

## HISTORY

St. Catherine's Montessori (SCM) is a Dominican and Montessori school founded in 1966. It serves approximately 300 students 14 months through 12th grade. In keeping with Montessori standards, students are grouped in three-year increments, Adolescent Community grades 7-9 and High School grades 10-12. The first class of seniors graduated in May 2020.

## MISSION

As a Catholic Montessori school, St. Catherine's is dedicated to an educational experience which awakens in our students the awareness of their gifts and responsibilities as individuals in relationship with Jesus Christ and as stewards of the global community.

## ACCREDITATIONS AND PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIPS

Texas Catholic Conference of Bishops  
Education Department (TCCB ED)  
Cognia (formerly known as AdvancED)  
Association Montessori Internationale (AMI)  
Houston Area Independent Schools (HAIS)

National Catholic Education Association (NCEA)  
North American Montessori Teachers Association (NAMTA)  
Independent School Management (ISM)  
Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED) Certified  
National Association for College Admissions Counseling (NACAC)  
Texas Association for College Admissions Counseling (TACAC)

## HIGH SCHOOL ENROLLMENT

Freshmen\*  
8

Sophomores  
8

Juniors  
8

Seniors  
6

\*Ninth grade is the capstone year of the Adolescent Community; the High School Community houses grades 10-12.

### Lina Delgado

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### Brian Tucker

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### Sarah Lewis

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## CURRICULUM AND GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS

St. Catherine's Montessori High School offers a student-centered, interdisciplinary, and experiential education grounded in the principles of AMI Montessori education.

The curriculum is college preparatory, including **AP courses** and the opportunity for students to take **dual credit courses** at the University of St. Thomas beginning in the 10th grade. Independent studies courses are available for students interested in pursuing a topic of deep interest. Seniors complete an independent capstone research project. This can take the form of a public speech, a cooking show, a thesis, a self-curated art show, or other forums where students present their research.

## CREDITS REQUIRED FOR ST. CATHERINE'S MONTESSORI HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATION

SCM's diploma fulfills the State of Texas requirements for a Distinguished Level of Achievement with a Multidisciplinary Studies Endorsement.

| Subject                                    | 9th      | 10th - 12th |
|--|----------|-------------|
| Integrated Humanities                      | 1        | 4           |
| Integrated Language Arts, Writing & Speech | 1        | 5           |
| Integrated Mathematics                     | 1        | 4           |
| Integrated Science                         | 1        | 3           |
| World Language                             | 1        | 2*          |
| Theology                                   | 1        | 3           |
| Electives                                  | 2        | 2           |
| <b>TOTAL</b>                               | <b>8</b> | <b>23</b>   |

\*3 credits recommended

### Ranking Policy

St. Catherine's Montessori does not rank its students. St. Catherine's Montessori does not weight its advanced level coursework, but does utilize a plus/minus GPA scale for all courses.

### GPA Scale

|    |      |    |      |    |      |    |      |
|----|------|----|------|----|------|----|------|
| A+ | 4.33 | B+ | 3.33 | C+ | 2.33 |    |      |
| A  | 4.00 | B  | 3.00 | C  | 2.00 | NC | 0.00 |
| A- | 3.67 | B- | 2.67 | C- | 1.67 |    |      |

[Grading Rubric can be viewed here.](#)

## COURSE OFFERINGS AND TOPICS

### Integrated Humanities

World Geography  
US History  
World History  
Current Events  
US Government  
Economics

### Integrated Language Arts, Writing & Speech

English I  
English II  
AP English III – Language and Composition  
AP English IV – Literature and Composition  
Debate, Speech & Presentation Journalism

### Integrated Mathematics

Algebra I  
Algebra II  
Geometry  
Pre-Calculus  
AP Calculus AB  
AP Statistics

### Integrated Science

Integrated Physics and Chemistry  
Biology  
Chemistry  
Physics  
Earth and Space Science  
AP Environmental Science

### World Language

Spanish I  
Spanish II  
Spanish III  
Spanish for Native Speakers  
AP Spanish IV – Language and Culture  
Spanish V – Literature and Culture  
Conversational Spanish  
Other languages available upon request

### Theology

Social Justice and Discipleship  
Mission and Life of Jesus The Sacraments  
World Religions  
Church History

### Electives

AP Computer Science Principles  
Web Design Creative Expression Physical Education Health Education

### Cumulative Score Data (2019 - 2024)

AP Pass Rate (Score of 3 or higher): **78%**      Average GPA: **3.772**  
AP Perfect Scores (Score of 5): **24%**      Average ACT: **25**

## EXPERIENTIAL LEARNING

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### Travel Learning

Throughout their high school journey, students research and plan travel-learning experiences to complement their curriculum. Past trips include Greece/Rome, Puerto Rico, and New York City. View past trips [here](#).

### Senior Capstone

The pinnacle of our student-centered Montessori education is the senior capstone. Past research topics include "Before Impact: Hell Creek's Ecology;" "The Health Sector Applications of AR/VR Technology;" "Air Pollution in Harrisburg/Manchester;" and "From Doodle to Digital: Developing My Character Circe and His Adventures."

### Internships

Ninth grade students complete a 40-hour internship with a professional in a field of interest. Tenth-twelfth grade students may work with mentors on an ongoing basis. View past internships [here](#).

## OCCUPATIONS, CREATIVE EXPRESSIONS, ATHLETICS AND COMMUNITY SERVICE

Many activities traditionally considered extracurricular are integrated into the students' studies, such as music, theatre, managerial work, and athletics.

### Occupations\*

Bank Manager  
Bee Manager  
Soap Manager  
Chicken Manager  
Garden Manager  
Market Manager  
Retreat Manager  
Literary Arts Magazine  
Manager  
Musical Manager

### Creative Expressions

Music Ensemble  
Theatre  
Musical Theater  
Visual Art  
Film Photojournalism  
Baking/Cooking

### Intramural Athletics

Soccer  
Volleyball  
Basketball  
Track and Field  
Assistant Coach  
Baseball

### Community Service

The Beacon  
Houston Food Bank  
Casa de Esperanza  
Interfaith Ministries for  
Greater Houston  
Houston Welcomes Refugees

\*Available to 9th grade students.

## COLLEGE MATRICULATION (2020-2024)

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American University  
Johns Hopkins University  
Nottingham Trent University  
Rice University  
Rochester Institute of Technology  
South Dakota Mines  
Texas A&M University at Galveston  
The University of Texas at Austin  
University of Arkansas  
University of Houston  
Whitman College

View full list of college acceptances [here](#).

