



## MOUNT SAINT DOMINIC ACADEMY 2023-2024 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, 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.

### SPECIAL PROGRAMS

**Honors and AP Courses** - Admission to honors and advanced placement courses are by approval by the principal. There are 16 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).

**One Schoolhouse** - Junior and senior students, who are approved by the principal for good academic standing, are invited to take computer science and engineering courses through OS. Students are allotted time during their school schedule to complete assignments and tests and meet regularly with the online coordinator.

**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.

**Senior Capstone in Directed Research** – New course allowing 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.

**The Entrepreneur Program** is a two-year intensive, taught by faculty, business experts, and professional entrepreneurs, encompassing the full life cycle of creating a business or product from ideation to launch, with the focus on **Leadership, Entrepreneurship, and Opportunities**.

**The Endorsement programs in Health Sciences and Social Justice**, which incorporate a two-year sequence of courses, permit students interested in careers in health sciences and social justice to pursue in-depth explorations of those areas, similar to a major in college.

### 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

## 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 2024

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

\* Honors courses offered and/or AP courses. All other courses offered are on college prep level.

### Class of 2024 at a Glance

Class Size: 60  
Highest GPA: 101.263  
Number of Students who have participated in AP Courses: 43

### Class of 2023 by the Numbers

Data about the 73 Seniors in the Class of 2023:  
\$18,394,604 awarded in merit scholarships  
Average GPA of 94.464  
Students going on to play varsity collegiate sports - 5

**CEEB Code: 310180**

# MSDA

## COURSES OFFERED FOR THE CLASS OF 2024

### **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  
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

### **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\*  
French III\*/Spanish III\*  
French IV\*/Spanish IV\*  
Chinese I\*

### **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  
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  
Anatomy & Physiology\*  
Intro to Microbiology  
Forensic Science  
Health Sciences Seminar

Senior Capstone  
Entrepreneurship Program 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

### **SCHOOL ORGANIZATIONS**

National Mathematics Honor Society  
Distributive Education Clubs of America  
Health Occupations Students of America  
Health Science Concentration  
Leadership, Entrepreneurship and Opportunity

### **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

68% 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 student's understanding of our Dominican spirit and tradition and the role it plays in her life.



# MSDA

## GRADUATES

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  
 Clarkson University  
 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 University  
 Duquesne University  
 Elon University  
 Emory University  
 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  
 Hobart & William Smith Colleges  
 Hofstra University  
 Indiana University  
 Iona University  
 Ithaca College  
 James Madison University  
 Lafayette College  
 Lehigh University

Loyola University Chicago  
 Loyola University Maryland  
 Lynn University  
 Manhattan College  
 Marist College  
 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  
 Oberlin College  
 Ohio State University  
 Pace University  
 Pennsylvania State University  
 Pepperdine University  
 Providence College  
 Purdue University  
 Quinnipiac University  
 Ramapo College  
 Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute  
 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  
 Savannah College of Art & Design  
 Seton Hall University  
 Siena College  
 Skidmore College  
 Southern Methodist 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 San Francisco  
 University of Scranton  
 University of South Carolina  
 University of Tennessee  
 University of Texas  
 University of Vermont  
 University of Virginia  
 University of Wisconsin  
 Villanova University  
 Virginia Polytechnic Institute

### HEAD OF SCHOOL

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

### SCHOOL COUNSELING DEPARTMENT

Linda Grancagnolo (Director)..... Ext.1121  
 Kayla Campanile (School Counselor).....Ext. 1186  
 Pauline Condon (School Counselor).....Ext.1128