ST MARY'S ACADEMY
FAITH COMMUNITY JUSTICE RESPECT

High School Profile

2025-2026



Iswari Natarajan
President & Head of School

Michelle Hayden
High School Principal

Pamela Applegate
Assistant Principal
Director of Programs

Phil Gentry
Dean of Academic Affairs
Director of College Counseling

Pamela Applegate
Anne Evans
Casey Harnar
Phil Gentry
Rosemary Rehmer
College Counselors

C.E.E.B. CODE: 060 - 535

Our Educational Philosophy

As a single-sex high school, St. Mary's Academy provides young women with unequaled access to rigorous academics in a highly supportive and collaborative environment. Our students excel in math, science, world languages, and the arts and humanities, and have the tools necessary to lead and succeed in a complex, global environment. We inspire leaders to act with integrity, seek justice, build community, and change the world.

EDUCATING DENVER SINCE 1864
PRESCHOOL — GRADE 8 | BOYS AND GIRLS
COLLEGE PREPARATORY HIGH SCHOOL | ALL-GIRLS

St. Mary's Academy
303.762.8300
stmarys.academy

4545 South University Boulevard
Englewood, CO 80113

Graduation Requirements for the Class of 2026

Total credits required for graduation: **25.0**

Departmental Requirements

SUBJECT	CREDITS
English	4.0
World Language	Level 3 or higher
Mathematics	4.0
Science	4.0
Social Studies	4.0
Fine Arts	2.0
Physical Education	2.0
Theological Studies	4.0
TOTAL:	**25.0**

Service learning hours are a requirement for graduation.

Grading Scale

The G.P.A. is based on a 4.0 point scale as follows:

Advanced Placement course grades are weighted. **A (5.0)**

A (4.0) = course expectations have been met and exceeded in every area to an unquestioned degree of excellence.

B (3.0) = course expectations have been met and in some areas surpassed.

C (2.0) = course expectations have been satisfactorily met.

D (1.0) = course expectations have been met minimally or not at all.

F (0.0) = course expectations have not been met. No credit given.

St. Mary's Academy fosters the holistic growth of young women by requiring serious study in all the core disciplines and world language, and providing extensive opportunities for personal development in sports participation, the fine arts program, and service learning. The school values and encourages the talents of each individual.

The interdisciplinary focus of the **Math Department and Science Department** emphasizes the inherent logic in both disciplines and challenges students to acquire the habit of thinking critically and analytically. Students are prepared for their technological future through extensive laboratory work, real-life applications, cooperative problem-solving techniques, and mastery of fundamental principles in both disciplines.

The **Humanities Department** coordinates English, social studies, and theological studies focusing on critical thinking, written and oral communication, and moral reasoning. The World Visions program for tenth graders is centered on cross-cultural studies and presented through an interdisciplinary approach. The required and elective courses aim to enable students to become thoughtful, analytical communicators.

The **World Language Department** allows students to see themselves as world citizens by studying countries' cultural, intellectual, and political aspects.

Fine Arts requirements in both visual and performing arts promote competency in the theory and skills of various media. Studio work, choral and instrumental ensembles, and theatrical productions encourage students' self-expression and an appreciation for the work of their peers and other artists.

The **Athletics Program** provides opportunities for interscholastic team play for students in grades 9-12 in the Metropolitan League of the Colorado High School Activities Association. Our athletes compete across various classifications: 2A in golf; 3A in cross country, soccer, swimming and diving, tennis, track and field, and volleyball; 4A in basketball and lacrosse; and statewide in field hockey. We also offer a noncompetitive dance program.

The **Service Learning Program** provides opportunities to develop lifelong habits of service. Students spend a minimum of 100 hours in volunteer positions throughout the Denver area. They work directly with the people being served by the chosen agencies, thereby facilitating an exchange of talents.

St. Mary's Academy is Denver's premier independent, Catholic, co-educational Preschool-Grade 8 and All-Girls High School, established in 1864 by the Sisters of Loretto. It awarded the first diploma in the Colorado Territory in 1875. The High School is accredited by the State of Colorado, the Association of Colorado Independent Schools and the North Central Association of Colleges and Schools (since 1925). St. Mary's Academy is a member of the National Association of Independent Schools and the National Coalition of Girls Schools.

Admission is based on records and recommendations of the previous school, placement testing, and a personal interview. Accepted students reflect diverse backgrounds, high motivation to learn, and an understanding and acceptance of the opportunities inherent in single-sex education. Each student is scheduled for classes that meet her current needs and challenge her growth, with college counseling established in the freshman year.

High School Enrollment:
255 young women in grades 9 - 12

High School Faculty: **37**

78% hold advanced degrees

St. Mary's Academy High School *Curriculum*

ST. MARY'S ACADEMY OPERATES ON A 4 x 4 SEMESTER BLOCK SCHEDULE

HUMANITIES DEPARTMENT

ENGLISH

All English courses place equal emphasis on writing and literature.

- 9th Grade Literature
- African Literature
- American Feminist Poets
- British Literature
- Creative Writing
- Introduction to College Writing
- **AP English Language and Composition**
- Literary Magazine Production
- **AP English Literature and Composition**
- Nature in the Literary Imagination
- Science Fiction
- Voices of Justice: Poetry

SOCIAL STUDIES

- **AP African American Studies**
- **AP Art History**
- Business Communications
- Business Marketing
- Current World Issues
- Economics
- **AP European History**
- Global Citizenship: Civics and World Geography
- **AP Human Geography**
- Introduction to Business
- Introduction to Economics and Finance
- Introduction to Entrepreneurship
- Principles of Marketing I, II
- **AP Psychology**
- Strategic Marketing
- **AP United States Government and Politics**
- **AP US History**
- US History: Reconstruction to Present
- US History through American Art
- US History through Social Movements
- US History with an Emphasis on Women
- Women and Gender Studies

THEOLOGICAL STUDIES

- Theological Studies I: God, Revelation, and Faith
- Theological Studies II: God's Presence in the World
- Theological Studies III: Living the Ways of Love and Justice
- Theological Studies IV: Sacraments and Prayer

WORLD LANGUAGE DEPARTMENT

- American Sign Language I, II, III, IV
- Chinese I, II, III, IV
- **AP Chinese Language**
- Chinese Literature and Culture
- French I, II, III, IV
- French Cuisine and Conversation
- **AP French Language**
- Multiculturalism in French Society
- Spanish I, II, III, IV
- Spanish Culture and Conversation
- Spanish for Heritage Speakers
- **AP Spanish Language**

MATH DEPARTMENT

- Algebra I
- Algebra II
- Accelerated Algebra I
- Advanced Algebra and Trigonometry
- Honors Advanced Algebra and Trigonometry
- College Algebra
- Business Math and Statistics
- Pre-AP Calculus
- Calculus
- **AP Calculus AB**
- **AP Calculus BC**
- Geometry
- Honors Geometry
- Trigonometry and Transcendentals
- **AP Statistics**

SCIENCE DEPARTMENT

All science classes include extensive laboratory work.

- Anatomy and Physiology
- Astronomy: Hydrogen to Humans
- Astronomy: The Universe and the Mirror
- Astronomy: To The Edge
- Astronomy 2: The Second Stage
- Biology
- **AP Biology**
- Chemistry
- **AP Chemistry**
- **AP Computer Science A**
- **AP Computer Science Principles**
- **AP Environmental Science**
- Engineering and Design Thinking
- Foundations of Astronomy
- Human Anatomy
- Human Physiology
- Physics
- **AP Physics C Mechanics**

** World Visions is an interdisciplinary humanities program in tenth grade that coordinates English, history and world religions, focusing on cross-cultural studies.*

FINE ARTS DEPARTMENT

- 3D Art: Jewelry
- 3D Art: Sculpture
- Academy Singers
- Acting and Directing
- **AP Art History**
- Ceramics I, II
- Ceramics Portfolio Development
- IS Ceramics Studio Assistant
- Drawing and Painting I, II
- Fiber and Textile Arts
- Independent Study: Dance Cheorgraphy
- Introduction to Musical Theatre
- Introduction to Technical Theatre
- Jazz Band
- Jewelry I
- Music Production and Keyboarding
- Music Theory
- **AP Music Theory**
- Musical Theatre Performance Technique
- Orchestra
- Photography I, II
- Publications – Yearbook
- SAIMARAC Honor Choir
- Sculpture I/Jewelry
- **AP Studio Art: 2D Design**
- **AP Studio Art: 3D Design**
- **AP Studio Art: Drawing Portfolio**
- The Illustrated Book: Concept, Design, and Production

PHYSICAL EDUCATION DEPARTMENT

- Independent Study
- Interscholastic Athletics
- Pilates

DECA PREPARES EMERGING LEADERS AND ENTREPRENEURS IN MARKETING • FINANCE • HOSPITALITY • MANAGEMENT

DECA

Careers in Focus

SMA partners with industry leaders and community organizations for transformative summer internships and mentorships.

St. Mary's Academy Ranking Policy

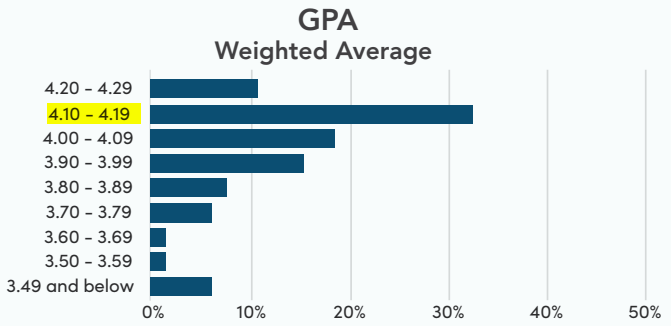
St. Mary's Academy, like many small, independent secondary schools, does not rank its students. The size of our graduating class, composition of our student body, and the rigor of our curriculum all suggest that ranking is not appropriate at our school. We are more than willing to provide further information and to discuss individual students with a college or university.

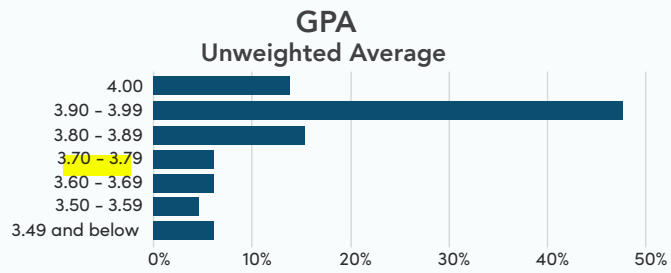
Grade Distribution: Class of 2026

through Grade 11

Weighted Average
Range: 3.18 - 4.28
Mean: 3.99
Median: 4.08

Unweighted Average
Range: 3.07 - 4.00
Mean: 3.84
Median: 3.91





Test Scores: Class of 2024

SAT	Reading & Writing	Math
SMA Mean:	630.5	614.0
SMA mid 50%:	590-680	540-690
National Mean:	519	505

ACT	
SMA Composite Mean:	26.2
SMA Composite mid 50%:	22-31
National Mean:	19.4

Non-Discrimination Policy: St. Mary's Academy is an Independent Catholic school with co-ed Preschool-Grade 8 and an all-girls High School. St. Mary's Academy admits students of any race, creed, color, national and ethnic origin, citizenship, religion, ability, sexual orientation, to all the rights, privileges, programs, and activities generally accorded or made available to students at the School. We do not discriminate on the basis of race, creed, color, disability, national and ethnic origin, citizenship, religion, or sexual orientation, in the administration of our educational policies, admissions policies, scholarship and loan programs, athletic and other school-administered programs.

A sampling of colleges and universities granting admission to St. Mary's Academy Seniors from the Classes of 2022-2025:

- American University
- Amherst College
- Auburn University
- Babson College
- Baylor University
- Boston College
- Boston University
- Brandeis University
- Brown University
- Bucknell University
- California Polytechnic State University
- Carleton College
- Carnegie Mellon University
- Case Western Reserve University
- Catholic University of America
- Chapman University
- Claremont McKenna College
- Clemson University
- Colby College
- Colgate University
- Colorado College
- Colorado School of Mines
- Colorado State University
- Cornell University
- Creighton University
- Denison University
- DePauw University
- Drexel University
- Duke University
- Elon University
- Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University-Prescott
- Emory University
- Fordham University
- George Washington University
- Georgetown University
- Gonzaga University
- Goucher College
- Grand Canyon University
- High Point University
- Hofstra University
- Howard University
- Indiana University
- Johns Hopkins University
- Kenyon College
- Lehigh University
- Lewis & Clark College
- Loyola Marymount University
- Loyola University Chicago
- Macalester College
- Marquette University
- Massachusetts Institute of Technology
- McGill University
- Miami University
- Michigan State University
- Mount Holyoke College
- New York University
- Northeastern University
- Northwestern University
- Occidental College
- Ohio State University
- Pepperdine University
- Pomona College
- Princeton University
- Reed College
- Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute
- Rhodes College
- Rice University
- Rochester Institute of Technology
- Saint Louis University
- Saint Mary's College of California
- Santa Clara University
- Sarah Lawrence College
- Scripps College
- Seattle University
- Skidmore College
- Smith College
- Southern Methodist University
- St. Olaf College
- Syracuse University
- Texas Christian University
- Trinity University
- Tufts University
- Tulane University
- University of Aberdeen
- University of Alabama
- University of Arizona
- University of British Columbia
- University of California-Berkeley
- University of California-Davis
- University of California-Irvine
- University of California-Los Angeles
- University of California-San Diego
- University of California-Santa Barbara
- University of California-Santa Cruz
- University of Chicago
- University of Colorado Boulder
- University of Denver
- University of Edinburgh
- University of Georgia
- University of Hawaii
- University of Kansas
- University of Maryland-College Park
- University of Massachusetts
- University of Miami
- University of Michigan
- University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill
- University of Notre Dame
- University of Oregon
- University of Pennsylvania
- University of Portland
- University of Puget Sound
- University of Redlands
- University of Richmond
- University of San Diego
- University of San Francisco
- University of Southern California
- University of St. Andrews
- University of Stirling
- University of Texas at Austin
- University of Vermont
- University of Virginia
- University of Washington
- University of Waterloo
- University of Wisconsin
- Vanderbilt University
- Vassar College
- Villanova University
- Washington University in St. Louis
- Whitman College
- Willamette University
- William & Mary
- Xavier University of Louisiana
- Yale University