



NORFOLK ACADEMY

2026-2027
SCHOOL PROFILE

TRAVIS J. LARRABEE

Head of School

SARAH K. GOODSON

Upper School Director

CEEB Code: 471610

www.norfolkacademy.org • blogs.norfolkacademy.org

X: @NorfolkAcademy • Instagram: [norfolk_academy](https://www.instagram.com/norfolk_academy)

THE SCHOOL

Founded in 1728, Norfolk Academy is an independent, non-sectarian, coeducational day school enrolling approximately 1,200 students in grades 1-12. Located in southeastern Virginia, the school enjoys a public and inclusive mission attracting students from diverse socioeconomic and ethnic backgrounds. Students travel to school from all seven cities in the region, Virginia's Eastern Shore, and northeastern North Carolina.

THE MISSION

Norfolk Academy prepares young men and women for lives of integrity, learning, service, leadership, and consequence.

THE HONOR SYSTEM

Norfolk Academy's longest-standing and most cherished tradition is its Honor System. Each member of the community commits to behaving honorably in all school activities and programs. It is in this community of trust that the Honor System helps students strengthen and advance their ethical development and their capacity to make sound, moral, and mature decisions about matters of right and wrong.

STATEMENT ON CLASS RANK

Norfolk Academy does not rank students. We believe that ranking based on objective metrics does not yield a fair measure of the distinctions between members of a highly talented and diverse class. We provide a variety of other data to assist in the evaluation of performance and achievement, and college counselors are available to answer related questions that arise.

GRADING SCALE, GRADE POINT AVERAGE, AND NUMERIC AVERAGE

Final grades in core courses and academic fine arts courses determine a student's cumulative numeric and grade point averages. Numeric and grade point averages are not weighted. All numeric grades received in all coursework attempted for credit (following the annual add/drop period) will be reflected on a student's transcript and in the calculation of cumulative numeric and grade point averages.

Class of 2027	Mean	High	Letter	A	B	C	D	F
Grade Point Average	3.46	4.0	Number	92-100	84-91	76-83	70-75	0-69
Numeric Average	91.05	98.06	Points	4.0	3.0	2.0	1.0	0

DISCIPLINARY DISCLOSURE

Norfolk Academy will, when asked to disclose such information on an admission application, report to colleges and universities any major honor or disciplinary infractions that took place during grades 9-12, including, but not limited to, those which result in suspensions and dismissals.

COLLEGE COUNSELING

JENNIFER SCOTT

Director of College Counseling
jscott@norfolkacademy.org

WENDY LIVINGSTON

Associate Dir. of College Counseling
wlivingston@norfolkacademy.org

TOMMY HUDGINS

Associate Dir. of College Counseling
thudgins@norfolkacademy.org

SHAWN OTT

Registrar and College Counseling Assistant
sott@norfolkacademy.org

STEVE MONNINGER

College Counseling Coordinator for Student Athletes
smonninger@norfolkacademy.org

VIRGINIA HUDGINS

Standardized Testing Coordinator
vhudgins@norfolkacademy.org

THE STUDENT BODY

Boys: 593 / Girls: 588

Seniors: 117

Racial/Ethnic Diversity: 26%

Receive Financial Aid: 19%

Average College Applications Filed per Senior: 7.74

SAT AND ACT TESTS

The following data reflect middle 50% and mean best test results for the Classes of 2026, 2025, and 2024.

	2026	2025	2024
Evidence-Based Reading & Writing	600-710 647	590-730 658	590-720 655
Math	550-710 626	590-700 642	590-720 654
SAT Total	1170-1400 1272	1200-1420 1300	1200-1440 1308
ACT	21-28 25.0	25-31 28.0	23-30 26.0

CURRICULUM GUIDE

Students take the following courses in grades 9–12. Courses indicated in *italics* are required of all students.

ENGLISH	<p><i>English 9 (Literature/Writing), English 10</i> <i>English 11/12</i> American Drama, Classic American Literature, The Comedic Tradition, Introduction to Creative Writing, Literary Childhoods, Shakespeare, Short Fiction, Southern Literature, Speculative Fiction, The Story as Teacher: Understanding Allegory <i>Advanced English 11/12:</i> Anglo-Saxon and Medieval Literature, Creative Writing: African American and Native American Literature, Creative Writing: In an Irish Tenor, Creative Writing: Narrative Journalism, Enlightenment vs. Romanticism, Environmental Literature, History According to Shakespeare, Literature of Victorian England, Philosophical Literature, Reflections of War, Rhetoric, The Tragic Tradition</p>
MATHEMATICS	<p><i>Geometry or Integrated Mathematics, Algebra II, Algebra II AB, or Algebra II BC, Precalculus, Precalculus AB, or Precalculus BC, Advanced Computer Science: Data Structures and Algorithms†, Advanced Statistics, Calculus, Calculus AB, or Calculus BC, Computer Science: Java, Introduction to Computer Science, Linear Algebra and Multivariable Calculus†, Statistics</i></p>
SCIENCE	<p><i>Biology, Chemistry or Inorganic Chemistry I, Advanced Anatomy & Physiology, Advanced Inorganic Chemistry*, Advanced Molecular Biology*, Advanced Physics–C, Astronomy†, Ecosystem Dynamics, Engineering, Design, and Innovation (EDI), Engineering: Process and Practice, Health & Wellness Science†, Life Science in Society†, Organic Chemistry, Physics, Physics: Mechanics and Electromagnetism, Physics: Principles of Engineering, TECH†</i></p>
FINE ARTS	<p>2–D Art, 3–D Art, Academy Singers†, Art I: Visual Expressions, Art II: Art Exploration, Art III: Art Lab, Art History I, II, III†, Art in the Ancient World, Athletic Broadcasting, Chamber Orchestra†, Chorus, Dance, Drama, Drama: Fall/Spring Play, Drama: Winter Musical, Electronic Music, Film Studies I, II, III, Kinesthetic Pathways, Mass Communications, Orchestra/Band, Visual Art, Yearbook</p>
HISTORY AND SOCIAL SCIENCES	<p><i>American Government, United States History, World Cultures II: Modern History, African American History, American Political Foundations, Constitutional Law, Democracy Around the World†, Geopolitics, Global Issues†, Introduction to World Religions, Latin American History, Principles of Economics, Psychology, 20th Century U.S.: Politics, Society, & Culture, U.S. Foreign Policy, Western Civilization</i></p>
WORLD LANGUAGES	<p>French I, II, III, IV, V, VI; German I, II, III, IV, V; Latin III, IV, V, VI; Spanish I, II, III, IV, V, VI</p>

CURRICULAR GUIDANCE

- All core curricular offerings are designed to be of Honors quality or higher in content and rigor and may be considered as such in the evaluation of a student's transcript.
- Colleges employing a process that recalculates an applicant's GPA based on an institutionally defined scale are strongly encouraged to extend appropriate additional weight to Norfolk Academy's core academic courses.
- Students have been advised to make use of only the "Advanced" and "N/A" course level labels on the Common Application and the "Honors" and "Advanced" course level labels on the Self-Reported Transcript and Academic Record. College counselors will further characterize the strength of a student's academic program in our letters of recommendation.
- Norfolk Academy defines a "Most Demanding" program of study as the successful pursuit and completion of math through calculus, foreign language through level four, and a science progression which includes biology, chemistry, and physics. Many of our students will choose to take advantage of additional advanced and/or elective coursework that exists in academic departments, and college counselors will highlight additional curricular strength in our letters of recommendation.
- 90% of our students graduate with at least one full year of calculus instruction; approximately 50% of graduates have taken Calculus AB or Calculus BC.
- All students graduate having taken at least three lab sciences.
- All students complete at least three levels of a modern foreign language or five levels of Latin. All students take two years of Latin in middle school.
- * denotes a course name change in 2026–27. † denotes new courses offered in 2026–27.

STATEMENT ON ADVANCED PLACEMENT

All courses at Norfolk Academy extend beyond the traditional secondary school level in terms of rigor and depth. While Norfolk Academy does not participate in the Advanced Placement Audit, and courses are not formally designated as AP, many of our students sit for AP exams and achieve strong outcomes. In 2026, 165 students took 371 Advanced Placement exams. 92% of scores were a 3 or above.

THE BATTEN CENTER FOR CIVIC AND GLOBAL LEADERSHIP

The Batten Center (BCCGL) is a school-wide hub for experiential education, community engagement, and leadership development. BCCGL seeks to nurture students as they grow into people who engage with the world, lead with purpose, and understand their fundamental duty to give back to their community. BCCGL programs provide students with transformational learning opportunities through a unique combination of authentic experiential learning, which is driven by community engagement, and infused with leadership development. BCCGL components include Maymester, Fellows and Scholars, Leadership Lab, and PAWS for a Cause:

MAYMESTER

Sophomore and junior students take part in Maymester, a program designed to help them explore the world and their role within it. Offerings include global travel programs, cross-curricular courses created by Upper School faculty, and professional internships. Each experience combines substantive academic content with immersive, hands-on learning, deepening students' understanding of diverse peoples, cultures, and languages. Maymester also provides space for reflection and personal growth, as students put into practice what they have learned about leadership and their responsibilities as citizens of both our community and the wider world.

Some past courses included:

- *Along the Border*
- *Food Security and Food Justice*
- *Forensics: A Lens on Criminal Justice*
- *Go Big or Go Home: Architecture*
- *Hiking the Appalachian Trail*

Some past internship partners included:

- *Acredale Animal Hospital*
- *Brown Advisory*
- *CHKD Philanthropy*
- *Colliers*
- *Commonwealth Attorney's Office*

Some past global programs included:

- *The Archaeology of Greece & The Making of the Modern European State*
- *The Stories and Structures of Great Britain*
- *Copernicus-Gymnasium in Germany*
- *World Leadership School in Santa Maria de Dota, Costa Rica*

FELLOWS AND SCHOLARS

Students with a strong passion for the BCCGL's distinctive blend of experiential learning and community engagement can apply to one of five selective Fellows programs: Engineering, Design and Innovation; Chesapeake Bay; Global Affairs; Global Health; and Literacy. These programs give highly motivated students the time, mentorship, and resources to examine systemic challenges facing the global community and to design actionable solutions.

The Medical Scholars and Financial Scholars programs offer Upper School students opportunities to deepen their leadership skills while exploring the fields of medicine and entrepreneurship, respectively. In each, students learn from experts and participate in real-world experiences that help to bridge their interest and curiosity with professional practice.

LEADERSHIP LAB

Ninth graders undertake a formal leadership development curriculum which focuses on self-exploration. The curriculum culminates with a week-long outdoor experience during which students are encouraged to step outside of their comfort zone and implement learning in a real-world setting. Students complete Leadership Lab with a better understanding of themselves, their classmates, and how to collaboratively attack challenges.

PAWS FOR A CAUSE

PAWS for a Cause is a community engagement program that enables Norfolk Academy's ninth graders to collaborate on design-challenges with community partner organizations. Students conduct research, innovate, prototype, and, eventually, implement sustainable solutions to some of the challenges facing Hampton Roads.

PEER COUNSELING PROGRAM

Peer Counselors serve as mentors, tutors, confidantes, and counselors to students in grades 7–12. They undergo over 12 hours of training in crisis intervention and general person-centered counseling and participate in ongoing training throughout the school year. Counselors work towards a greater understanding of mental health and common mental illnesses, human relationships and sexuality, suicide prevention, substance use and abuse, and other topics of interest and/or concern. They also receive training about referring students to a school counselor and about handling situations independently. Students and faculty offer input into the selection of Peer Counselors, and their selection is a statement of confidence in a student's maturity and ability to empathize.

THE ENGINEERING COLLABORATIVE HUB (TECH)

Through participation in science, technology, engineering, and math (STEM) competitions students sharpen technical expertise, collaborate as effective teammates, think critically under pressure, and grow in resilience as they strengthen their skills and tackle challenging real-world problems. The selection of competitions is driven by student choice and can vary from year to year.

Some examples of competitions that Norfolk Academy students have chosen for participation include:

- *FIRST Tech Challenge*
- *American Rocketry Challenge*
- *Christopher Newport University Regional Math Contest*
- *Aerial Drone Competition*
- *International Bridge Building Competition*
- *Virginia Mathematics League*

PUBLIC SPEAKING

Freshmen and seniors research, compose, and deliver an original persuasive speech to the faculty and student body through a structured program to develop logic, clarity, and confidence in oral expression.

RENAISSANCE READING PROGRAM

Participants in this voluntary program read six faculty-sponsored texts outside of formal course expectations and meet with sponsors for individual discussions. Students completing nine or more texts are recognized as Renaissance Scholars.

COLLEGE MATRICULATION

100% of Norfolk Academy graduates have been admitted to 4-year colleges and universities, and approximately 90% of our alumni graduate from the college or university at which they began. Members of the past five graduating classes have applied to 364 unique institutions and matriculated to 162 colleges and universities in 38 states as well as several international locations. The schools to which our 2022 – 2026 graduates have matriculated are listed below.

Albright College	Indiana University (Bloomington)	University of Alabama
American University	Jacksonville University	University of California (Berkeley)
Arizona State University	James Madison University	University of California (Los Angeles)
Auburn University	Johns Hopkins University	University of Central Florida
Babson College	Kenyon College	University of Colorado (Boulder)
Barnard College	Lehigh University	University of Connecticut
Bates College	Leiden University College The Hague	University of Delaware
Batten University	Liberty University	University of Denver
Bluefield University	Louisiana State University	University of Florida
Boston College	Loyola Marymount University	University of Georgia
Boston University	Loyola University Maryland	University of Iowa
Bowdoin College	Massachusetts Institute of Technology	University of Kentucky
Brown University	Middlebury College	University of Mary Washington
Bucknell University	Mississippi State University	University of Maryland
California Polytechnic State University	New York University	University of Miami
California Institute of Technology	North Carolina State University	University of Michigan
Carnegie Mellon University	Northeastern University	University of Mississippi
Case Western Reserve University	Ohio University	University of Missouri
Chapman University	Oklahoma State University	University of North Carolina (Chapel Hill)
Christopher Newport University	Old Dominion University	University of North Carolina (Charlotte)
Clemson University	Penn State University	University of North Carolina (Greensboro)
Colby College	Penn State University (Behrend)	University of North Carolina (Wilmington)
College of Charleston	Pepperdine University	University of North Florida
College of the Holy Cross	Princeton University	University of Notre Dame
Colorado College	Purdue University	University of Pennsylvania
Columbia University	Radford University	University of Pittsburgh
Cornell College	Randolph–Macon College	University of Rhode Island
Cornell University	Reed College	University of Richmond
Dartmouth College	Regent University	University of Rochester
Davidson College	Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute	University of South Carolina
Dickinson College	Roanoke College	University of St Andrews
Drexel University	Rochester Institute of Technology	University of Tennessee (Knoxville)
Duke University	Rutgers University	University of Tennessee (Martin)
East Carolina University	San Diego State University	University of Texas
Elon University	Santa Clara University	University of the South
Embry–Riddle Aeronautical University	Savannah College of Art and Design	University of Utah
Emory University	Seattle University	University of Vermont
Fairfield University	Southern Methodist University	University of Virginia
Flagler College	Stanford University	University of Washington
Florida Atlantic University	Syracuse University	University of Wisconsin
Florida State University	Texas A&M University	Vanderbilt University
Franklin and Marshall College	Texas A&M University at Galveston	Villanova University
Furman University	Texas Christian University	Virginia Commonwealth University
George Mason University	The Boston Conservatory at Berklee	Virginia Military Institute
George Washington University	The New School	Virginia Tech
Georgetown University	The Ohio State University	Wake Forest University
Georgia Tech	Tidewater Community College	Washington and Lee University
Gettysburg College	Tufts University	Wesleyan University
Grinnell College	Tulane University	West Virginia University
Hampden–Sydney College	United States Merchant Marine Academy	William & Mary
Harvard University	United States Military Academy	Williams College
Haverford College	United States Naval Academy	Wofford College
High Point University	University of Geneva (Switzerland)	Worcester Polytechnic Institute
Hobart and William Smith Colleges	University College London	Yale University