

# VERITAS ACADEMY PROFILE

2020 - 2021

13401 Escarpment Blvd., Austin, Texas 78739 | 512.891.1673 | VeritasAcademy.net

## OUR SCHOOL AND COMMUNITY

Veritas Academy is an independent classical, Christian, day school in Austin, Texas serving Preschool through 12th grade. In grades 8-12, students attend classes on a college-like schedule with a mix of one-, two-, and three-day-a-week classes. Veritas accepts students with a variety of learning aptitudes and differences. The academy is an independent 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization and unaffiliated with any church, denomination, or other school as it operated on its own 97-acre campus in the Texas Hill Country.

Director of Academic & College Advising

**Stevi Schuknecht**

512.891.1697

Stevi.Schuknecht@VeritasAcademy.net

Academic & College Advisor

**Janette Cantwell**

512.891.1693

Janette.Cantwell@VeritasAcademy.net

Head of School

**Jef Fowler**

School of Rhetoric Head &

Assoc. Head of School

**Troy Schuknecht**

Registrar

**Jennifer Stewart**

**CEEB Code: 440367**

## SCHOOL OF RHETORIC (9-12TH GRADES)

### ENROLLMENT

SCHOOL WIDE .....578  
SCHOOL OF RHETORIC .....182

CLASS OF 2021 .....39

AVERAGE CLASS SIZE .....12

FACULTY .....41  
W/ ADVANCED DEGREES .....15

### CLASS OF 2019:

ATTENDING 4 YEAR COLLEGES .....91%  
ATTENDING 2 YEAR COLLEGES .....3%  
GAP YEAR PROGRAMS .....6%

## ACCREDITATION

Cognia (formerly AdvancEd):  
Southern Association of  
Colleges and Schools / Council  
on Accreditation and School  
Improvement

(SACS CASI)

## MEMBERSHIPS

National Association for  
College Admission Counseling  
(NACAC)

Texas Association for College  
Admission Counseling (TACAC)

Texas Association of Private  
and Parochial Schools (TAPPS)

## COVID-19 INFORMATION

During the spring of 2020, Veritas moved all instruction to a virtual/remote format with one week of lost instruction. Grading continued normally, and grades appear on student transcripts as numeric semester-end, or year-end average grades as usual. Please reach out should you have questions.

## DIPLOMA PLANS & REQUIREMENTS

### VERITAS DIPLOMA

Students earn a Veritas Diploma by completing all Veritas graduation requirements listed below.

### DISTINGUISHED DIPLOMA

Students earn this distinction by completing all requirements of the Veritas Diploma and additionally completing three weighted courses, earning a GPA of 3.5 or higher in Leadership, and maintaining an overall GPA of 3.5 or higher.

### SELF-MANAGED PLAN

Because of Veritas Academy's unique model (college-style course offerings), some students attend the school but elect not to complete all of their Texas graduation requirements at Veritas. When these students apply to college, the Veritas transcript is supplemental to the family-produced transcript that certifies completion of the Texas graduation requirements.

### DIPLOMA REQUIREMENTS

During the 2019-2020 school year, Veritas moved from a trimester to a semester schedule. 1 credit is equal to a year-long course meeting 3hrs/wk. Required credits:

4.0 History (includes Government & Econ.)	4.0 Math	4.0 Science	4.0 English
1.0 Latin	3.0 Foreign Language (sequential)	2.0 Leadership (0.5 credit per year)	1.0 Athletics/P.E.
1.0 Fine Arts	0.5 Logic	0.5 Speech	1.0 Electives

## GRADING & POLICIES

### GRADING CALENDAR & SCALE

In 2019-2020, Veritas moved from trimesters to semesters.

<b>A</b>	<b>4.0</b>	<b>93-100%</b>	<b>C</b>	<b>2.0</b>	<b>73-76%</b>
<b>A-</b>	<b>3.7</b>	<b>90-92%</b>	<b>C-</b>	<b>1.7</b>	<b>70-72%</b>
<b>B+</b>	<b>3.3</b>	<b>87-89%</b>	<b>D+</b>	<b>1.3</b>	<b>67-69%</b>
<b>B</b>	<b>3.0</b>	<b>83-86%</b>	<b>D</b>	<b>1.0</b>	<b>63-66%</b>
<b>B-</b>	<b>2.7</b>	<b>80-82%</b>	<b>D-</b>	<b>0.7</b>	<b>60-62%</b>
<b>C+</b>	<b>2.3</b>	<b>77-79%</b>	<b>F</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>&lt;60%</b>

**ITALICS = no course credit.** Though modest GPA points accrue for grades 60-69% (D), course credit is awarded only for courses in which mastery is demonstrated, as indicated by a grade of 70% (C-) or higher.

### RANKING POLICY

Veritas does not rank its students.

### DISCIPLINARY ACTION

Upon request, Veritas will disclose if a student has been subject to serious disciplinary action since entering 9th Grade. This includes any dramatic change to grades, out-of-school suspension, dismissal, or withdrawal from the school.

### GPA's

(Average Class of 2021)

Un-weighted GPA .....3.33  
Weighted GPA .....3.43

### Highest Historical GPA's

The valedictorians of Veritas Academy's nine graduating classes have earned an average GPA of 3.94 (unweighted).

**CLASSICAL CURRICULUM**

Classical education is a return to the ancient goal of education: teaching children to live as virtuous, civic-minded, lifelong learners by imparting to them the tools of learning. It is an approach rooted in the ancient medieval concept of the Trivium. The Trivium is comprised of three basic tools of learning in the order they naturally develop: Grammar (the tool of knowledge), Logic (the tool of reasoning) and Rhetoric (the tool of communication and expression). Classical education places focus on classic works of literature, language learning (including Latin), student discovery and class discussion, as well as training in formal logic.

**AP & HONORS COURSES**

*All core courses and languages at Veritas are taught at the honors level; the following courses are the most advanced in their disciplines. Students at Veritas are typically not permitted to take weighted courses until their 11th grade year. The following are weighted (+1.0) in the calculation of GPA:*

**ENGLISH**

AP English 11- Language & Comp  
AP English 12- Literature & Comp

**MATHEMATICS**

Pre-Calculus/Trigonometry  
AP Calculus AB  
AP Statistics

**SCIENCE**

AP Physics I  
AP Physics II  
Molecular Biology

**HISTORY & SOCIAL SCIENCE**

Adv. Government & Economics  
AP United States History

**FOREIGN LANGUAGE**

American Sign Language IV  
AP Latin IV  
Spanish IV

**CAPSTONE PROJECT**

Rhetoric II (Senior Thesis)

**ELECTIVES**

AP Computer Science Principles

**NOTES**

- Official transcripts provide both weighted and non-weighted GPAs.
- Credits with a grade above 65 may be recovered for a grade of 70 and are designated with "CR" on the transcript. Repeated courses are designated with "R" and the new grade replaces the

original course grade.

- The weighted GPA includes an additional (1.0) added to the earned grade points in weighted courses; unweighted courses are based on the values under *Grading Calendar and Scale*.

**UNIQUE GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS**

**SENIOR THESIS**

*Senior Thesis* is a year-long independent research project, culminating with a written report and then an oral presentation (20 minutes) and defense (20 minutes of Q&A) before a panel of judges at the end of senior year.

**LEADERSHIP**

All graduates take a four-year course of study cultivating leadership skills in: Apologetics, Worldviews, Christian Ethics, and Senior Leadership Seminar.

**UNIQUE OPPORTUNITIES**

- Class Trips:
  - Outdoor Adventure to Colorado (9<sup>th</sup>)
  - College Tours (10<sup>th</sup>)
  - Study Abroad in Europe (11<sup>th</sup>)
  - Mission Trip (12<sup>th</sup>)
- Individualized student support services for those with learning or language differences
- House System for all in the School of Rhetoric:
  - House of Augustine
  - House of Bonhoeffer
  - House of Francis
  - House of Müller
- Over 25 different student-led clubs

**TEST SCORES**

**NATIONAL MERIT**

Among the 246 students in the first nine graduating classes, 16% have earned National Merit Recognition:

- Semi-Finalists/Finalist: 11
- Commended Scholars: 25
- Hispanic Scholars: 4

**AP SCORES SPRING 2019\***

Total AP Students: 55  
Total Number of Exams: 103  
Total % of Exams Receiving 3, 4, or 5: 78%

**ACT SCORES\***

Mid 50%, Class of 2020	
<b>COMPOSITE: 26-32</b>	
English: 26-35	Math: 26-29
Reading: 24-34	Science: 24-30

**SAT SCORES\***

Mid 50%, Class of 2020	
<b>TOTAL: 1150-1290</b>	
EBRW: 580-660	
Math: 550-660	

\* There was not enough testing data to publish scores for the class of 2021.

**COLLEGE ACCEPTANCES (CLASSES '12-'20)**

Abilene Christian Univ\*  
Allegheny College  
Alvin Community College  
AMDA (NY and CA)  
Angelo State Univ\*  
Appalachian St Univ  
Arizona St Univ  
Arkansas State Univ  
Auburn Univ  
Austin College  
Austin Comm College  
Azusa Pacific Univ  
Babson College  
Bard College  
Baylor Univ\*  
Belhaven Univ  
Belmont Abbey College\*  
Belmont Univ\*  
Berry College  
Bethel Univ  
Blinn College  
Boston College  
Boston Univ  
Boyce College  
Bradley Univ  
Butler Univ  
Cal Poly, SLO  
Calvin College  
Case Western Reserve Univ  
Centre College  
Clark Univ  
Clemson Univ\*  
College of Charleston\*  
College of the Atlantic  
Colorado Christian Univ  
Colorado School of Mines  
Colorado State Univ\*  
Columbia College, Chicago  
Columbus College of Art & Design  
Concordia Univ  
Cornell College  
Creighton Univ  
Culinary Institute of America, NY  
Culver-Stockton College  
Dallas Baptist Univ  
DePaul Univ  
Dickinson College  
Drexel Univ  
Duke Univ  
Eastern Univ  
Elmhurst College  
Embry-Riddle Aero Univ (FL)  
Emerson College  
Emory Univ/Oxford of Emory

Flagler College  
Florida Southern Univ  
Florida State Univ  
Fordham Univ  
Furman Univ  
George Washington Univ  
Georgia College and St Univ  
Georgia Institute of Tech  
Gordon College  
Hamilton College  
Hardin-Simmons Univ  
Harding Univ  
Hawaii Pacific Univ  
Hendrix College  
Hillsdale College  
Hofstra Univ  
Hollins Univ  
Hope College  
Houghton College  
Houston Baptist Univ\*  
Howard Payne Univ  
John Brown Univ  
John Cabot Univ (Italy)  
Johns Hopkins Univ  
Johnson and Wales Univ  
Kalamazoo College  
Kansas State Univ  
Kent State Univ  
Lake Forest College  
LeTourneau Univ  
Liberty Univ  
Lindenwood Univ  
Louisiana State Univ  
Loyola Univ, Chicago  
Maryville Univ (MO)  
McGill Univ (Canada)  
McLennan Comm College  
McMurry Univ  
Miami Univ (OH)  
Millsaps College  
Mississippi State Univ  
Missouri State Univ  
Missouri Univ of Sci & Tech  
New York Univ  
Northeastern Univ  
Northwest Nazarene Univ  
Occidental College  
Oklahoma Baptist Univ  
Oklahoma State Univ  
Olivet Nazarene Univ\*  
Oral Roberts Univ  
Pace Univ  
Pacific Lutheran Univ  
Pacific Univ

Palm Beach Atlantic Univ  
Pepperdine Univ  
Point Loma Nazarene Univ  
Point Park Univ  
Point Univ  
Purdue Univ  
Rhodes College  
Rice Univ  
Rider Univ  
Rose-Hulman Inst of Tech  
Rutgers Univ  
Sam Houston State Univ  
Samford Univ\*  
San Jose State Univ\*  
Savannah College of Art & Design  
Schreiner Univ  
Schreiner Univ, Greystone Prep  
Sewanee: Univ of the South  
Simmons Univ  
Southern Methodist Univ\*  
Southwestern Assemb. of God Univ  
Southwestern Univ  
St. Edward's Univ  
St. John's College, Annapolis  
St. Mary's College of Maryland  
Stephen F. Austin State Univ  
Stevens College  
Sul Ross State Univ  
Syracuse Univ  
Tarleton State Univ  
Texas A&M Univ\*  
Texas A&M, Commerce  
Texas A&M, Corpus Christi  
Texas A&M, Galveston  
Texas Christian Univ  
Texas Lutheran Univ  
Texas State Univ\*  
Texas Tech Univ\*  
Texas Woman's Univ  
The Catholic Univ of America  
The King's College (NY)  
The New School  
The Ohio State Univ  
The Univ of Arizona  
The Univ of Northern CO\*  
The Univ of Texas at Arlington  
The Univ of Texas at Austin\*  
The Univ of Texas at Dallas\*  
The Univ of Texas at San Antonio  
The Univ of Texas at Tyler  
The Univ of the Arts  
Trinity Univ (TX)  
Union Univ (TN)  
Univ of Alabama\*

Univ of Alabama at BHM  
Univ of Arkansas\*  
Univ of Arizona  
Univ of California, LA  
Univ of California, San Diego  
Univ of California, Santa Barbara  
Univ of Cincinnati  
Univ of Colorado, Boulder  
Univ of Colorado, CO Springs  
Univ of Dallas\*  
Univ of Dayton  
Univ of Delaware  
Univ of Denver  
Univ of Florida  
Univ of Georgia  
Univ of Houston\*  
Univ of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign  
Univ of the Incarnate World  
Univ of Iowa  
Univ of Maine  
Univ of Mary Hardin-Baylor\*  
Univ of Miami (FL)  
Univ of Mississippi\*  
Univ of Missouri  
Univ of New Mexico\*  
UNC, Charlotte  
UNC, Greensboro  
Univ of North Texas  
Univ of Notre Dame  
Univ of Oklahoma  
Univ of Pennsylvania  
Univ of Richmond  
Univ of Rochester  
Univ of San Francisco  
Univ of South Carolina  
Univ of Southern California  
Univ of Tennessee, Knoxville  
Univ of Tulsa  
Univ of Utah  
Univ of Virginia  
Univ of Washington  
Univ of Wisconsin, Madison  
Villanova Univ  
Virginia Military Institute  
Washington State Univ  
Washington Univ in St. Louis  
West Virginia Univ  
Westminster College  
Westmont College  
Wheaton College  
Whitworth Univ

\*denotes honors