



Houston Academy

The Academy Advantage

2020-21 COLLEGE ADMISSION PROFILE

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Founded in 1970, Houston Academy (HA) is southeast Alabama's premier college preparatory school. HA is the only independent school in the region that focuses on college preparation and global education. HA attracts students from "the Wiregrass," which is the moniker for an approximately 250,000-person region that encompasses north Florida, southwest Georgia, and southeast Alabama. Students who come to Houston Academy seek a well-rounded educational experience that includes a strong emphasis on challenging academics, community involvement, athletics, and the arts.

THE UPPER SCHOOL

- Rigorous college preparatory program
- Award-winning music, arts, and drama programs
- 1:1 MacBook program in grades 5-12
- 16 boys and 17 girls athletic teams
- Extensive community service involvement
- Comprehensive and individualized college advising program
- Advanced Placement offerings in every discipline
- Four world languages offered, with Spanish starting in Pre-Kindergarten
- 100% of all graduates accepted to a college of their choice
- Yearly commended National Merit Scholarship semi-finalists and finalists

THE UPPER SCHOOL FACULTY

Houston Academy's upper school has 35 faculty members. Seventy-two percent of HA's faculty hold advanced degrees and have taught for an average of twenty-two years. The student-teacher ratio is 13:1.

ACCREDITATION AND MEMBERSHIPS

The school is accredited by the Southern Association of Independent Schools and the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools; the school holds memberships in the National Association of Independent Schools, National Association of Secondary School Principals, Southern Association of Independent Schools, College Board, National Honor Society, National Association of College Admissions Counselors, Southern Association of College Admissions Professionals, Alabama Independent School Association, and the Alabama High School Athletic Association.

ADMISSIONS

Admission to Houston Academy is highly selective. Consistent with our mission, Houston Academy strives to maintain a diverse student body and admits qualified students without regard to race, gender, sexual orientation, religion, national origin, or disability. Entrance tests are required of all applicants, and admission is based on prior academic achievement and satisfactory behavior.

COLLEGE COUNSELING OFFICE

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Houston Academy

An Independent College Preparatory Institution

PROGRAM OF STUDIES

Course Offerings

ENGLISH

English 9
English 9 H
English 10
English 10 H
English 11
English 11 H
Language & Composition AP
English 12
English 12 H
Literature & Composition AP

HISTORY

World History II
US History
US History AP
Government *
Economics *
European History AP
Psychology *
Psychology AP
Sociology *
US Government AP *
Macroeconomics AP *
The Sixties in America H *
History through Film & Lit H *
Human Geography AP

SCIENCE

Biology
Chemistry
Anatomy/Physiology H
Chemistry AP
Physics
Physics H
Environmental Science
(All science courses include labs)

FINE ARTS

Art
Advanced Art
Studio Art H
Music Theory AP
Music Composition H
Music Composition II H
Drama *
Chorus +
Band +

WORLD LANGUAGE

French I
French II
French III
French III H
French IV H
French Language and Culture AP
Latin I
Latin II
Latin III
Latin III H
Latin IV H
Latin AP
Spanish I
Spanish II
Spanish III
Spanish III H
Spanish IV H
Spanish Language AP
German I
German II
German III H
German IV H
German Language AP

MATH

Algebra I
Algebra I H
Geometry
Geometry H
Algebra II
Algebra II H
Advanced Algebra III
Pre-calculus
Pre-calculus H
Calculus
Calculus AB AP
Calculus BC AP
Statistics AP

ELECTIVES

Computer Programming H
Print Design +
Computer Science AP
Debate *
Digital Media +
Driver Education *+
Entrepreneurship +
Global Issues Network *

PHYSICAL EDUCATION

Physical Education +
Agility and Fitness +

COURSE DESIGNATIONS

HHonors
APAdvanced Placement
*One Semester
+Non-academic Courses

(Courses may not be offered every year.)

Our mission...

is to prepare all our students for responsible participation in a global society by providing an excellent learning environment and opportunities to achieve their highest academic, social, and creative potential.

STANDARDIZED TEST SCORES

ACT Composites mid-range (50%)25-30, average 28.4
100% of students took the ACT (Class of 2018 data). In 2018, 90 students took 190 AP exams in 13 subject areas. 62% of the exams had a score of 3 or higher. 11 students were recognized at AP Scholars, 5 students were AP Scholars with Honor and 10 students were AP Scholars with Distinction.

SCHEDULE

Houston Academy operates on a schedule comprised of two 18-week semesters, with examinations at the end of each term. In addition, there is a one week short term program in the spring. The short term provides an opportunity for students in grades 9-12 to investigate areas of personal interest and to earn their community service hours through various club activities. Students may participate in a college tour or selected class trips. Seniors participate in a supervised mentorship program.

CO-CURRICULAR ACTIVITIES

Students may choose to be involved in many co-curricular activities including the Raider Ambassadors, National Honor Society, Student Government Association, and The Blue Zone. Students are required to join one service organization and contribute a minimum of ten hours of community service each year. Other school clubs that students may choose include Language Clubs, Archery Club, Chess Club, Fellowship of Christian Athletes, Model United Nations, Robotics, Debate, Scholar's Bowl, Math Team, the Raider Band and Jazz Band, Chorus, and Drama program.

GRADE POINT AVERAGE

Only grades earned in courses with a capstone experience are used in computing the cumulative GPA. AP courses carry a 1.0 weight when calculating GPA to reflect the degree of difficulty. Honors classes carry a weight of .5. Houston Academy does not rank students.

NATIONAL MERIT SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM

All 11th grade students take the PSAT/NMSQT. Regularly students are recognized for their outstanding scores by National Merit.

DISCIPLINARY/HONOR REPORTING

Should a college or university request such information, Houston Academy reports any disciplinary or honor conduct that results in suspension.

EVALUATION FACTS

GRADING SYSTEM

A+	100-98	C+	79-77
A	97-93	C	76-73
A-	92-90	C-	72-70
B+	89-87	D	65-69
B	86-83	F	Below 65
B-	82-80		

GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS

AREAS OF STUDY	UNITS REQUIRED
English	4 units
History	3 units GV/EC, U.S. History, World History (4 units are required for athletic eligibility)
Science	4 units Biology and Chemistry required
Math	4 units (5 units if Algebra I is taken in 8th grade)
PE	1 unit
Fine Arts	1 unit
World Language	3 units
Electives	4 units
Total	24 units

College Information

Since its founding, Houston Academy has established an excellent record of acceptance of its graduates into college. Generally, 100% of the graduates attend college.

American University
Andrew College
Appalachian State University
Auburn University
Barnard College of Columbia University
Bates College
Baylor University
Belgrade Pharmacy University
Belhaven College
Belmont University
Berry College
Birmingham-Southern College
Boston College
Boston University
Brevard College
Brigham Young University
Brigham Young University Idaho
Case Western Reserve University
Chipola College
Clemson University
Coastal Carolina University
College of Charleston
Colorado College
Colorado School of Mines
Covenant College
David Lipscomb University
Davidson College
Dean College
Denison University
Duke University
Eckerd College
Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University
Emory University
Flagler College
Florida College
Florida A&M University
Florida Institute of Technology
Florida State University
Fordham University
Franciscan University
Furman University
Georgetown University
Georgia College
Georgia Institute of Technology
Gulf Coast State College
Hampden-Sydney College
Hampton University
Harden University
Haverford College
Hawaii Pacific University
High Point University
Hollins College
Huntingdon College
Ithaca College
Jacksonville State University
Jacksonville University
John Carroll University
Johns Hopkins University
Kenyon University
Kettering University
LaGrange College
Louisiana State University
Loyola Marymount University California
Loyola University Chicago
Loyola University New Orleans
Manhattan School of Music
Marymount College
Massachusetts Institute of Technology
Mercer University
Miami University Ohio
Middle Tennessee State University
Millsaps College
Mississippi State University
New York University
North Carolina State University
Northeastern University
Northwestern University
North Greenville University
Norwich University
Notre Dame University
Ohio University
Oglethorpe University
Oxford College of Emory University
Palm Beach Atlantic University
Pennsylvania State University
Pensacola Community College
Presbyterian College
Princeton University
Randolph-Macon Women's College
Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute
Rhodes College
Richmond American University in London
Rochester Institute of Technology
Rollins College
Rose-Hulman Institute of Technology
Saint Mary's College of California
Samford University
Savannah College of Art and Design
Sewanee: The University of the South
Shelton State Community College
Southern Methodist University
Spellman College
Springhill College
St. Mary's College
Sterling College
Stetson University
Steven's Institute of Technology
St. Louis University
Swarthmore College
Sweet Briar College
Syracuse University
Tennessee Tech University
Texas A&M University
Texas Christian University
Texas Tech University
The Julliard School
The School of the Art Institute of Chicago
Troy University
Tulane University
United States Air Force Academy
United States Military Academy
United States Naval Academy
University of Aberdeen
University of Alabama
University of Alabama at Birmingham
University of Alabama Huntsville
University of California at Los Angeles
University of Central Florida
University of Cincinnati
University of Colorado
University of Florida
University of Georgia
University of Glasgow
University of Israel
University of Kentucky
University of Maryland
University of Michigan
University of Miami
University of Mississippi
University of Mobile
University of Montevallo
University of North Carolina Asheville
University of Oklahoma
University of Oregon
University of Richmond
University of San Francisco
University of South Alabama
University of South Carolina
University of Tampa
University of Tennessee
University of Texas
University of Utah
University of Virginia
University of West Florida
University of Wyoming
Utah State University
Utah Valley University
Valdosta State University
Vanderbilt University
Villanova University
Wake Forest University
Washington University St. Louis
Washington and Lee University
Weatherford College
Wesleyan College
Western Carolina University
Wheaton College
Wingate University
Wofford College
Worcester Polytechnic Institute