



ST. JOSEPH'S ACADEMY CORE VALUES & GLOBAL LEARNING COMPETENCIES

We believe in a balanced approach to developing the whole woman:

Students will identify and create opportunities for personal and collaborative growth by attempting and seeking new opportunities.

We call forth spiritual courage and confidence:

Students will grow in their faith by seeking and experiencing other cultures and people.

We cultivate intellectual distinction:

Students will explore global issues with inclusivity, empathy, and multiple perspectives.

We foster the desire to serve:

Students will grow in community relational learning.

We encourage leadership and influence action:

Students will develop their growth mindset and resiliency in order to effectively communicate their voice while navigating unfamiliar and difficult situations.

We expect excellence:

Students will gain the tools to be able to thrive in the future of a global workforce and world.

ST. JOSEPH'S ACADEMY SIGNATURE SCHOLAR PROGRAM

GLOBAL LEARNING

SJA Global Learners will develop as compassionate, culturally competent leaders who engage with global communities through a balanced approach. One that nurtures intellectual curiosity, personal reflection, and a commitment to growth while responding to the world with courage, relationship, and purpose.

GLOBAL SCHOLARS PROGRAM: This is a highly selective program that all freshmen, sophomores, and juniors may apply for in December through an application and interview process. It is limited to 35 students. Once accepted, the student will receive a designation on their transcript as a Global Scholars Candidate. Then, when the student completes the milestones below, they are marked as a Graduate of the Global Scholars Program, an honor which will be recognized during our end-of-year celebrations.

What does the Global Scholars Program Experience Involve?

The Global Scholars Program lets the student experience the world outside of the traditional classroom. It prepares them to develop and grow in each aspect of the global competencies, so they are ready to make a profound impact in the world. Through this program, the student will work with the Director of Global Learning to achieve different milestones that will help them on their journey to becoming a Global Scholar.

- > **Academic Milestones:** Students will learn to communicate their voice by completing four years of a World Language, a Global Studies course, and a globally-focused curriculum that meets their needs and goals.
- > **Language and Cultural Immersion Milestone:** Students will navigate the unfamiliar and explore the world by participating in one of our Transformative Language and Cultural Immersion Experiences.
- > **Service Learning Milestone:** Students will grow in community relational learning by walking with "the Dear Neighbor" in service. Students will also lead at least one globally-minded club at SJA.
- > **Engagement Milestones:** Students will thrive in the world by attending speaking engagements, events, field trips, and other globally-focused events that engage our community with the world. They will also serve as an SJA Global Ambassador.



CONTACT INFORMATION

For more information, please contact:

- Katie Richardson '99, Director of Global Learning at krichardson@sja1840.org, 314-394-4089

TRAVEL OPPORTUNITIES

The following programs are available to all SJA students for the 2025-2026 school year. All programs have limited space due to partner school requirements. Apply [here](#) for all programs.

SPRING BREAK PROGRAMS

Exchange Immersions:

Lille, France: Students will travel to Lille with Chaminade to attend school at Sté. Marie Beaucamps. They will live with host families, attend classes, and participate in school events and field trips. The trip will include cultural visits to Paris and Bruges, Belgium. *Trip Cost: \$3,800-4,000.*

Letterkenny, Ireland: Students will travel to Letterkenny with SLUH to attend Coláiste Ailigh. They will live with host families, attend classes, and participate in school events and field trips. The trip will include cultural visits to Dublin, Derry, and Belfast. This is a reciprocal exchange. The trip will take place in April 2026. *Trip Cost: \$3,800-4,000.*

Rome, Italy: Students will travel to Rome with Chaminade to attend Liceo Rocci. They will live with host families, attend cultural classes, and travel to Rome for day trips. This is a reciprocal exchange. The trip will take place in April 2026. *Trip Cost: \$3,800-4,000.*

Educational and Service Immersions:

Roatan, Honduras: Students will study marine science at Roatan Institute for Marine Sciences while staying at Anthony's Key Resort. They will also fulfill all required service hours for the year. *Trip Cost: \$4,000- 4,300.*

Alternative Spring Break to Jerusalem Farms in Kansas City: Students will travel to Kansas City to participate in their Four Cornerstones of Prayer, Community, Service, and Simplicity. They will fulfill all required service hours. *Trip Cost: \$550.*

SENIOR SERVICE PROGRAMS

BEAM Kenya: Students will travel to Eldoret, Kenya, to be fully immersed in the culture of Kenya. They will participate in a deeply personal cultural immersion, walk with BEAM leaders as they serve their communities, and listen to the stories of their community. *Trip Cost: \$4,000- 4,200. Limited to 7 seniors.*

SUMMER EXCHANGE IMMERSIONS

Kraków and Gdynia, Poland: Students will travel to Kraków and Gdynia with SLUH and Nerinx to participate in a cultural immersion and service program at Kostka High and St. Stanislaus High School. They will live with host families, visit Auschwitz, the Schindler Museum, the WWII Museum, and the Solidarity Museum. Polish host students will visit SJA in August 2025. This trip will take place May 25 - June 7, 2026. *Trip Cost: \$3,800-4,000.*

Pamplona, Spain: Students will travel to Pamplona to visit Colegio Irabia Izaga with SLUH. They will live with host families, see where the running of the bulls happens, walk the Camino de Santiago, and visit San Sebastian, a beautiful beach city. Spanish host students will visit in February 2026. This trip will take place May 25 - June 7, 2026. *Trip Cost: \$3,800-4,000.*

Santiago, Chile: Students will travel to Santiago to attend Colegio San Ignacio. They will live with host families, attend classes, travel to Valparaiso, a beach town, and the mountains. Chilean host students will visit in August 2025. This trip will take place in July 2026. *Trip Cost: \$3,800-4,000.*

Bucaramanga, Colombia: Students will travel to Bucaramanga to participate in an immersion program at Colegio San Pedro Claver. They will live with host families, attend classes, and participate in school events and field trips. Colombian host students will visit in August 2025. This trip will take place in July 2026. A desire to grow Spanish skills is helpful. *Trip Cost: \$3,800-4,000.*

Taiwan: Students will travel to various cities in Taiwan with SLUH. The program includes visits to various partner schools, as well as major Taiwanese cities, interaction with Taiwanese peers, learning to surf, visiting a tea farm, and more field trips. A desire to improve Mandarin skills is helpful. This trip will take place May 25 - June 7, 2026. *Trip Cost: \$4,200.*

Fulda, Germany: Students will travel to Fulda with Chaminade for a cultural exchange with Marianum Fulda. They will stay with host families, attend classes, and be fully immersed in German life. This is a reciprocal exchange, and German students will visit at the end of March 2026. This trip will take place in May/June 2026. *Trip Cost: \$3,800-4,000.*

"The French exchange program was the best experience of my time at SJA. It gave me so much confidence, a best friend, and an appreciation for French culture that I could never have imagined." - A.H. '25