TRINITY ACADEMY SOUTH BEND

Mission

The mission of Trinity Academy is to impart ordered knowledge about the world and to train students in intellectual skills and qualities of mind so that they might serve God in building his kingdom. We achieve this by establishing a culture and community marked by the pursuit of truth, beauty, and goodness. Trinity Academy is dedicated to the rigorous exploration of reality, the free and disciplined exchange of ideas, and the creation of beauty in the fine arts.

Accredited

Accredited by ISACS, the Independent Schools Association of the Central States

Visit Us!

Trinity Academy welcomes visits.

CEEB Code: 427080

107 S. Greenlawn Ave.
South Bend, IN 46617
phone: 574.401.8280

TrinitySouthBend.org

2026-2027 School Profile

John Lee • Head of School · john.lee@trinitysouthbend.org
Sam Mertz • Director of College Guidance · sam.mertz@trinitysouthbend.org

OVERVIEW

Trinity Academy South Bend is a comprehensive Christian private high school for grades 6–12. Our legacy school opened in 1981 and graduated its first senior class in 1985. Trinity Academy is located in South Bend, IN and draws students from northern Indiana and southern Michigan.

218	70%	9:1	65%	28
2026-2027 Enrollment	Financial Aid Recipients	Student to Faculty Ratio	Advanced Degree Faculty	2026-2027 Senior Class

PEDAGOGY

Trinity Academy offers a seven-year program, with one curriculum for all students. The curriculum is coherent and integrated. Though Trinity Academy operates according to a different educational philosophy than AP or IB, the courses compare favorably in terms of rigor.
The coursework exceeds the Department of Education's highest rating for rigor.

Trinity Academy is designed to encourage participation and performance of the student in the learning process. Rather than receiving knowledge passively, each student must actively engage with concepts and relationships.
For example, students:

- read, discuss, and write about original texts in humanities seminars;
- solve problems and apply concepts to real world problems in mathematics;
- conduct dissections and experiments, and write original code in science;
- perform on stage in music and drama, and paint and draw in art.

U.S. Department of Education — National Blue Ribbon Schools — 2013

1989 · 1993
2002 · 2013
Our legacy school is the only high school in Indiana to be named four times as a Blue Ribbon School of Excellence by the U.S. Department of Education

TRINITY ACADEMY SOUTH BEND

2026-2027 SCHOOL PROFILE

STUDENT OUTCOMES

Trinity Academy is not a "college-preparatory" school. Our graduates go to Ivy League schools, large research universities, small liberal arts schools, community colleges, seminary, military academies, the work force, and mission service.

We value all choices equally.

CURRICULUM

The academic program is organized on a six-period, two-semester schedule.

- All students spend two periods in Humane Letters every day from 9th-12th grade.
- All students spend one period in Math and one in Science every day from 9th-12th grade.
- The remaining two periods are devoted to a mix of foreign language, fine arts, and religion courses.
- Our curriculum is fixed; Trinity Academy does not offer non-academic "study hall" options.

9th Grade	10th Grade	11th Grade	12th Grade
Humane Letters	Humane Letters	Humane Letters	Humane Letters
Biology	Chemistry	Computer Programming	Physics II
Geometry/Precalculus A	Precalculus B/C	Physics I	Calculus C/Advanced Topics
Latin III	Latin IV	Calculus A/B	Modern Foreign Language II
Christian Doctrine	Scripture I	Modern Foreign Language I	World Issues
Music III	Music IV	Scripture II	Drama II
		Drama I	Art IV History/Studio
		Art III History/Studio	

Humane Letters

Humane Letters combines History, Literature, Writing, and Philosophy through reading of, Socratic seminar discussion on, and writing about original fiction and non-fiction texts.

- **Freshman Year** focuses on American History and Literature: *Federalist Papers, Upton Sinclair, Frederick Douglass, Willa Cather, Harper Lee, Stephen Crane,* **and more...**
- **Sophomore Year** focuses on European History and Literature: *John Locke, Jean-Jacques Rousseau, Charles Dickens, Fyodor Dostoevsky, Karl Marx,* **and more...**
- **Junior Year** focuses on Greek Philosophy and Literature: *Homer, Aeschylus, Sophocles, Thucydides, Plato, Aristotle, Athanasius, Augustine,* **and more...**
- **Senior Year** focuses on Medieval and Modern Philosophy and Literature: *Aquinas, Luther, Dante, Flannery O'Connor, James Agee, Montaigne, Hegel, Wallace Stevens,* **and more...**

In four years of Humane Letters, students write 30 analytical essays and produce multiple substantial research papers.

TRINITY ACADEMY SOUTH BEND

2026-2027 SCHOOL PROFILE

Math

- The curriculum equips students to use mathematics effectively as a tool in understanding other disciplines, brings them to a comprehension of the substance and structure of mathematics, and prepares them for further study at a higher level.
- Students use graphing calculators throughout high school.
- Juniors and seniors write MATLAB programs to aid the study of both calculus and physics.
- Seniors study advanced topics in calculus and linear algebra.

Science

- Freshmen perform at least six dissections and numerous labs and projects in Biology.
- Sophomores apply the principles of organic and inorganic Chemistry through extensive labs and experiments.
- Juniors learn to code in MATLAB, solving science & math problems with GUIs, then study Newtonian mechanics.
- Senior physics explores heat, electromagnetism, light, relativity, and quantum physics.
- Calculus and computer programming are integrated into all junior and senior science coursework.

Fine Arts

9th and 10th graders study Music.

- They sing in a choir, including two concerts, building on performance skills from junior high instrumental music.
- The study of music theory and composition continues with more advanced work.

11th and 12th graders study Drama and Art Studio/History.

- Drama develops performance techniques and knowledge, leading to acting on stage in two full-length plays.
- Art History probes themes, symbolism, and techniques, from cave paintings to the present.
- Art Studio explores pencil, charcoal, watercolor, and acrylics, culminating in a major independent work.

TRANSCRIPT NOTES

- Humane Letters is 2.5 credits per semester:
  - 1 credit of History;
  - 1 credit of Literature;
  - Plus .5 credit in either Writing (9th and 10th grade) or Philosophy (11th and 12th grade.)
- Trinity Academy students take a full year of Algebra in 8th grade.
- Modern Foreign Language is an accelerated class, covering more than a year's worth of foreign language in two semesters.

TRINITY ACADEMY SOUTH BEND

2026-2027 SCHOOL PROFILE

GRADING SYSTEM

Trinity Academy de-emphasizes grades in favor of a more holistic evaluation of students. Although grades are communicated to parents, grades are not provided to students on classwork, tests, or as report cards. At the end of each semester parents receive a comprehensive narrative account of their child's performance which they are encouraged to share with their child, rather than focusing on the objective grades.

- The grading scale follows the normal, **unweighted 4.0 system**, with the addition of an A+ for exceptional work.
- Due to the small size of classes and curriculum rigor, class rank would be misleading in most cases.
- Therefore, Trinity Academy **does not rank** students.

Grading Scale

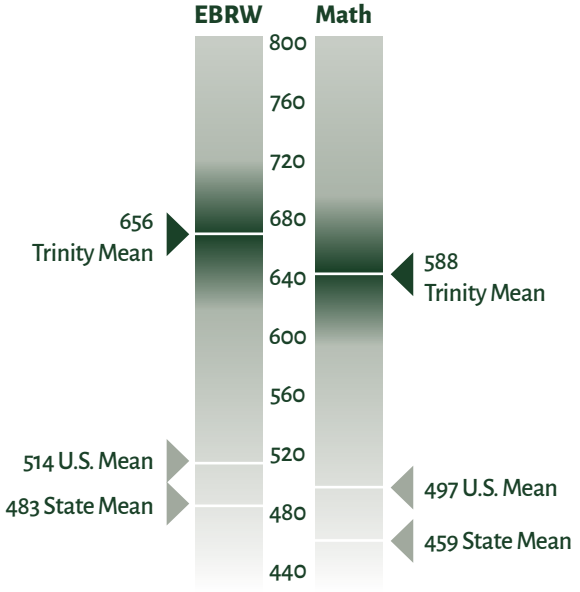
A+ = 4.50	B+ = 3.35	C+ = 2.35	D+ = 1.35
A = 4.00	B = 3.00	C = 2.00	D = 1.00
A- = 3.65	B- = 2.65	C- = 1.65	D- = 0.65

STANDARDIZED TESTS

Over the past four years:

- Our entire Middle 50% on the SAT is above the national mean;
- We annually have students earn National Merit recognition or become National Merit Finalists.

CLASS OF 2027 SAT



- Trinity Academy South Bend sample: 28
- State schools sample: 80,448
- U.S./U.S. territories sample: 1,502,444