

2026-27 School Profile

About Dana Hall School

Founded in 1881, Dana Hall School is a college preparatory boarding and day school for young women located 12 miles southwest of Boston.

School Mission: Dana Hall School is committed to fostering excellence in academics, the arts, and athletics within a vibrant, caring and inclusive community. With emphasis on integrity, leadership, diversity, and service as well as on respect for self and others, Dana Hall provides its students with a unique opportunity to prepare themselves for the challenges and choices they will face as women and citizens of the world.

School Facts

439 students, grades 5-12
313 students, grades 9-12
38% identify as BIPOC
Students from 11 states

Standard course load is 5 major courses
6:1 Student to faculty ratio
23% receive financial aid

Students from 14 countries
11: Average class size
12% International students
105 Boarding students

Dana Hall follows a trimester calendar. Trimester I grades will be available on Friday, December 4, 2026, and can be sent directly to admissions offices for ED/EA/Rolling applicants. A midyear academic update will be available by February 1, 2027.

Advanced Coursework and Curriculum

While Dana Hall does not limit the total number of Advanced Placement courses a student may take, the curriculum is rigorous, and students work closely with faculty to build a balanced and appropriately challenging schedule. Due to the demands of our curriculum, the majority of students do not enroll in AP coursework until their junior year. All non-AP/Honors academic courses at Dana Hall are college preparatory.

Dana Hall offers 19 Advanced Placement courses and 10 Honors courses, in addition to accelerated courses in the Science and Math departments for students who are preparing for advanced coursework in these disciplines.

Science:

AP Physics C
AP Chemistry
AP Biology
AP Computer Science A

Honors Data Science

Math:

Honors Geometry
Honors Algebra II
Honors Precalculus
AP Calculus AB
AP Calculus BC
AP Statistics
Honors Advanced Topics in Mathematics

World Languages:

Honors French II
Honors Spanish II
Honors French III
Honors Spanish III
Honors French V
AP French Language and Culture
AP Spanish Language and Culture
AP Spanish Literature
AP Chinese Language and Culture (not offered in 2025-26)
AP Latin (new in 2026-27)

Social Studies:

AP United States History
AP U.S. Government and Politics
AP European History

English:

AP Language and Composition
AP Literature and Composition

Visual and Performing Arts:

AP Art History
AP Art and Design

Grading Scale

A+ grades were instituted in grades 9-12 beginning in the fall of 2024. Any grades earned prior to September 2024 have not been retroactively changed.

A+ = 97-100

A = 93-96

A- = 90-92

B+ = 87-89

B = 83-86

B- = 80-82

C+ = 77-79

C = 73-76

C- = 70-72

D+ = 67-69

D = 63-66

D- = 60-62

E = <59

I = Incomplete

P = Pass

W = Withdrawal

Grade Point Average and Class Rank: Dana Hall School does not rank students or report a cumulative grade point average (GPA). Due to the small size and high academic caliber of our student body, we believe that class rank and GPA do not accurately reflect individual student achievement or potential.

Signature Programs

STEM

Dana Hall believes in encouraging young women's proficiency in math. **Honors Advanced Topics in Mathematics**, a college-level math course, allows students to pursue their study of pure mathematics at the highest level, beyond even the AP Calculus courses offered at Dana Hall. This course, which alternates units so eligible students can continue their studies in different years, introduces a range of topics including compass and straightedge constructions, proof techniques and strategies, complex variables, number theory, group theory, abstract algebra, probability and combinatorics, topology, and linear algebra, including multi-dimensional vectors and matrices, and their relationship to 2D, 3D, and higher-dimensional geometric objects.

Dana Hall offers a highly demanding, innovative **Honors Data Science** course that combines social studies, statistics, and computer science. This course, taught at the college level, introduces methods in data cleaning and wrangling, modeling, and evaluating and using models. Students complete a year-long research project in R Studio using a data set of their choice, and build a Shiny application to showcase their results.

ADVANCED GLOBAL STUDIES, RESEARCH, AND APPLIED LEARNING

The **Global Scholars Certificate Program** offers a challenging, interdisciplinary experience that directly prepares students for the academic demands of college. Through college-level literature reviews, immersive global experiences, and a year-long capstone project, students hone complex analytical reasoning, source evaluation, and policy skills. This intensive track transforms participants into empowered problem-solvers and changemakers who are uniquely equipped to tackle complex, cross-disciplinary challenges at the university level.

Dana Hall's unique **Forum** program delivers an essential foundation for college readiness by equipping students with vital real-world skills through small-group, discussion-based learning. Across four years, the curriculum systematically advances from mindfulness and health education to financial literacy, college admissions preparation, and post-secondary life skills. This holistic approach ensures students transition to university not just as strong scholars, but as resilient, self-aware, and fully capable young adults.

Contact Information

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