



## MOUNT ST. DOMINIC ACADEMY 2024-2025 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 approved by the principal. There are 18 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:

- 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 2025

Students must earn at least 145 credits in order to graduate. The following subjects are required:

Religious Studies	20 Credits
* English	20 Credits
* World Language	10 Credits
* Mathematics	20 Credits
Health, Safety, Physical Education	6.25 Credits
* Science	12 Credits
* US History	5 Credits
* World History	10 Credits
* Visual & Performing Arts	2.5 Credits
* Technology	1.25 Credits
Academic Electives	45 Credits

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

### Class of 2025 at a Glance

Class Size: 62  
Highest GPA: 101.21  
Number of Students who have participated in AP Courses: 59

### Class of 2024 by the Numbers

Data about the 60 Seniors in the Class of 2024:  
\$13,625,800 awarded in merit scholarships  
Average GPA of 94.219  
Students going on to play varsity collegiate sports - 8

**CEEB Code: 310180**

MSDA**COURSES OFFERED FOR THE CLASS OF 2025****ENGLISH**

English I\*  
English II\*  
English III\*  
English IV\*  
AP English Literature and Composition  
AP English Language and Composition  
Journalism and Digital Media  
Intro to Philosophy

**MATHEMATICS**

Algebra I\*  
Geometry & Trigonometry\*  
Algebra II\*  
Pre-Calculus\*  
AP Calculus AB  
AP Calculus BC  
AP Statistics  
Statistics

**PHYSICAL EDUCATION**

Physical Education I, II  
Health I, III, IV  
Driver Education Theory

**TECHNOLOGY**

AP CS Principles  
Introduction to Coding  
Introduction to Research

**RELIGION**

Introduction to Theology  
Sacred Scripture  
Church History/Morality  
Justice & Journeys of Faith

**WORLD LANGUAGE**

French I\*/Spanish I\*  
Latin I\*,II\*,III\*,IV\*  
French II\*/Spanish II\*  
French III\*/Spanish III\*  
French IV\*/Spanish IV\*  
AP French Language & Culture  
AP Spanish Language & Culture  
Chinese I,II,III\*,IV\*  
Classical Studies in Latin & Greek\*

**FINE ARTS**

Photography  
Drawing & Painting  
Painting  
Introduction to Music  
Introduction to Visual & Graphic Arts  
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  
Microeconomics  
AP Microeconomics  
Social Justice Seminar

**SCIENCE**

Biology\*  
AP Biology  
Chemistry\*  
AP Chemistry  
Physics\*  
AP Physics  
AP Advanced Physics  
AP Environmental Science  
Anatomy & Physiology\*  
Forensic Science  
Earth & Space Science  
Health Sciences Seminar

Senior Capstone\*  
Entrepreneurship Program I, II  
Introduction to Business

\*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 teams

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             | Loyola University Maryland         | Stonehill College                 |
| Bard College                    | Lynn University                    | Stony Brook University            |
| Boston College                  | Manhattan College                  | Susquehanna University            |
| Boston University               | Marist College                     | Syracuse University               |
| Brandeis University             | Marquette University               | Temple University                 |
| Bucknell University             | Michigan State University          | Texas A & M University            |
| Catholic University of America  | Monmouth University                | Texas Christian University        |
| Clarkson University             | Montclair State University         | Trinity College                   |
| Clemson University              | Moravian College                   | Tufts University                  |
| Colgate University              | Muhlenberg College                 | Tulane University                 |
| College of Charleston           | New Jersey Institute of Technology | University of Alabama             |
| College of New Jersey           | New York University                | University of Colorado            |
| College of the Holy Cross       | North Carolina State University    | University of Connecticut         |
| College of William and Mary     | Northeastern University            | University of Delaware            |
| Connecticut College             | Oberlin College                    | University of Florida             |
| Dickinson College               | Ohio State University              | University of Georgia             |
| Drew University                 | Pace University                    | University of Hartford            |
| Drexel University               | Pennsylvania State University      | University of Maryland            |
| Duquesne University             | Providence College                 | University of Massachusetts       |
| Elon University                 | Purdue University                  | University of Miami               |
| Emory University                | Quinnipiac University              | University of Michigan            |
| Fairfield University            | Ramapo College                     | University of Mississippi         |
| Fairleigh Dickinson University  | Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute   | University of New Hampshire       |
| Fordham University              | Rider University                   | University of Notre Dame          |
| Franklin & Marshall College     | Rowan University                   | University of Pittsburgh          |
| George Washington University    | Rutgers University                 | University of Rhode Island        |
| Georgetown University           | Sacred Heart University            | University of Richmond            |
| Georgia Institute of Technology | Saint Anselm College               | University of Rochester           |
| Gettysburg College              | Saint John's University            | University of Scranton            |
| Hamilton College                | Saint Joseph's University          | University of South Carolina      |
| High Point University           | Saint Michael's College            | University of Southern California |
| Hobart & William Smith Colleges | Salve Regina University            | University of Tennessee           |
| Hofstra University              | Savannah College of Art & Design   | University of Texas               |
| Indiana University              | Seton Hall University              | University of Vermont             |
| Ithaca College                  | Siena College                      | University of Virginia            |
| James Madison University        | Skidmore College                   | University of Wisconsin           |
| Lafayette College               | Smith College                      | Villanova University              |
| Lehigh University               | Southern Methodist University      | Virginia Polytechnic Institute    |
| Loyola University Chicago       | Stevens Institute of Technology    | Washington University St. Louis   |

### SCHOOL COUNSELING DEPARTMENT

Pauline Condon (Director)..... Ext.1121  
 Kayla Campanile (School Counselor).....Ext. 1128  
 Kristina Bisceglia (School Counselor).....Ext. 1186