



Peter Becker '95  
Head of School

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Registrar

Michael McAloon  
Senior Class Dean

Pilar Santos  
Senior Class Dean

#### COLLEGE COUNSELING

Lydia Mann  
Director

Carla Ambrosini  
Testing Coordinator

Steffon Gales  
Associate Director

Cheryl Gatling-Galloway  
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Jon Gottsegen  
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Max Rosner  
Associate Director

Danielle Walsh  
Associate Director

SAT/ACT School Code:  
070880

## 2025-26 School Profile

# The Taft School

110 Woodbury Road, Watertown, CT 06795

### *The Taft School Mission*

To educate the whole student; to demand excellence in all aspects of life, including moral responsibility as reflected in part in our school motto, *Non ut sibi ministretur sed ut ministret*—Not to be served but to serve.

### *The School*

Founded in 1890, the Taft School is a coeducational school for students in grades 9 to 12 and postgraduate. Each year, close to 600 students gather on Taft's 226-acre Connecticut campus, located 95 miles from New York City, and 125 miles from Boston, MA. Taft is fully accredited by the New England Association of Schools and Colleges and is a member of National Association of Independent Schools, National and New England Associations of College Admission Counseling, Global Online Academy, Association of College Counselors in Independent Schools, and the College Entrance Examination Board.



## College Matriculation 2023-2025

*\*Schools that enrolled three or more Taft students during the 2023-2025 period are identified with an asterisk.*

Amherst College*	Indiana University-Bloomington*
Augustana College	Johns Hopkins University*
Babson College*	Kenyon College*
Barnard College	Lafayette College
Bates College*	Lehigh University*
Bentley University*	Marist University
Binghamton University	McGill University*
Boston College*	Merrimack College
Boston University*	Middle Tennessee State University
Bowdoin College*	Middlebury College*
Brown University*	Monroe University
Bryant University	New York University*
Bryn Mawr College	Northeastern University*
Bucknell University*	Northwestern University
Cal Poly*	Oberlin College
Carnegie Mellon University*	Occidental College
Case Western Reserve University	Ohio State University-
Centre College	Main Campus
Citadel Military College of	Pennsylvania State University-
South Carolina	Penn State Main Campus
Claremont McKenna College	Pitzer College
Clarkson University	Pomona College
Coffeyville Community College	Pratt Institute Brooklyn
Colby College*	Princeton University*
Colgate University*	Providence College
College of the Holy Cross*	Purdue University-Main Campus
Colorado College*	Queen's University Kingston
Columbia University in the	Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute
City of New York*	Rhode Island School of Design*
Columbia University - Sciences Po -	Rice University
Dual BA Program	Rutgers University-New Brunswick
Connecticut College	Santa Clara University*
Cornell University*	Sarah Lawrence College
Dartmouth College*	Southern Connecticut
Denison University	State University
Dickinson College	Southern Methodist University*
Duke University*	Stanford University
Emory University*	Stonehill College
Foothill College	Suffolk University
Fordham University	Syracuse University*
Franklin and Marshall College	Texas Christian University
Franklin Pierce University	The American University of Paris
Furman University	The George Washington University
Georgetown University*	The University of Alabama
Gettysburg College*	The University of the South
Hamilton College*	The University of Texas at Austin
Harvard University*	Trinity College*
Haverford College	Tufts University*
Hobart and William Smith*	Tulane University of Louisiana*
Howard University	Union College (NY)*

United States Air Force Academy\*  
 University of California-Berkeley\*  
 University of California-Los Angeles\*  
 University of California-San Diego  
 University of California-Santa Barbara  
 University of Chicago\*  
 University of Colorado Boulder\*  
 University of Connecticut\*  
 University of Delaware  
 University of Denver  
 University of Florida  
 University of Georgia  
 University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign  
 University of Jamestown  
 University of Maine  
 University of Massachusetts-Amherst  
 University of Massachusetts-Boston  
 University of Miami\*  
 University of Michigan-Ann Arbor\*  
 University of Mississippi  
 University of New Hampshire-  
 Main Campus  
 University of North Carolina at  
 Chapel Hill\*  
 University of North Dakota  
 University of Notre Dame  
 University of Pennsylvania\*  
 University of Richmond\*  
 University of St. Andrews\*  
 University of San Diego  
 University of South Carolina-Columbia  
 University of Southern California\*  
 University of Toronto  
 University of Vermont  
 University of Virginia-Main Campus\*  
 University of Wisconsin-Madison\*  
 Vanderbilt University  
 Vassar College  
 Villanova University  
 Wake Forest University\*  
 Washington and Lee University\*  
 Washington University in St. Louis\*  
 Wellesley College\*  
 Wesleyan University\*  
 Western Connecticut State University  
 Western University\*  
 William & Mary\*  
 Williams College\*  
 Yale University\*

## *Highest-Level Courses Available at Taft*

As Taft no longer offers AP courses, the most advanced courses in each discipline are honors-level courses, listed below. (In the formal course listings, the word “honors” is included in each course title). Courses designated as “advanced” follow “honors” in rigor, followed by all other available courses.

### *Arts*

History of Western Art, Studio Art Portfolio, Music Theory

### *English*

Senior English, Humanities, Comparative Literature

### *Global Studies*

Psychology, Economics, Philosophy

### *History*

U. S. History; Topics in U.S. History: 1960s; Topics in U.S. History: 1974-2016; American Government; Comparative Government; History of Modern China; History of the Soviet Union; Politics of Race, Gender, and Society; Topics in Caribbean History; Human Geography: Development and Justice; Human Geography: Contemporary Issues; Women in U.S. History

### *Languages*

Chinese Culture and Contemporary China; Latin Literature; Hispanic Studies; Special Topics in French

### *Mathematics and Computer Science*

Multivariable Calculus, Topology, Complex Analysis, Differential Equations, Honors Applications of Computer Science, Theory of Computer Science, Computer Science in Java, Programming

### *Science*

Ethnobotany; Inquiry in Applied Biology; Chemistry 2: Organic Chemistry, Inorganic Chemistry, or Thermodynamics; CalculusBased Physics; Environmental Science: Anthropocene or Climate Injustice

## *Signature Programs and Off-Campus Study*

- Taft’s **Global Studies and Service Department (GSS)** prepares students for active global citizenship through coursework, cocurricular programs, and service to communities both local and global. By crafting an individualized academic pathway with a more global emphasis for their studies, students may qualify for a GSS Diploma at commencement.
- In partnership with Waterbury (CT) Public Schools, the 18-month **Global Leadership Institute Scholar** program prepares students to become actively engaged and globally aware citizens and leaders.
- The first of its kind in the nation more than 50 years ago, Taft’s **Independent Study Program** continues to allow students to pursue their passions through high-level, inquiry-based, self-directed courses of study.
- Taft students may take advantage of **off-campus study** opportunities through the Maine Coast Semester at Chewonki; the Mountain School; High Mountain Institute; The Island School; King’s Academy (Jordan); and to China, France, Italy, and Spain with School Year Abroad. *Grades from these programs are not used in our GPA calculations.*

## *Taft Policies and Requirements*

### *Academic Requirements*

Taft students may choose from 200 one-semester courses offered in each of our two academic-year semesters to fulfill our graduation requirement. Students in grades 9 and 10 must carry a minimum of five academic courses each term, while students in grades 11 and 12 must carry a minimum of four academic courses.

### *Minimum Course Requirements by Discipline*

- 1 English course every semester
- 4 semesters of History (1 full year of U.S. History and 2 semesters of non-U.S.)
- 4 semesters of Laboratory Science
- Level III of a World Language
- Algebra II and Trigonometry
- One semester of Arts each year

### *Academic Policy and Grading Scale*

The standard academic load is five courses per semester in grades 9 and 10; 11th- and 12th-grade students may choose to take either four or five. Taft reports weighted grades on its official transcript (five points are added to each grade earned in honors and honors seminar courses taken at Taft). The transcript includes a yearly GPA and a cumulative GPA for courses completed at Taft. Grades from courses taken away from Taft are not included in the GPA calculation. By policy, Taft students are not ranked.

**592**

*Students*

**133**

*Faculty*

**4:1**

*Student-  
Faculty  
Ratio*

**200**

*Courses*

**43**

*% Students  
of color*

**11**

*Average Class  
Size*

**35**

*% Receiving  
Financial  
Assistance*