## NETWORK OF SACRED HEART SCHOOLS

**Academy of the Sacred Heart**
Bloomfield Hills, Michigan

**Academy of the Sacred Heart**
New Orleans, Louisiana

**Academy of the Sacred Heart**
St. Charles, Missouri

**Carrollton School of the Sacred Heart**
Miami, Florida

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

**Convent of the Sacred Heart**
New York, New York

**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 of the Sacred Heart**
Chicago, Illinois

**Newton Country Day School of the Sacred Heart**
Newton, Massachusetts

**Princeton Academy of the Sacred Heart**
Princeton, New Jersey

**Regis School of the Sacred Heart**
Houston, Texas

**Sacred Heart Academy**
Bryn Mawr, Pennsylvania

**Sacred Heart Greenwich**
Greenwich, Connecticut

**Sacred Heart School of Halifax**
Halifax, Nova Scotia

**Sacred Heart School of Montreal**
Montreal, Quebec

**Sacred Heart Schools**
Atherton, California

**Sacred Heart Schools**
Chicago, Illinois

**Saint Philomena School**
Portsmouth, Rhode Island

**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

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

**Woodlands Academy of the Sacred Heart**
Lake Forest, Illinois

# Duchesne Academy of the Sacred Heart

## School Profile 2026-2027

## ABOUT DUCHESNE

Duchesne Academy of the Sacred Heart engages, inspires, and empowers future women leaders with the:

***Courage*** to think critically,
***Confidence*** to face challenges,
***Compassion*** to change the world.

Founded in 1960 and located in the Memorial area of Houston, Texas, Duchesne Academy is an independent, Catholic, all-girls college preparatory school serving students from Pre-K3 through Grade 12.

Duchesne is a member of the Global Network of Sacred Heart Schools. Rooted in the 200-year Sacred Heart tradition, the school is guided by the five *Goals and Criteria*, which educate students to each of the following:

**Goal I:** A Personal and Active Faith in God
**Goal II:** A Deep Respect for Intellectual Values
**Goal III:** A Social Awareness That Impels to Action
**Goal IV:** The Building of Community as a Christian Value
**Goal V:** Personal Growth in an Atmosphere of Wise Freedom

## MEET OUR STUDENTS

Beyond the classroom, our students participate in a wide range of co-curricular programs, including 40+ clubs and organizations, 15+ fine arts performances annually, championship athletics across 13 sports, nationally recognized debate, and award-winning robotics.

**Current Enrollment:** 863
**Upper School Enrollment:** 357
**Class of 2027:** 81

## FACTS & FIGURES: 2025-2026

**15** Countries

**67** Zip Codes

**45%** Catholic

**$2.4M** Tuition Assistance

**25%** Receive Tuition Assistance

**65%** of Upper School Girls Participate in Athletics

**13** Varsity Sports Programs

**8** NCAA-Bound Athletes in the Class of 2026

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### ACCREDITATIONS & AFFILIATIONS

Sacred Heart Commission on Goals (SHCOG)

Independent Schools Association of the Southwest (ISAS)

Independent School Management (ISM)

International Coalition of Girls' Schools (ICOGS)

National Association of Independent Schools (NAIS)

National Catholic Educational Association (NCEA)

Southwest Preparatory Conference (SPC)

Texas Catholic Conference of Bishops Education Department (TCCBED)

# Signature Programs

## MOD Schedule

The Upper School operates on an innovative six-term modular "MOD" schedule. Instead of managing six to eight classes daily as in traditional schedules, in the MOD schedule, students manage four.

Each MOD lasts 29-30 school days, with four 80-minute class periods (bins) per day. Students take three to four courses per MOD and select classes from a combination of requirements and electives to complete up to 24 credits each year. One course in a single MOD is equal to one credit, and three credits are equal to a full year course.

The MOD schedule, backed by cognitive science and recommended by educational specialists, is grounded in a commitment to student well-being and an understanding of how students learn. The fewer yet longer periods within the school day allow space for sufficient breaks for community time and less chaotic transitions. Longer class times allow for deeper dives into the curriculum, providing opportunities for critical thinking, creative problem-solving, and the building of strong relationships between students and teachers.

This student-centered approach to learning supports retrieval practices as students productively recall content from previous MODs and achieve long-term retention.

## Internship Opportunities

**Communications:** The Communications Internship gives Upper School students hands-on experience in marketing, media, and strategic communication. Through content creation, photography, social media, and event promotion, students build professional skills while sharing the courage, confidence, and compassion of the Duchesne community.

**CAVE:** IT interns and apprentices are responsible for staffing the CAVE help desk and for performing regular maintenance and service of campus computers and AV equipment. They develop patience, independence, teamwork, and strong customer support skills helping faculty and students with technical issues. IT internships may be repeated as desired. IT apprentices pursue a Microsoft or Test Out certification while working the help desk.

**Internship Fair:** The Internship Fair connects current Duchesne juniors, seniors, and college-aged alumnae with opportunities for real-world work experience. From shadow days to year-long internships, the goal is to help students explore potential career paths across a variety of fields through meaningful alumnae and community connections.

# **Goal III in Action:** A Social Awareness That Impels to Action

## Global & Social Awareness

Duchesne's signature experiential program is rooted in the Sacred Heart *Goals and Criteria* that call us to serve our community, act for justice, and be responsible citizens. Students in Grades 11 and 12 are assigned off-campus, volunteer placements at schools, senior communities, or charitable organizations that serve the needs of marginalized populations throughout Houston. The program includes a reflection component in which students assess their volunteer experience to instill a lifelong commitment to service. Students in Grade 9 and 10 are also required to complete two service projects of their choosing each school year.

## International Exchange Program

Grade 10 students may apply for two to four-week exchanges at other Sacred Heart schools worldwide. In return, Duchesne also hosts Sacred Heart students from different countries. Through these exchanges, students experience different cultures, educational systems, and communities while building lasting international relationships.

## Transformative Research

Students in Grade 11 and 12 participate in a two-year sequence of Transformative Research and Action. After identifying a problem within a local, regional, national, or global community, students conduct research, develop strategies to educate others about the issue, and propose potential solutions. Students develop skills in conducting and presenting high-quality research, culminating in the completion of a college-level argumentative research paper.

## Sacred Heart Summer Service Projects

Students have the opportunity to join others from across the Sacred Heart Network to examine varying social justice issues and consider different world realities. These programs encourage critical analysis, informed action, and civic responsibility through direct service, advocacy, proximity, or community partnerships. Students at Duchesne have participated in the following programs:

- ARISE Adelante in the Rio Grande Valley
- Workers' Rights in Chicago

# Academic Profile

## Grade Distribution

Duchesne Academy does not report class rank. GPA distribution is based on 79 students. Students who transferred to Duchesne after Grade 10 are not included in the grade distribution.

GPA is cumulative, weighted, and calculated through June 2026. An additional 0.5 quality point is awarded for passing grades in all Advanced Placement (AP) courses, and an additional 0.3 quality point is awarded for passing grades in all Advanced courses.

Because of the school's selective admissions process and small class sizes, there is a relatively narrow range of grade point averages within each graduating class.

Seniors who meet the National Honor Society chapter's academic eligibility requirements based on a cumulative GPA of 3.7 through junior year and demonstrate excellence in leadership, service, and character are invited to membership.

**Top Decile:** 4.151 and above
**Top Quartile:** 4.090 and above
**Top Half:** 3.877 and above

## Advanced Placement Program

Departmental approval is required for enrollment in an AP Course. Students enrolled in an AP course must take the AP exam.

82% of the Class of 2027 was enrolled in at least one AP course in 2025-2026.

97% of AP students in the Class of 2027 earned scores of 3 or higher on their AP exams in 2026.

36 students from the Class of 2027 have been recognized by College Board as AP Scholars.

## Grading Scale

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| **A** | 93-100 | 4.0 pts |
| **A-** | 90-92 | 3.7 pts |
| **B+** | 87-89 | 3.3 pts |
| **B** | 83-86 | 3.0 pts |
| **B-** | 80-82 | 2.7 pts |
| **C+** | 77-79 | 2.3 pts |
| **C** | 73-76 | 2.0 pts |
| **C-** | 70-72 | 1.7 pts |
| **D+** | 67-69 | 1.3 pts |
| **D** | 63-66 | 1.0 pts |
| **D-** | 60-62 | 0.7 pts |
| **F** | 0-59 | 0 pts |

## Graduation Requirements

A minimum of 84 credits is required for graduation and must include:

**English:** 12 credits
**Social Studies:** 12 credits
**Math:** 9 credits
**Science:** 12 credits
**World Language:** 9 credits
**Theology:** 12 credits
**Computer Science:** 3 credits
**Fine Arts:** 3 credits
**Transformative Research:** 2 credits
**PE:** 3 credits
**Electives:** 7 credits

## Standardized Test Scores

### ACT

**Average:** 28
**Middle 50%:** 26-31

### SAT

**Average:** 1271
**Middle 50%:** 1160-1390

### National Merit Scholars

**3 National Merit Semifinalists** recognized in the Class of 2027

## AP & Advanced Courses

**English**
AP English Language
AP English Literature

**Social Studies**
AP World History
AP US History
AP US Government
AP Macro Economics
AP European History
AP African American Studies
Advanced International Relations

**Math**
Advanced Geometry
Advanced Algebra II
Advanced Pre-Calculus
AP Pre-Calculus
AP Calculus AB
AP Calculus BC
AP Statistics
Beyond BC: Advanced Topics

**Science**
Advanced Chemistry
AP Chemistry
AP Physics 1
AP Physics 2
AP Biology
AP Environmental Science

**World Language**
AP Spanish Language and Culture
AP French Language and Culture
Advanced French II, III, IV
Advanced Spanish II, III, IV
Advanced ASL IV

**Elective**
AP Music Theory
AP Studio Art
AP Computer Science A
Advanced Choir
Advanced Dance
Advanced Theatre
Advanced Robotics
Advanced Digital Product Design
Advanced Engineer Your World

## Notes

For the Class of 2027, the only advanced coursework offered in Grade 9 was Advanced Geometry and Advanced Spanish II. The only AP coursework offered in Grade 10 was AP World History. AP Pre-Calculus is designed as a capstone math course for students who took Algebra 1 in Grade 9; it is not available for students on an accelerated math track.

Courses taken are equivalent in content and rigor to those offered under the Texas Foundation High School Program.

Students may enroll in an AP or elective course offered online through OneSchoolhouse if that course is not offered at Duchesne or is unable to be scheduled. Grades are not calculated into GPA and are designated on the transcript with "OS."

# College Matriculations: 2022-2026

**We proudly share this list in celebration of our graduates and the next chapter of their academic journeys. Wherever they go, they carry with them our Sacred Heart Goals – values they have embraced and made their own. Schools in bold signify Class of 2026 matriculations.**

Allegheny College
**American University**
**Anderson University**
Arizona State University
**Auburn University**
**Austin College**
Babson College
**Baylor University**
Belmont University
**Blinn College**
Boston College
Boston University
Cal Poly
Carnegie Mellon University
Case Western Reserve University
Claremont McKenna College
**Colorado School of Mines**
Colorado State University
Cornell University
Dalhousie University
DePaul University
**Drexel University**
Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University, Prescott
**Emmanuel College**
Fordham University
**Franciscan University of Steubenville**
George Washington University
Holy Cross College
Houston Christian University
Houston Community College
Howard University
Indiana University, Bloomington
Lone Star College System
**Louisiana State University**
Loyola University Chicago
Loyola University Maryland
Ludwig Maximilian University of Munich
Mississippi State University
Mount Holyoke College
**New York University**
Northeastern University
Oberlin College
**Oklahoma State University**
Purdue University
Randolph-Macon College
Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute
**Rhodes College**
**Rice University**
**Ritsumeikan Asia Pacific University**
Rollins College
Rose-Hulman Institute of Technology
Saint Mary's College
Sam Houston State University
**Samford University**
Savannah College of Art and Design
School of the Art Institute of Chicago
Seattle University
Shenandoah University
**South Dakota School of Mines and Technology**
Southern Methodist University
Southwestern University
St. Edward's University
**Stephen F. Austin State University**
Sweet Briar College
**Texas A&M University**
**Texas A&M University, Galveston**
**Texas Christian University**
Texas State University
**Texas Tech University**
The American University of Paris
**Trinity University**
**Tulane University**
**United States Air Force Academy**
United States Military Academy
Universidad de Navarra
University of Alabama
University of Alabama, Birmingham
University of Arizona
University of Arkansas
University of California, Davis
**University of California, Los Angeles**
**University of California, San Diego**
University of Colorado, Boulder
University of Dallas
University of Denver
University of Florida
University of Georgia
**University of Houston**
**University of Louisiana, Lafayette**
**University of Massachusetts, Boston**
**University of Miami**
University of Mississippi
University of Missouri
University of New Mexico
University of North Carolina School of the Arts
**University of Notre Dame**
**University of Oklahoma**
**University of Pittsburgh**
**University of Southern California**
**University of St. Thomas, Texas**
**University of Tennessee**
**University of Texas**
**University of Texas, Arlington**
University of Texas, Dallas
**University of Texas, San Antonio**
University of the South
**University of Toronto**
**University of Vermont**
University of Virginia
University of Wisconsin
Utah Valley University
Valencia College
Vanderbilt University
**Villanova University**
Washington University in St. Louis
Wittenberg University
Xavier University of Louisiana