



Michael Davis, PhD
Head of School

Max Delgado
Upper School Principal

Sonia Arora '01
Director of Upper School Strategic
Initiatives and College Counseling
303-914-2582
sonia.arora@coloradoacademy.org

Alex Castro
Associate Director of College
Counseling
303-914-2504
alex.castro@coloradoacademy.org

David Jones '09
Associate Director of College
Counseling
303-914-2511
david.jones@coloradoacademy.org

Sara Purviance
Associate Director of College
Counseling
303-914-2508
sara.purviance@coloradoacademy.org

3800 South Pierce Street
Denver, Colorado 80235-2404
303-986-1501 Fax 303-914-2583
www.coloradoacademy.org

CEEB CODE 060393



Founded in 1906, Colorado Academy is a coeducational independent day school for grades Pre-K through 12. CA's mission is to create curious, kind, courageous, and adventurous learners and leaders.

AT A GLANCE

1,033
TOTAL STUDENTS
PRE-K-GRADE 12

33%
SELF-IDENTIFIED
STUDENTS OF COLOR

65
ZIP CODES

18%
STUDENTS RECEIVE
FINANCIAL AID

\$5.5M
NEED-BASED FINANCIAL
AID FOR 2024-2025

106
CLASS OF 2025

93%
STUDENTS PLAY
COMPETITIVE SPORTS

14
AVERAGE
CLASS SIZE

54
STUDENT-LED CLUBS
& SERVICE ACTIVITIES

73%
STUDENTS EXCEED
2-YEAR ARTS REQUIREMENT

Curriculum, 2024-2025

Colorado Academy offers a college preparatory curriculum emphasizing disciplines in the liberal arts and sciences. The school prioritizes 21st century skills, including critical thinking and problem solving, communication, collaboration, creativity, cultural humility, and character development.

KEY
(H) Honors
(AP) Advanced Placement
(ASR) Advanced Studies and Research

ENGLISH (4 years required)

- Grade 9: Coming of Age in the World
- Grade 10: American Literature
- Grades 11 & 12: Seminar Electives (H)
- The Anxiety of Influence (ASR)
- Prizewinners Now (ASR)

GLOBAL LANGUAGES (3 years required)

- Chinese I, II, III, IV
- Chinese Cultural Studies (ASR)
- French I, II, III, IV
- French Advanced Seminar/Topics (H)
- French Language & Culture (AP)
- Spanish I, II, III, IV
- Spanish Advanced Seminar/Topics (H)
- Spanish for Heritage Speakers (H)
- Spanish Language & Culture (AP)
- 20th Century Hispanic Literature (ASR)

SOCIAL STUDIES (3 years required)

- Grade 9: Global Perspectives
- Grade 10: U.S. History
- Grades 11 & 12: Seminar Electives (H)
- Cryptography in History & Mathematics (ASR)
- Economics in Theory and Practice (ASR)
- The History of Ideas and Inventions (ASR)
- International Gender Movements (ASR)
- Superpowers: China, Russia & the United States in the Modern World (ASR)
- Independent Study (ASR)

MATHEMATICS (3 years required)

- Math 1; Math 2; Math 2e
- Advanced Algebra (H)
- Math 3: Non-linear Functions and Trigonometry
- Pre-Calculus; Pre-Calculus (H)
- Calculus (H)
- Statistics (AP)
- Calculus AB (AP), Calculus BC (AP)
- Cryptography in History & Mathematics (ASR)
- Advanced Topics: Linear Algebra (Post-AP)

SCIENCE (3 years required)

- Biology; Advanced Topics in Biology (AP Level)
- Conceptual Chemistry; Chemistry; Chemistry (AP)
- Physiology (H)
- Environmental Chemistry (H)
- Physics (H); Physics I (AP); Physics C (AP)
- Grades 10-12: Electives with research and inquiry focus (H)

COMPUTER SCIENCE (1 trimester required)

- Computer Science Principles (ASR)
- Computer Science A (AP)
- Advanced Computer Science & Data Structures (Post-AP)
- Robotics (ASR)
- AI and Machine Learning (ASR)

And courses such as:

- Programming with Swift
- Visual Design & Algorithmic Art
- Python for Biologists
- Data Analytics with Excel, SQL & Tableau
- Introduction to Probability and Randomness
- Introduction to Statistics and Data Science

VISUAL & PERFORMING ARTS (2 years required) and ENGINEERING DESIGN (2 trimesters required)

- Acting/Scene Study I, Advanced Acting
- Acting for the Camera
- Improvisation
- Musical Theater
- Technical Theater, Theater Practicum
- Digital Art; Algorithmic Art
- Studio Art I, II; Advanced 2D Art
- Ceramics I, II; Advanced Ceramics
- Introduction to Architectural Drawing
- Photography I, II; Advanced Photography
- Videography I, II; Advanced Videography
- Dance, Vertical Dance, Dance Company
- Academy Jazz, Jazz Ensemble
- Concert Choir, Chanteurs, A Cappella Choir
- Chamber Orchestra, Academy Orchestra
- Rock Ensemble
- Audio Engineering
- Yearbook I, II
- Music Theory (ASR)
- Senior Portfolio (ASR)

Curriculum Update: ASR

As of 2023-2024, CA no longer offers AP courses in English or social studies. CA's own Advanced Studies and Research (ASR) courses are now offered in these departments as well as in the arts, math, world languages, and computer science.

ASR allows students to have more agency, go deeper, engage in knowledge production, and pursue multidisciplinary questions. Cultivating curiosity and mastery, ASR courses encourage students to develop a lifelong passion for meaningful, rigorous engagement.

- Introduction to Engineering Design
- Introduction to Engineering Design: Focus on Women
- Introduction to Biomedical Engineering
- Engineering & Fabrication I & II

ATHLETICS (2 years required)

Interscholastic sports include:

- Baseball
- Boys & Girls Basketball
- Cross Country
- Girls Field Hockey
- Boys & Girls Golf
- Ice Hockey
- Boys & Girls Lacrosse
- Rock Climbing
- Boys & Girls Soccer
- Girls Swimming & Diving
- Boys & Girls Tennis
- Ultimate Frisbee
- Girls Volleyball

Academic Calendar

Colorado Academy follows a trimester calendar with grades issued at the conclusion of each term. Trimester 1 grades are sent to colleges in mid-November as a Mid-Year Report.

Grade 9 Pass/Fail System

Colorado Academy supports Ninth Graders as they transition into high school by using a Pass/Fail system in the first trimester of Biology, English, and Global Perspectives.

Signature Programs



REDI Lab

CA's REDI Lab (Research, Entrepreneurship, Design, and Inquiry) offers a uniquely personalized and creative learning experience for students in Grades 11-12. Using innovative scheduling that creates time for deep work, the Lab positions students with the initiative and agency to self-direct their way through a project of their own design. At the new REDI Lab Aimee and Jonathan Coleman Center in Denver's Mariposa Arts District, Juniors and Seniors may participate in a 12-week "school-within-a-school" learning experience that encourages them to pursue their own interests and passions.

Arts: Senior Portfolio (ASR)

Twelfth Grade artists with significant experience may be chosen to participate in Senior Portfolio, a decades-long CA tradition in which artists spend the year creating a culminating exhibition that represents their personal statement of who they are as creators. This Advanced Studies and Research course is designed to engage students in the professional experience of building and exhibiting a portfolio of work.

Speech & Debate

CA's Speech & Debate program helps students develop public speaking, research, and critical thinking skills needed by leaders in an ever-changing world. Through participation in state-level, national, and even international tournaments, CA has earned a strong reputation, especially in Lincoln-Douglas and World Schools Debate. CA students further test their skills through annual participation in Mock Trial and Ethics Bowl events.

Interim

Week-long Interim trips each spring are designed to immerse students and faculty in experiences and pursuits that broaden their skills, test their abilities, and sharpen the awareness of the world in which they live. Interim provides opportunities to get out of the classroom to learn by doing, through exposure to new ideas, experiences, and environments. Interim trips span the gamut from artistic pursuits and community engagement to wilderness expeditions.

Global Education

Annual international travel opportunities offer CA students invaluable experience and enhanced learning. Destinations including Mexico, Vancouver, Colombia, Bahamas, and Iceland, among many others, immerse students in language, culture, history, the environment, and service.

Athletics

The majority of CA students in Grades 9-12 participate in competitive sports throughout their high school career, with the school's interscholastic teams claiming a dozen state titles in just the last four years. Field Hockey, Girls and Boys Soccer, Girls Lacrosse, Boys and Girls Golf, and Boys and Girls Tennis have earned regional and even national reputations, and many graduating CA student-athletes have gone on to compete at the Division I and III college levels.

Accreditations and memberships: National Association of Independent Schools (NAIS), Association of Colorado Independent Schools (ACIS), Colorado High School Activities Association (CHSAA), Association for College Counselors in Independent Schools (Founding School), National Association of College Admissions Counselors.

Community Leadership Team

Each year, around two dozen Seniors are selected by counselors and faculty to lead peer support groups. Community Leadership Team (CLT) members receive training focused on facilitating discussions, learning skills and strategies to help younger students acclimate to the Upper School, and understanding topics relevant to the Ninth Grade experience. Seniors chosen for CLT are role models in the CA community.

HOPE

An annual student-run initiative, HOPE brings thousands of Denver-area residents to the Colorado Academy campus, where they can receive free clothing, school supplies, toiletries, baby essentials, toys, food, medical care, community services, and much more. Now in its 30th year, the December event is led by three student Co-Presidents, who recruit and organize the efforts of more than 50 Directors responsible for everything from planning free bus transportation to managing clothing donations and community partnerships.

Community Impact Projects

A graduation requirement, Community Impact Projects (CIPs) completed by all Juniors represent the culmination of a multi-year commitment to making a difference far beyond campus, and reflect not only CA students' engagement with their communities, but also their growing understanding of their place in the world. The projects instill a lifelong sense of connection, service, and learning through community.

By the Numbers

Grading Scale

AP, AP Level, ASR, and Post-AP courses generate weighted grades, indicated in red. The reported GPA reflects this weighting.

A (4.00 5.00)	B- (2.67 3.34)	D+ (1.33 1.67)
A- (3.67 4.59)	C+ (2.33 2.92)	D (1.00 1.25)
B+ (3.33 4.17)	C (2.00 2.50)	D- (0.67 0.84)
B (3.00 3.75)	C- (1.67 2.09)	F (0.00)

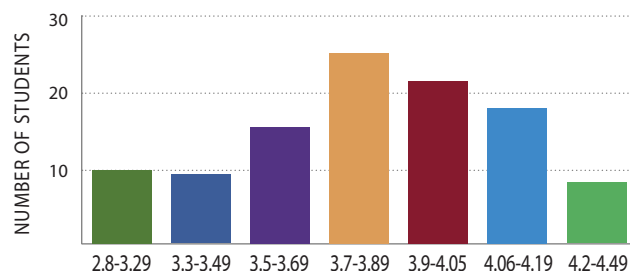
For athletics, Practicum classes, and certain electives, the following grading letters are used: (P) Pass, (F) Fail.

Class Rank

CA does not rank students.

GPA Distribution Class of 2025

End of Junior year



Mean Standardized Testing Scores Class of 2024

ACT	Average: 29.8; Middle 50%: 27-33
SAT	Average: 1340; Middle 50%: 1230-1460
SAT EBRW	Average: 672
SAT Math	Average: 667

Discipline Disclosure Policy

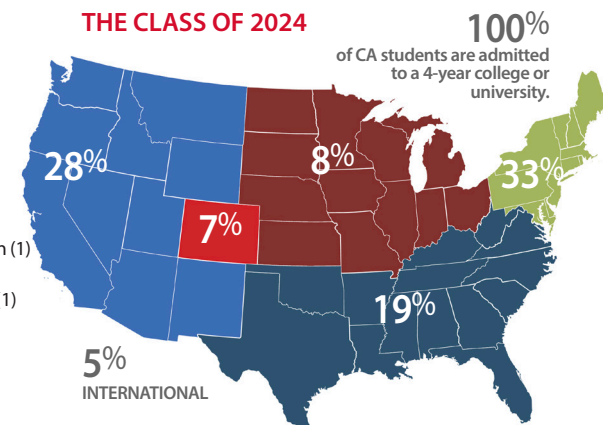
CA notifies colleges when an infraction results in suspension or expulsion for any length of time from CA. This includes incidents that occur during Senior year after college applications have been submitted.

COVID-19 NOTE

In March-May 2020, CA held synchronous, remote classes and retained the standard letter grading system. In August 2020, school began with two weeks of synchronous remote classes, then transitioned to a flex model where students alternated days on campus. In March 2021, we moved to full, in-person classes.

Amherst College (1)
 Arizona State University - Tempe (2)
 Auburn University (1)
 Babson College (1)
 Bates College (2)
 Berklee College of Music (2)
 Boston College (10)
 Boston University (3)
 Bowdoin College (1)
 Brandeis University (1)
 Brown University (2)
 Bryant University (1)
 Bryn Mawr College (1)
 Bucknell University (4)
 Cal Poly - San Luis Obispo (4)
 California Institute of Technology (1)
 Carleton College (2)
 Chapman University (12)
 Christopher Newport University (1)
 Claremont McKenna College (1)
 Clark University (1)
 Colby College (4)
 Colgate University (6)
 Colorado College (7)
 Colorado School of Mines (2)
 Colorado State University - Fort Collins (2)
 Columbia University (2)
 Cornell University (2)
 Creighton University (1)
 Dartmouth College (9)
 Davidson College (2)
 Denison University (5)
 DePaul University (1)
 Duke University (1)
 Elon University (1)
 Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University (1)
 Emory University - Oxford College (1)
 Florida Institute of Technology (1)
 Franklin & Marshall College (1)
 Franklin W. Olin College of Engineering (1)
 Furman University (1)
 Georgetown University (2)
 Gonzaga University (3)
 Hamilton College (1)
 Harvard University (3)
 Harvey Mudd College (2)
 High Point University (1)
 Hobart and William Smith Colleges (1)
 Indiana University - Bloomington (6)
 Johns Hopkins University (1)
 Lewis & Clark College (2)
 Loyola Marymount University (2)
 Marquette University (2)
 Maryland Institute College of Art (1)
 McGill University (2)
 Miami University - Oxford (3)
 Middlebury College (3)
 Montana State University (1)
 New York University (3)
 Northeastern University (4)
 Northwestern University (6)
 Norwich University (1)
 Occidental College (4)
 Pitzer College (4)
 Pomona College (4)
 Queen Mary University of London (1)
 Regis University (1)
 Rhode Island School of Design (1)
 Rhodes College (1)
 Rice University (1)
 Rijksuniversiteit Groningen (1)
 San Diego State University (1)
 Santa Clara University (11)
 Scripps College (1)
 Smith College (2)
 Southern Methodist University (4)
 St Olaf College (1)
 St. John's College (1)
 St. Lawrence University (1)
 Stanford University (7)
 Syracuse University (4)
 Texas Christian University (12)
 The College of Wooster (1)
 The George Washington University (3)
 The New School (1)
 The University of Alabama (1)
 The University of Arizona (2)
 The University of British Columbia Okanagan (1)
 The University of Texas at Austin (1)
 The University of the South (1)
 Trinity College (2)
 Trinity College Dublin (3)
 Trinity University (1)
 Tufts University (4)
 Tulane University (12)
 Union College - NY (1)
 United States Military Academy (1)
 United States Naval Academy (2)
 University of Arkansas (1)
 University of California - Berkeley (1)
 University of California - Los Angeles (5)
 University of California - San Diego (1)
 University of California - Santa Barbara (1)
 University of California - Santa Cruz (3)
 University of Colorado - Boulder (26)
 University of Colorado - Denver (1)
 University of Denver (5)
 University of Florida (1)
 University of Georgia (1)
 University of Illinois - Urbana-Champaign (1)
 University of Kansas (2)

THE CLASS OF 2024



University of Miami (6)
 University of Michigan - Ann Arbor (11)
 University of Mississippi (4)
 University of New Hampshire (1)
 University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill (2)
 University of Notre Dame (1)
 University of Oregon (7)
 University of Pennsylvania (3)
 University of Portland (1)
 University of Redlands (1)
 University of Richmond (1)
 University of San Diego (2)
 University of South Carolina - Columbia (1)
 University of Southern California (8)
 University of St Andrews (2)
 University of Tennessee - Knoxville (1)
 University of Utah (3)
 University of Vermont (2)
 University of Virginia (11)
 University of Wisconsin - Madison (2)
 Vanderbilt University (4)
 Villanova University (8)
 Virginia Tech (1)
 Wake Forest University (5)
 Washington University in St. Louis (3)
 Wesleyan University (2)
 Whitman College (3)
 Whittier College (1)
 WHU - Otto Beisheim School of Management (1)
 Williams College (1)
 Yale University (6)

**Colleges Attended by
 Graduates in Classes
 2021-2024**