

NETWORK OF SACRED HEART SCHOOLS

Academy of the Sacred Heart
St. Charles, Missouri

Academy of the Sacred Heart
New Orleans, Louisiana

Academy of the Sacred Heart
Bloomfield Hills, Michigan

Carrollton School of the Sacred Heart
Miami, Florida

Convent of the Sacred Heart
New York, New York

Convent & Stuart Hall Schools of the Sacred Heart
San Francisco, California

Duchesne Academy of the Sacred Heart
Houston, Texas

Duchesne Academy of the Sacred Heart
Omaha, Nebraska

Forest Ridge School of the Sacred Heart
Bellevue, Washington

Josephinum Academy
Chicago, Illinois

Newton Country Day School of the Sacred Heart
Newton, Massachusetts

Princeton Academy of the Sacred Heart
Princeton, New Jersey

Sacred Heart Academy Bryn Mawr
Bryn Mawr, Pennsylvania

Sacred Heart Greenwich
Greenwich, Connecticut

Sacred Heart School of Halifax
Halifax, NS

Sacred Heart School of Montreal
Montreal, QC

Sacred Heart Schools
Atherton, California

Saint Philomena School
Portsmouth, Rhode Island

Schools of the Sacred Heart
Chicago, Illinois

Schools of the Sacred Heart
Grand Coteau, Louisiana

Stone Ridge School of the Sacred Heart
Bethesda, Maryland

Stuart Country Day School of the Sacred Heart
Princeton, New Jersey

The Regis School of the Sacred Heart
Houston, Texas

Villa Duchesne School of the Sacred Heart
St. Louis, Missouri

Woodlands Academy of the Sacred Heart
Lake Forest, Illinois

HEAD OF SCHOOL

Meg Huerter Brudney
mbrudney@duchesneacademy.org

PRINCIPAL

Laura Hickman, Ed.D.
lhickman@duchesneacademy.org

ASSISTANT PRINCIPAL

Eric Krakowski
ekrakowski@duchesneacademy.org

DEAN OF STUDENTS

Amy Becker
abecker@duchesneacademy.org

COLLEGE COUNSELOR

Frances Swanson
fswanson@duchesneacademy.org

FACULTY PROFILE

- 40 full-time teachers
- 6 support staff/administrators
- 2 part-time teachers
- 44 master's degrees
- 1 doctoral degree
- Student to faculty ratio: 9 to 1

ENROLLMENT

- Total student body: 327
- Self-identification of race/ethnicity
- 12% Hispanic or Latina
- 7% Black or African American
- 8% Asian
- 1% Native American
- 72% Caucasian
- 55% of students receive some form of financial aid

PORTRAIT OF A GRADUATE

Discerning:

Duchesne graduates aim to be attuned to God's presence, practicing self-reflection and acting with purpose from a strong moral compass for courageous decisions.

Inquisitive:

Duchesne graduates seek lifelong learning, possessing skills in analysis, critical thinking, and problem-solving to understand contemporary issues and build God's kingdom on Earth with imagination.

Kind:

Duchesne graduates value civil discourse, respecting the dignity of those they disagree with and facing challenges with courage and grace.

Empathetic:

Duchesne graduates strive for compassion, inspired by Catholic Social Teaching, and work toward human rights and protecting creation.

Authentic:

Duchesne graduates aim to remain true to their principles and values while recognizing cultural differences, understanding all are created in God's image and are brothers and sisters in Christ.

SCHOOL & PHILOSOPHY

Founded in 1881, Duchesne Academy of the Sacred Heart is a Catholic, independent, college-preparatory school dedicated to providing young women with a rigorous and supportive atmosphere in which to best develop their moral, spiritual, and intellectual lives. It is one of 25 institutions comprising the Network of Sacred Heart Schools in the United States and Canada. Schools of the Sacred Heart commit to educate to:

- A personal and active faith in God
- A deep respect for intellectual values
- A social awareness which impels to action
- The building of community as a Christian value
- Personal growth in an atmosphere of wise freedom

COMMUNITY SERVICE

Goals

- Contemplate civic responsibility
- Deal realistically with personal gifts and limitations
- Analyze injustice
- Embrace a life-long commitment to service
- Model the teachings of Christ in the broader community

6,545

service hours in 2024-2025

Service Requirements

Freshmen, sophomores, and juniors complete 45 hours for graduation. Seniors complete an additional two-week, full-time service experience at one local community partner (approximately 60 hours).

SPECIAL AWARDS

Barat Service recognizes students who have made service a part of their lives and have generously shared time and talent.

Très Bien recognizes students who raise their averages in a class at least five points, while maintaining all other class averages.

Mes Amis recognizes students who continually reach out to others in their class and in the school community. As a result, their efforts strengthen Duchesne Academy.

ACADEMIC ACHIEVEMENTS

PRIZE is awarded to the student(s) in an individual class who has the highest yearly average (with a minimum of 90%).

DISTINCTION is awarded to the student(s) with the next highest average in an individual class.

RECOGNITION is awarded to the student(s) who might not have the highest average but consistently worked hard.

ATHLETICS

Duchesne competes in Class B as a member of the River Cities Conference in 11 NSAA sponsored activities. We also offer six club sports. 78% of students participate in at least one sport. 41% of students participate in at least two sports.

Fall:

Cross Country
Golf
Softball
Volleyball

Winter:

Basketball
Swimming
Diving
Bowling

Spring:

Soccer
Tennis
Track & Field

Club Sports:

Archery
Cheerleading
Dance Team
Esports
Lacrosse
Trap Shooting

ACADEMIC PROFILE

GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS

A minimum of **26.25** credits are required for graduation, which must include:

- | | |
|---------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| English 4.0 | Fine Arts 2.0 |
| Math 4.0 | IT .25 |
| Theology 4.0 | International Language 2.0 |
| Science 4.0* | P.E. 2.0 |
| Social Studies 4.0 | |

*Biology + Chemistry + Physics + 1 credit Science or IT

ADVANCED PLACEMENT (AP) COURSES

- African American History
 - American Government
 - Calculus
 - Chemistry*
 - Computer Science A
 - Computer Science Principles
 - English Literature
 - European History
 - Physics*
 - Pre-Calculus
 - Psychology*
 - Spanish
 - Statistics
 - Studio Art
 - US History
- * Offered every other year

HONORS COURSES

- Algebra II
 - American Lit III
 - Applied Engineering*
 - Art History*
 - Biology
 - Biomedical Physiology
 - Calculus III
 - Chemistry
 - Child Development*
 - Cold War and the 21st Century*
 - International Relations*
 - Economics
 - Freshman Literature*
 - Geometry
 - Physics
 - Pre-Calculus
 - Research Methodology
 - Sophomore Literature*
 - Spanish IV
 - World Cultures*
- *New courses

DUAL ENROLLMENT

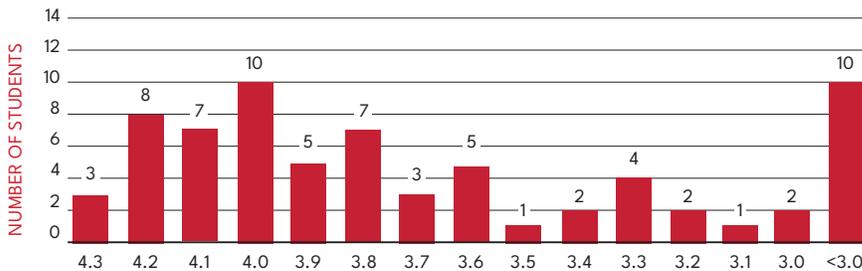
Students may earn college credit for:

- AP Calculus**, and **Honors Child Development** through Creighton University
- AP Physics**, and **Honors Biomedical Physiology** through the University of Nebraska Omaha
- AP US History**, **World Religions**, **Spanish IV**, and **Catholic Social Teaching**, through Nebraska Wesleyan University

GRADE CONVERSION CHART

Beginning with the 2022-2023 school year, Duchesne adopted a new grading scale. Cumulative GPA is calculated and reported using a 4.0 scale, instead of the former 100-point scale. All honors courses receive an added 0.5 GPA point; all AP courses receive an added 1.0 GPA point which is averaged into the cumulative GPA. **Course grades reported on the transcript are not weighted.**

GRADE DISTRIBUTION FOR THE CLASS OF 2025



Letter grade	100pt Scale	Regular scale	Honors scale	A.P. scale
A	94-100	4.0	4.5	5.0
A-	90-93	3.8	4.3	4.8
B+	87-89	3.4	3.9	4.4
B	84-86	3.1	3.6	4.1
B-	80-83	2.8	3.3	3.8
C+	77-79	2.4	2.9	3.4
C	74-76	2.1	2.6	3.1
C-	70-73	1.8	2.3	2.8
D+	67-69	1.4	1.9	2.4
D	65-66	1.1	1.6	2.1
F	>64.5	0.0	0.0	0.0

AP/HONORS COURSE PARTICIPATION

for the 2025-2026 School Year

152 students taking one or more AP course(s)

221 students taking one or more honors course(s)

In the interest of promoting personal health and wellness, school policy limits the number of AP Classes to 4 for all juniors and seniors unless the student receives administrative approval.

ADVANCED PLACEMENT RESULTS 2025

63 students took at least one AP test

92% of students scored a 3 or higher

ACT Scores for the Class of 2026 (as of July 2025)

Subject	Mean	Mid 50%-ile
English	26	21-31
Math	23	18-26
Reading	27	23-33
Science	25	21-30
Composite	25	22-29

Cumulative GPA for the Class of 2026 (end of junior year)

Mean	Median
3.67	3.839

PLACEMENT IN CLASS

Duchesne only admits students able to do college-preparatory work and because classes are small, there is generally a small range in students' grade averages.

Duchesne does not report student rank.

AT A GLANCE: DUCHESNE INITIATIVES

SUSTAINABILITY

- 2020 US Department of Energy Green Ribbon School
- Goal to become zero waste by 2030 and net zero carbon emissions by 2045
- Geothermal heating/cooling system to be completed in 2026
- First school in Omaha to implement composting program
- 50 MWh of clean energy generated from on-campus solar array since 2019
- School currently diverts 82% of its waste from the landfill
- Campus garden for education purposes and food production

INTERNATIONAL EDUCATION + SERVICE

Duchesne, part of a global school network with 150+ campuses across six continents, provides international exchange opportunities for Sacred Heart Students. Students can apply for two to four-week exchanges at other Sacred Heart schools worldwide. These exchanges are available between junior and senior year during the summer.

Each year, Duchesne hosts Sacred Heart students from different countries, nurturing lasting international friendships. The school also organizes service trips during the academic year and summer, blending education, real-world experience, and travel.

GLOBAL CITIZENSHIP CERTIFICATE

Students explore the complexities of the world, historical connections, and current issues: political, environmental, spiritual, and economic. Students must declare this track at the end of their freshman year and must remain on this track through graduation, with the successful completion of all requirements. We currently have 54 students enrolled in the program.

GCC TRACK FEATURES:

- Field trips within the Omaha area
- Service hours in direct contact with refugee groups and other cross-cultural organizations
- Engagement in a cultural immersion experience which can include domestic or international exchanges
- Virtual exchanges with other Sacred Heart students around the world

DURHAM MUSEUM INTERNSHIP PROGRAM

Juniors and seniors may apply for this opportunity to explore the behind-the-scenes operations of Omaha's Durham Museum. Students work with Durham's extensive collections, photo archiving, conducting research, and assisting with curating new exhibits.

ZOO ACADEMY

Omaha Henry Doorly Zoo Academy offers a half day at Henry Doorly Zoo, either morning or afternoon, in two curricular experiences: Conservation and Animal Science. Credits and grades earned in Zoo Academy count towards graduation requirements for Duchesne. This opportunity is open to juniors and seniors. Students apply during their sophomore year.

50+ CLUBS, INCLUDING:

Academic Decathlon	Cinema Cor Unum	Healthy Optimism and Positive Environments (HOPE)	National Honor Society	Social Media/Marketing Sodality/CLC	Swifties
All Writes Reserved	DASH Diversity	ILAC	National Spanish Honors Society	Spanish Speaking	Thespians
Anime	Dungeon and Dragons	Ice cream	Operation Others	Speech	UNICEF
Archery	Fashion Feminist	International Foods	Peer Facilitators	Sports	Young Medicine (YOSA)
Art	Flag Football	Korean Culture	Pickleball	Sports and Spirit	Weight Lifting
Beekeeping	For-Life	Liturgical Choir	Political Topics	Sustainability Student	
Bell Choir	French	Math	Robotics	Ambassadors	
Board Games	Guitar	Mock Trial	Science Bowl	Student Athletic Leadership Team (SALT)	
Book			Green Ribbon		
Campus Ministry					
Caring for Africa					
Chess					

INTERNATIONAL EXCHANGE



Students have many opportunities for international travel:

- BRISBANE, AUSTRALIA
- MELBOURNE, AUSTRALIA
- MADRID, SPAIN
- AMIENS, FRANCE
- VIENNA, AUSTRIA
- TAIPEI, TAIWAN

SERVICE/JUSTICE TRIPS

- Dominican Republic
- New Orleans, LA
- St. Augustine Indian Mission, Winnebago

CULTURAL IMMERSION TRIPS

- Spain
- France
- Italy

STEAM & TECHNOLOGY

Through Duchesne's courses, students develop skills including intellectual, artistic, communication, and leadership skills, to solve global and humanitarian challenges that face the world. STEAM cultivates inquiry, design skills, and creativity through hands-on learning.

CLASSES INCLUDE:

STEAM Academy, Digital Photography, Journalism, Yearbook, Interior Design, AP Computer Science A, AP Computer Science Principles, Digital Citizenship, Intro to Engineering, Programming in Python, Robotics, Applied Engineering, Work with The Society of American Military Engineers, and Participation in Metro Science + Engineering Fair.

DIGITAL CITIZENSHIP:

All freshmen take a semester-long Digital Citizenship course covering topics such as cybersecurity, digital wellness, artificial intelligence, programming, the impact of computing on society, managing digital footprints, and using technology to solve problems and build tools.

STEAM ACADEMY

- Business community partnerships
- Internship opportunities
- Participation in Omaha Fashion Week

PROGRAMS/EQUIPMENT

Growforge, laser cutters, 3D printers, Adobe Creative Cloud, FinalCut Pro, Auto Fusion 360, Digital Sewing, VR sets, drones.

4 Year Computer Science pathway

“Your example, even more than your words, will be an eloquent lesson to the world”

— Saint Madeleine Sophie Barat

COLLEGE MATRICULATION

From 2022-2025, Duchesne Academy graduates matriculated to the following colleges and universities:

American University	Indiana University (Bloomington)	Texas Christian University
Arizona State University (Tempe)	Iowa State University	The University of Alabama
Augustana University	Ithaca College	Truman State University
Ave Maria University	Johns Hopkins University	Tulane University of Louisiana
Baylor University	Kansas City Art Institute	United States Naval Academy
Benedictine College	Kansas State University	University of Central Florida
Boston University	Long Island University	University of Chicago
Brown University	Loyola Marymount University	University of Colorado Boulder
Buena Vista University	Loyola University Chicago	University of Dallas
California College of the Arts	Macalester College	University of Delaware
Carnegie Mellon University	Marquette University	University of Denver
Chapman University	Miami University (Oxford)	University of Iowa
Clemson University	Minerva University	University of Kansas
Coastal Carolina University	Montana State University	University of Limerick, Ireland
Colgate University	Mount Marty University	University of Michigan
College of Saint Benedict	Nebraska Wesleyan University	University of Mississippi
College of Saint Mary	New York University	University of Missouri (Columbia)
College of the Atlantic	Northeastern University	University of Missouri (Kansas City)
Colorado College	Northwestern University	University of Nebraska at Lincoln
Colorado State University (Fort Collins)	Oklahoma State University	University of Nebraska at Omaha
Columbia College (Chicago)	Olivet Nazarene University	University of New Hampshire
Creighton University	Penn State University	University of North Carolina School of the Arts
Culinary Institute of America	Pepperdine University	University of Notre Dame
DePaul University	Queens University of Charlotte	University of Oregon
DePauw University	Rhodes College	University of San Diego
Dordt University	Rockhurst University	University of San Francisco
Drake University	Saint Louis University	University of Sioux Falls
Eckerd College	Saint Mary's College	University of South Carolina
Fashion Institute of Technology	Saint Mary's College of California	University of South Dakota
Flagler College	San Diego State University	University of Southern California
Florida Gulf Coast University	Santa Clara University	University of St Thomas
Florida Institute of Technology	Savannah College of Art and Design	University of Tulsa
Fordham University	South Dakota School of Mines and Technology	University of Wisconsin (Madison)
George Washington University	South Dakota State University	Vanderbilt University
Gonzaga University	St. Lawrence University	Villanova University
Grand Canyon University	St. Olaf College	Washington University in St. Louis
Gustavus Adolphus College	Suffolk University	Western Michigan University