



ACADEMY of  
**NOTRE DAME**  
de NAMUR

# 2024-2025 Middle & Upper School Profile

## ENROLLMENT:

- ▶ 2023-2024 Middle and Upper School Enrollment: 540
- ▶ Average class size: 16
- ▶ Student-faculty ratio: 9:1
- ▶ 31% of students receive need-based financial aid

## COLLEGE MATRICULATION:

- ▶ 100% of Notre Dame graduates attend a four-year institution

## FACULTY:

- ▶ 80% of full- and part-time faculty hold advanced degrees

## ACCREDITATION:

- ▶ Pennsylvania Association of Independent Schools
- ▶ Middle States Association of Colleges and Secondary Schools

## MEMBERSHIPS:

- ▶ National Association of Independent Schools (NAIS)
- ▶ International Coalition of Girls' Schools (ICGS)
- ▶ National Catholic Educational Association (NCEA)
- ▶ Association of College Counselors in Independent Schools
- ▶ National and Pennsylvania Associations for College Admission Counseling
- ▶ American Library Association
- ▶ Association of Technology Leaders at Independent Schools

## MISSION:

The Academy of Notre Dame de Namur, an independent, college-preparatory, Catholic school, commits itself to the education of young women in grades 6 through 12 for responsible living in a global society. The Academy, rooted in the faith tradition of the Catholic Church, and the charism of Saint Julie Billiart, provides its students with a challenging academic curriculum within a rich spiritual community in order to:

- inspire them to live the prophetic nature of the gospel, with a passion for justice and love for the poor
- enable them to develop the skills and desire necessary for lifelong learning
- empower them to be honorable, compassionate leaders



## ACADEMY OF NOTRE DAME DE NAMUR

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## GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS:

- ▶ Students must earn a minimum of 24 credits in order to graduate, including successful completion of the following:
  - English - 4 credits
  - Math - 3 credits (including Algebra I, Geometry, Algebra II, and Trigonometry)
  - Science - 3 credits (including Physics, Chemistry, and Biology)
  - Social Studies - 3 credits (including World History I and US History)
  - World Languages - 3 credits
  - Religious Studies - 4 credits
  - Electives - 4 credits (including 1 credit of Art)
- ▶ Six major subjects must be taken each year. Major subjects are considered English, Social Studies, Math, Science, World Language, and Religion.
- ▶ Physical Education and Health are required courses in ninth and tenth grades.
- ▶ All courses are considered college-preparatory.
- ▶ A minimum of 60 credit hours of community service is required.

## GPA/Rank Policy

- ▶ The school year is divided into two semesters.
- ▶ A cumulative GPA is calculated at the end of every academic year beginning in ninth grade.
- ▶ Courses are weighted by adding .15 for Honors and .30 for AP to the regular grade. A full grading scale can be found on student transcript.
- ▶ Only final grades from Notre Dame or Online School for Girls courses are calculated in the GPA.
- ▶ Honors are awarded to students with a combined average of 3.60-3.89. Distinguished Honors are awarded to students whose combined average of all major subjects is 3.90 and above.
- ▶ The Academy of Notre Dame does not rank its students.

# CURRICULUM FEATURES

## ADVANCED PLACEMENT COURSES

**Notre Dame offers 23 AP courses in the following subjects:** Biology, Calculus AB, Calculus BC, Chemistry, English Literature, English Language & Composition, French, Latin, Spanish, Statistics, Computer Science, Computer Science Principles, US History, American Government, Comparative Government, Psychology, Human Geography, Environmental Science, Physics, Studio Art, Art History, Music Theory, and Mandarin Chinese. 31 Honors courses are also offered.

## INDEPENDENT RESEARCH IN STEM AND SOCIAL STUDIES

Independent Research in STEM and Social Studies are electives designed for students who wish to participate in long-term research. Students who successfully complete all requirements of the program receive a 1/4 credit on their transcripts.

## SENIOR CAPSTONE PROJECT

All seniors participate in an independent capstone project that includes investigation, preparation, and presentation of an 18-25 page research paper at the conclusion of the academic year. The topic of the research paper is selected by each student and can cover any subject area.

## HONOR CODE

Notre Dame's Honor Code fosters the development of each student's personal integrity, character, and respect for self, others, and school policies. Students are strongly encouraged to disclose any serious disciplinary infractions that may occur before, during, or after the college application process.

## SCHOLAR PROGRAMS

Notre Dame offers students the opportunity to deepen their academic experience by curating a four-year program of study, involving curricular and extracurricular activities, in order to provide intentional focus on one of these areas: Arts, Global Citizenship, or STEM. Student transcripts will reflect successful completion of the program.

## CENTER FOR GLOBAL LEADERSHIP

The Center for Global Leadership connects students to an international learning community through our network of seven sister schools to increase their competencies as global citizens. Various opportunities exist through the Center including the Global Classroom Program, Academic Exchange Program, service trips, cultural and language enrichment travel, hosting program and Global Citizen Scholar Program.

## ONE SCHOOLHOUSE

One Schoolhouse online learning programs provide additional educational options for students. One Schoolhouse courses are indicated by including "OS" in the course name on the Notre Dame transcript.

## TECHNOLOGY

Notre Dame is a 1:1 MacBook institution, creating more personalized learning opportunities for our students and faculty to develop student-centered teaching and learning strategies. Notre Dame has been recognized as an Apple Distinguished School for 2024-2027 for continuous innovation in learning, teaching, and the school environment, the third consecutive time the school has received this designation. More than 75% of ND faculty members are Apple Teachers, demonstrating their knowledge of innovative pedagogical practices with MacBooks.

## SEMESTER ENGLISH COURSES

Our half credit semester-based English course offerings have been expanded and are rigorous dives into specific topics. Each half credit English course can now be counted towards our core credit graduation requirements.

## MIDDLE SCHOOL CURRICULUM CHART

Grade 6	Grade 7	Grade 8
<b>ART</b>		
Visual Art Music Dance Middle School Ensemble Middle School Dance Company Middle School Women's Chorale	Visual Art Music Dance Middle School Ensemble Middle School Dance Company Middle School Women's Chorale	Visual Art Music Dance Middle School Ensemble Middle School Dance Company Middle School Women's Chorale
<b>ENGLISH</b>		
Language Arts	Language Arts	Language Arts
<b>HEALTH/PE COUNSELING</b>		
Physical Education Seminar 6	Health Physical Education Seminar 7	Health Physical Education Seminar 8
<b>MATH</b>		
Math 6 Honors Math 6	Pre-Algebra 7 Honors Pre-Algebra 7 Honors Algebra 7	Algebra 8 Algebra 8 part A Honors Algebra 8 Honors Geometry 8
<b>SCIENCE</b>		
Earth and Environmental Science	Life and Its Chemical Foundation	Physical Science
<b>SOCIAL STUDIES</b>		
World Geography	United States History	American History/Civics
<b>RELIGIOUS STUDIES</b>		
Intro to Catholic Tradition and Hebrew Scripture	Intro to New Testament and Sacraments	Church History and Morality
<b>TECHNOLOGY</b>		
Information Skills Technology Integrated into the Curriculum	Information Skills Technology Integrated into the Curriculum	Technology Integrated into the Curriculum
<b>WORLD LANGUAGES</b>		
Intro to World Languages: French, Latin, Mandarin, Spanish	French 1A Latin 1A Mandarin 1A Spanish 1A	French 1B Latin 1B Mandarin 1B Spanish 1B

# UPPER SCHOOL CURRICULUM CHART

Grade 9	Grade 10	Grade 11	Grade 12
<b>ART</b>			
Intro to Visual/Performing Arts Dance Company*** Second Dance Company*** Women's Chorale*** Upper School Ensemble*** Art I***	Art II Ceramic Design I Photography* Digital Art + Design* Intro to Dance* Dance Appreciation* Dance Company** Second Dance Company** Upper School Ensemble** Women's Chorale** AP Music Theory	Art II, III** Ceramic Design I, II* Advanced Ceramic Design** Photography* Digital Art + Design* AP Art History Intro to Dance* Dance Appreciation* Dance Company** Second Dance Company** Upper School Ensemble** Women's Chorale** AP Music Theory	Art II, III** Ceramic Design I*, II* Advanced Ceramic Design** Photography* Digital Art + Design* AP Art History AP Studio Art Intro to Dance* Dance Appreciation* Dance Company** Second Dance Company** Upper School Ensemble** Women's Chorale** AP Music Theory
<b>ENGLISH</b>			
Foundations of Literature and Writing**	British Literature** Creative Writing* Female Connections in Literature* Literature Through American Film* Shakespeare in Film* Shakespeare's Sister* True Crime Literature*	American Literature AP English Language Creative Writing* Female Connections in Literature* Literature Through American Film* Shakespeare in Film* Shakespeare's Sister* True Crime Literature*	Women and Literature AP English Literature Creative Writing* Female Connections in Literature* Literature Through American Film* Shakespeare in Film* Shakespeare's Sister* True Crime Literature*
<b>HEALTH/PE/COUNSELING</b>			
Seminar 9 PE 9 Health 9*	Seminar 10 * PE/Health 10 *	Seminar 11 *	Seminar 12 *
<b>MATH</b>			
Algebra I Algebra Part B Geometry ** H Geometry/Alg II/Trig Algebra II/Trig **	Geometry ** H Geometry/Alg II/Trig Algebra II/Trig ** PreCalculus ** Design Thinking * Entrepreneurship Intro to Finance *	Algebra II Algebra II/Trig** Advanced Math Concepts Precalculus** Calculus** Design Thinking* Entrepreneurship Intro to Finance* Trig & Logic* Statistics .5 or 1 credit AP Statistics AP Calculus AB	Advanced Math Concepts PreCalculus ** Calculus ** Design Thinking * Entrepreneurship Intro to Finance * Trig & Logic * Statistics .5 or 1 credit AP Statistics AP Calculus AB AP Calculus BC
<b>SCIENCE</b>			
Physics ** Independent Research	Chemistry ** Environmental Science Independent Research	Biology ** College Physics Neuroscience Anatomy/Biomedical Engineering Environmental Science AP Environmental Science AP Chemistry Independent Research	STEM Ethics College Physics Neuroscience Anatomy/Biomedical Engineering Environmental Science AP Environmental Science AP Biology AP Chemistry AP Physics Independent Research
<b>SOCIAL STUDIES</b>			
World History I Independent Research	World History II American Government AP U.S. Government AP Human Geography Independent Research	World History II U.S. History AP U.S. History AP Human Geography Global Studies Macroeconomics Independent Research	World History II AP Comparative Government AP Human Geography Global Studies Macroeconomics Independent Research
<b>RELIGIOUS STUDIES</b>			
Intro to Catholicism	Scripture	Catholic Morality	World Religion Social Justice Themes & Contemporary Society
<b>TECHNOLOGY</b>			
Integrated into the Curriculum	Computer Programming * Robotics & Coding *	Computer Programming * Robotics & Coding * AP Computer Science (OSH)	Computer Programming * Robotics & Coding * AP Computer Science (OS)
<b>WORLD LANGUAGES</b>			
French I, II ** Latin I, II ** Mandarin I, II ** Spanish I, II **	French I, II, III ** Mandarin I, II, III ** Latin I, II, III ** Spanish I, II, III **	French I, II, III, IV ** Mandarin I, II, III, IV ** Latin I, II, III, IV ** Spanish I, II, III, IV **	French I, II, III, IV, V **, AP Mandarin I, II, III, IV **, V **, AP Spanish I, II, III, IV, V **, AP Latin I, II, III, IV **, AP

\*offered as a semester course \*\*offered at honors level \*\*\*offered to 9th grade if accepted by audition or portfolio

**CO-CURRICULAR PROGRAMS** Athletics - 16 Varsity Sports, Performing and Visual Arts, Campus Ministry, Student Council, National Honor Society, Robotics, Literary Publications, Clubs, Service Learning, Mock Trial, Mathletes, Model UN



## COLLEGE MATRICULATIONS

100% of Notre Dame graduates attend a four-year institution. Graduates from 2022-2024 matriculated to the following colleges and universities. Institutions shown in bold have enrolled multiple Notre Dame students.

**Auburn University**  
 Belmont University  
**Boston College**  
**Boston University**  
**Bucknell University**  
 Case Western Reserve University  
**Clemson University**  
 Colgate University  
**College of Charleston**  
**College of the Holy Cross**  
 Columbia University  
 Cornell University  
 Dartmouth College  
 DePaul University  
 Drew University  
**Drexel University**  
 Duke University  
 Elon University  
**Fairfield University**  
**Florida Atlantic University**  
**Florida State University**  
**Fordham University**  
 George Washington University  
**Georgetown University**  
**Gettysburg College**  
 Gonzaga University  
 Hampshire College  
 Harvard University  
 High Point University  
 Hobart and William Smith Colleges  
 Howard University  
 Indiana University  
 James Madison University  
 Johns Hopkins University  
**Lafayette College**  
**Lehigh University**  
 Louisiana State University

**Loyola University Chicago**  
**Marist College**  
 Massachusetts Institute of Technology  
 McGill University  
 Miami University (Oxford)  
 Michigan State University  
 New York University  
 Northeastern University  
**Northwestern University**  
**Pennsylvania State University**  
 Pepperdine University  
 Princeton University  
**Providence College**  
 Purdue University  
 Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute  
 Rollins College  
 Rutgers University  
**Saint Joseph's University**  
 Saint Louis University  
 Samford University  
**Savannah College of Art and Design**  
**Southern Methodist University**  
 St. John's College  
 Susquehanna University  
**Syracuse University**  
**Texas Christian University**  
**The Catholic University of America**  
 The Ohio State University  
**The University of Alabama**  
**The University of Tampa**  
**The University of Tennessee**  
 Thomas Jefferson University  
 Trinity College  
**Tulane University**  
 United States Coast Guard Academy  
**University of California, Los Angeles**  
 University of California, Santa Barbara

University of Colorado Boulder  
 University of Dayton  
**University of Delaware**  
**University of Georgia**  
 University of Kentucky  
 University of Massachusetts  
**University of Miami**  
**University of Michigan**  
**University of Mississippi**  
 University of Missouri  
 University of North Carolina Wilmington  
**University of Notre Dame**  
 University of Oregon  
 University of Pennsylvania  
**University of Pittsburgh**  
**University of Richmond**  
 University of Rochester  
**University of Scranton**  
**University of South Carolina**  
 University of South Florida  
**University of Southern California**  
 University of St. Andrews  
 University of Vermont  
 University of Virginia  
**Ursinus College**  
 Vanderbilt University  
**Villanova University**  
 Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University  
 Wagner College  
 Wake Forest University  
 Washington and Lee University  
 Washington University in St. Louis  
 West Chester University of Pennsylvania  
**William & Mary**  
 Xavier University  
 Yale University