more than 210 schools in 45 countries dedicated to fostering multi-cultural understanding and global awareness. Member schools all share a commitment to the six pillars of Round Square: Internationalism, Democracy, Environment, Adventure, Leadership, and Service. Through Round Square, students participate in annual international conferences, service projects, international student exchanges and gap years teaching in member schools.

Global / STEM Scholar Diploma

The Global Scholar Diploma (GSD) challenges students to develop an international perspective through a curriculum and set of experiences focused on global understanding. Students who earn the GSD will have the knowledge, skills, emotional intelligence, and global competencies necessary to move beyond the tolerance of diversity to genuine engagement as a global citizen. Requirements for the diploma include four credits in approved global elective courses, a cultural immersion experience, ongoing community engagement, attendance at global events hosted both on and off-campus, leadership of workshops during Unity Day or Earth Day, and/or holding a role of influence on campus that has a direct impact on the well-being of the student body. The culmination of this experience is a thesis project, which tackles a global issue, provides possible solutions for immediate implementation, and is presented to a panel of peers and/or faculty.

Senior Capstone

All students undertake a semester-long, in-depth research/practicum experience requiring the planning and implementation of a passion project. Importantly, this project challenges students to direct their own learning. The Capstone project moves through inquiry and development phases and culminates in a published website and presentation to a community audience.

College Enrollment (Classes of 2020-23)

Alfred University
American American University (2)
American Acad. of Dramatic Arts (NY)
American University
Amherst College
Arizona State University
Auburn University
Augustana College
Bard College (2)
Barnard College
Boston College (2)
Bowdoin College
Bradley University (2)
Brandeis University
Bucknell University
Cal Poly Humboldt
California Baptist University
Carleton College
Chapman University (6)
Colby College
Colgate University (3)
College of the Holy Cross
Colorado College (2)
Colorado School of Mines
Colorado State University (5)
Cooper Union
Dartmouth College (2)
Denison University (2)
Dickinson University
Doane University
Duquesne University
Elon University
Emory University (3)
Fairfield University
Fort Lewis College
George Washington University (2)
Georgia Institute of Technology
Gonzaga University
Hamilton College (2)
Hampden-Sydney College
Harvard University
Hofstra University
IE University
Ithaca College
Johnson & Wales University
Lafayette College
Lake Forest College (3)
Lake Superior State University
Laval University
Lehigh University
Lewis & Clark College
Long Island University (Post)
Loyola University Chicago
Macalester College
Michigan State University
Missouri University of Sci and Tech
Montana State University (4) Mount
Holyoke College
New Mexico State University
New Mexico Tech
New York University (4)
Northeastern University (4)
Northern Vermont University
Occidental College
Ottawa University
Oxford College of Emory
University (2)
Parsons School of Design
Penn State University
Pitzer College
Princeton University
Reed College (2)
Rhodes College
Santa Clara University (6)
Santa Monica College
Sarah Lawrence College
School of Visual Arts
Scripps College
Seton Hill University (2)
Skidmore College
Smith College
Southern Methodist University (2)
St. Lawrence University
Stony Brook University
Syracuse University (2)
Texas A&M University
The Evergreen State College
The New School
The Peabody Institute of the Johns
Hopkins University
The University of Alabama
The University of Chicago (2)
The University of Tampa
Trinity University (3)
Tulane University (2)
Union College
University of British Columbia
Univ of Calgary
Univ of California (Davis)
Univ of California (Irvine)
Univ of California (LA) (3)
Univ of California (San Diego)
Univ of Colorado (Col Spr) (3)
Univ of Colorado Boulder (19)
University of Denver (2)
Univ of Illinois Urbana-Champaign
Univ of Kansas
Univ of Miami (2)
Univ of Minnesota
Univ of Nevada (Las Vegas)
Univ of New Mexico
Univ of Notre Dame (3)
Univ of Oklahoma (2)
Univ of Oregon
Univ of Puget Sound (2)
Univ of Rochester
Univ of San Francisco
Univ of Southern California (2)
Univ of St Andrews
Univ of Toronto (4)
Univ of Utah (2)
Univ of Vermont
Univ of Virginia
Univ of Washington (2)
Univ of Wyoming
Vassar College (2)
Washington Univ in St. Louis (2)
Wellesley College
Western Colorado University
Willamette University
Williams College
Yale University