

Our Admission Process



North
Cross
School



David Lake
dlake@northcross.org



Kelsey Yardley
kyardley@northcross.org



Lauren Horner
lhorne@northcross.org

Inquire and Visit

Complete an [online inquiry](#). This registers helpful contact information for you and your child, and should you decide to pursue an application, your profile will be readily available to you. You will be provided login information including a username and password. You'll need this for your application and enrollment, so be sure to save your credentials. To tour our campus, contact Lauren Horner (lhorne@northcross.org), Kelsey Yardley (kyardley@northcross.org) or David Lake (dlake@northcross.org) at 540-989-6641.

Apply

Apply by visiting <https://northcross.myschoolapp.com>. You will use the username and password you created when you inquired, or, if you have not established one, you will be guided through the process.

Application requirements are listed for each grade level. These include:

- Application fee
- Authorization to release information (given to your current school authorizing them to release documents to North Cross)
- Current teacher recommendations
- On-campus interview and assessment

Offer of Admission

Qualified applicants will receive an offer of Admission from David Lake, Director of Admission once the application process has been completed.

Tuition

Tuition and fees are broken down by grade level. Learn how assistance is available from our unique Tailored Tuition program. [Learn more](#) and begin the **Tailored Tuition application** process if this option is right for your family.

Enroll

When you accept our Offer of Admission, you will be directed to complete our **online enrollment** process. You will use your log-in information you created at the beginning of the application process. This link will also serve as your personal portal to your child's information, teacher websites, parent and faculty/staff directories, news, schedules, and other useful information.

All new families must participate in our **Tuition Refund Plan**. In subsequent years, participation in this plan is optional.

Helpful Information and Important Documents

More information important to parents is available on our Resources section of our family intranet site **OnCampus**. Once you've created an application, you will have access to this information including dress code, school supplies, athletic participation requirements, and library resources.

North Cross School: Exceptional and Affordable

The idea of paying tuition can be daunting to many. North Cross offers all families who wish to attend an affordable option through Tailored Tuition.



North Cross School

What is Tailored Tuition?

Tailored Tuition adjusts a student's tuition to match their family's ability to pay. The chart below shows the tuition rates for each grade level for the 2019-2020 school year. Each grade level's tuition is expressed in a range, reflecting the ability of the Tailored Tuition program to adjust tuition based on ability to pay. A family receiving a Tailored Tuition will fall somewhere within that range.

Note that each grade shows a minimum tuition level. **No tuition will fall below this level.**

2019-2020 Tailored Tuition Ranges

Grade Level	Tailored Tuition Range	Academic Fees <small>*Includes books, lab fees, and AP testing</small>
JK-3 (3-day/5-day options)*	\$5,010/ \$4,850-\$7,250	None
JK-4 Half-Day	\$4,850-\$8,420	None
JK-4/JK-5 Full-Day	\$4,850-\$10,130	None
Kindergarten	\$4,200-\$11,730	None
1st	\$4,200-\$14,390	None
2nd	\$4,200-\$14,920	None
3rd	\$4,200-\$15,460	None
4th-5th	\$4,200-\$16,520	None
6th-8th	\$4,200-\$17,840	Per Course Schedule Selected
9th-12th	\$4,200-\$19,340	Per Course Schedule Selected
9th-12th - Boarding**	\$21,000	\$1,000

Optional charges include: Lemon Dining Hall, Extended Day, After-School Enrichment Programs, Student Accident Insurance, and the Tuition Refund Plan (required for all new students unless tuition is paid in full by August 20).

**Those JK-3 students who have a sibling enrolled at a higher, full-day level may attend extended day (2:50pm dismissal) at no extra cost.*

***Tuition includes room, evening and weekend meals, and dorm activities. Academic fees cover transportation to/from dorm daily and after school activities on campus. Internatinal families are expected to budget approximately an additional \$4,200 for the school year to cover costs such as school lunches, breakfasts, and class fees.*

Why is the tuition different at different grade levels?

North Cross tuition varies by grade and the resources devoted to education at each level. For example, in Junior Kindergarten 3 and Junior Kindergarten 4 there are two teachers in the classroom to provide the individualized attention that our youngest students need.

Will tuition ever increase?

North Cross, like any other organization, faces increases in operating cost, including the compensation of our most important asset – our faculty. We recognize that we need to be mindful of increasing tuition costs, which is why we strive to maintain an ideal number of students for maximum efficiency. Our tuition has increased at smaller amounts each year, and we will strive to continue this trend of low increases as we grow the school.

Why would I pay for something that I can get for free?

North Cross faces this question every day. Our families choose North Cross over other education options because they realize that North Cross is different and that it is exceptional. Our families believe that North Cross can offer their children more – more opportunities for classroom interaction, academic achievement, artistic expression, physical activity, character development, and global perspective – so much so that they are willing to write a tuition check each year.

How do I Apply for Tailored Tuition?

Before you begin the application process, ask yourself these questions:

- Am I able to pay the minimum tuition level, and sustain this level each successive year?
- Am I willing to supply the needed information, not only this year, but each year my child is enrolled?
- Do I have the information needed to complete the application?

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If the answer to all of these questions is 'yes,' follow the procedure below to apply:

1. Submit the application online on our website

*Note: there is a \$48 nonrefundable application fee.

2. Submit the following documents online or by mail:

- Current Form 1040
- All applicable documentation of income
- Current paycheck stubs
- IRS Form 4506-T
- Corporate tax return, if applicable

3. Receive your Tailored Tuition decision in writing from the Tailored Tuition Committee

All decisions are confidential. North Cross does not discriminate on the basis of race, gender, national or ethnic origin, or sexual orientation.

The Process for Tailored Tuition

Families interested in Tailored Tuition must complete a Parents Financial Statement (PFS) through a third party portal, School and Student Services (SSS). This process is similar to what families complete when applying for financial help with college tuition. Upon completing the PFS, SSS will provide the “family’s ability to pay”, or their “EFC - expected financial contribution”.

For a family with more than one child, our Tailored Tuition approach may be particularly beneficial. How much better would it be for all children to have the advantage of a North Cross education, for the family to be on the same drop-off and vacation schedule, and for the family to be in the same close-knit North Cross community? If you have more than one child, ask for how Tailored Tuition would look for multiple children attending the school.

Payment Plans

All parents pay tuition and other North Cross bills through our online student account management and billing service, Smart Tuition. Tuition may be paid in full, or parents can choose a 2 payment plan, with 50% due in July and 50% due in December. In addition, parents can pay monthly (a 10-pay plan). Whatever method is chosen, tuition and other student bills will be paid conveniently through Smart Tuition.

Scholarships

Affordability is important and we recognize that it is typically a major factor in a family’s decision-making. Our Founders’ Scholarship and our Alumni Merit Scholarship were established to attract the “best and brightest” 8th–11th grade students to North Cross, with the Alumni Merit Scholarship available to children and/or grandchildren of North Cross alumni. Interested students who meet the stated criteria should apply for these scholarships, and awards are made to the strongest applicants each year. Once awarded, these scholarships are maintained each year as long as the student demonstrates a consistent level of accomplishment.



A North Cross education is more accessible and more affordable because of our Tailored Tuition program. Your investment in our exceptional educational experience will prepare your children for success in their secondary education, as well as in college and in life after college. As you consider our school for your children, please reach out to us and speak to other families about their experiences here. I think you’ll be interested in continuing to learn more. We are here to help and to guide you in the admission process, and we will gladly answer questions you may have about its affordability. Feel free to contact **David Lake**, Director of Admission at **(540) 989-6641** or email **dlake@northcross.org**. Again, we look forward to you joining our family!

Tuition Insurance

The Tuition Refund Plan partially insures your annual financial obligation under the terms of the Enrollment Agreement. The School recommends that all parents consider it carefully. Participation in the Tuition Refund Plan is required for all new families unless tuition is paid in full by August 20. The premium rate of 2.3% of tuition will be billed.

Re-Enrollment

Re-enrollment begins each February. Completing your enrollment contract and paying your non-refundable re-enrollment deposit* reserves your place in the following year’s class.



After June 30th, the contract becomes binding and you are bound by the contract for the full tuition for the upcoming school year.

You must notify David Lake, Director of Admission, in writing before June 30 if your child will not be attending North Cross for the upcoming year.

*Non-refundable re-enrollment deposits are considered part of the upcoming school year’s tuition, not in addition to tuition.

The Importance of Tailored Tuition

Walking our campus you will see a very diverse and inclusive community. This is a direct result of our intentional desire to have all communities included as we grow our school. Our students benefit from knowing others whose backgrounds, cultures, and economics are different than their own and from being in a community that has 100% of its students focused each day on doing well in school and going to college.

A reduced tuition based on a family’s ability to pay is one of the ways we can grow our school and increase the access our community has to the exceptional educational experience we offer.

Important Dates:

June 15 – Final date for returning parents to apply for Tailored Tuition. PFS must be completed and all documents must be provided to be considered.

June 30 – Enrollment contracts become binding on July 1st, so any withdrawals must be made in writing by June 30. Withdrawals before June 30 will forfeit the non-refundable deposit.



2019-20 Schedule of Fees

Tuition

Annual tuition, without need-based adjustment, is the highest of the range shown in the tables below. With need-based adjustments, the tuition a family will pay per child will fall between the minimum and the full annual tuition illustrated in the chart below.

Grade	Drop-off	Instruction starts	Day ends	Tuition Range (see note above)	Fees*
JK-3 3-Day	7:40	7:50	1:00	\$5,010	None
JK-3 5-Day	7:40	7:50	1:00	\$4,850 – \$7,250	None
JK-4 Half-Day	7:40	7:50	1:00	\$4,850 – \$8,420	None
JK-4 Full-Day	7:40	7:50	2:50	\$4,850 – \$10,130	None
JK-5 Full-Day	7:40	7:50	2:50	\$4,850 – \$10,130	None
Kindergarten	7:40	7:50	2:50	\$4,200 – \$11,730	None
Grade 1	Begins at 7:30, early care available until 7:40	7:50	2:50	\$4,200 – \$14,390	None
Grade 2	" "	" "	" "	\$4,200 – \$14,920	None
Grade 3	" "	" "	" "	\$4,200 – \$15,460	None
Grades 4 - 5	" "	" "	" "	\$4,200 – \$16,520	None
Grades 6 - 8 (Middle School)	7:45	Advisory period begins at 8:15; class at 8:30	3:10	\$4,200 – \$17,840	Per course schedule selected
Grades 9 - 12 (Upper School)	7:45	8:00	3:10	\$4,200 – \$19,340	Per course schedule selected
Dormitory Cost	—	—	—	\$21,000	Includes room, evening and weekend meals, and dorm activities

* Tuition includes classroom equipment and supplies, library materials, music and art materials, global language materials, intramurals, Symposium (Grades 8-12), technology, standardized testing, classroom field trips, and yearbook. In grades 6-12, students will need to purchase iPads and the student and any course-specific online books required. In the Upper School, there will be charges above tuition such as course fees, books, lab fees, art classes, and AP testing fees. North Cross does not have athletic fees, but there may be charges associated with overnight stays for teams who travel.

iPad — for all Middle and Upper School students	Mandatory	Purchase from vendor of your choice; not through NCS
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Cafeteria Lunch

Grade	Fee	Items Included
Junior Kindergarten – Grade 3	\$4.50 per meal; does not include snacks	Includes a serving of the main hot entree and all-you-can-eat vegetables and sides. A full fresh salad bar and a deli tray for sandwiches are also available. Parents will be billed monthly for school lunches.
Grades 4 - 12	\$5.50 per meal; does not include snacks	

Extended Day Program

Grade	Starts	Ends	Annual Fee
JK-3 / JK-4 Half-Day	1:00	3:00	\$1,200 for 3-Day; \$1,800 for 5-Day*
JK-3 / JK-4 Half-Day	1:00	6:00	\$2,400 for 3-Day; \$3,800 for 5-Day
JK-3* - Grade 5	2:50	6:00	\$2,600
Drop-in care	\$15 for first full or partial hour	\$10 for each additional 1/2 hour or fraction	*If you have a JK-3 student whose day ends at 1:00 and another student enrolled here in a higher grade, extended day coverage for your JK-3 child until 2:50 p.m. carries no additional cost.

Middle School After-School Study Hall

	Starts	Ends	Fee
Per Trimester (Fall, Winter, or Spring)	3:30	5:00	\$400 per semester or \$1,200 for full year
Drop-in	3:30	5:00	\$10 per hour or portion thereof

Opening Doors After-School Enrichment Programs

Course	Start	End	Fee: Fall	Fee: Winter	Fee: Spring
Gymnastics Mondays – JK-3 & JK-4	1:10	2:00	\$100	\$80	\$80
Dance Tuesdays – JK-3 & JK-4	1:10	2:00	\$100	\$80	\$80
Soccer Wednesdays – JK-3 & JK-4; Grades K–2	1:10; 3:00	2:00; 4:00	\$100	\$80	\$80
Bricks 4 Kidz Thursday – JK-4 - Grade 5	1:10; 3:00	2:00; 4:00	\$115	\$100	\$100

CrossWalk Program (Diagnosed Learning Difference Remediation)

Start	End	Crosswalk Tuition Range
n/a	n/a	\$7,000 - \$13,000

Note: Cost is in addition to NCS grade-specific tuition; cost range represents frequency of visits deemed necessary.

Insurance and Reimbursement

Student Accident Insurance Program	\$40 per year per student
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Tuition Refund Program	Required for all new families, optional for returning families	2.3% of tuition, paid annually prior to the beginning of the school year
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Carter Athletic Center Membership (NCS family)

Member	Monthly fee
Enrolled NCS Student <i>(under 9th grade, student needs parent or coach supervision)</i>	\$0
Individual	\$50
Family	\$60



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Major Dates

2019–20 Academic Year

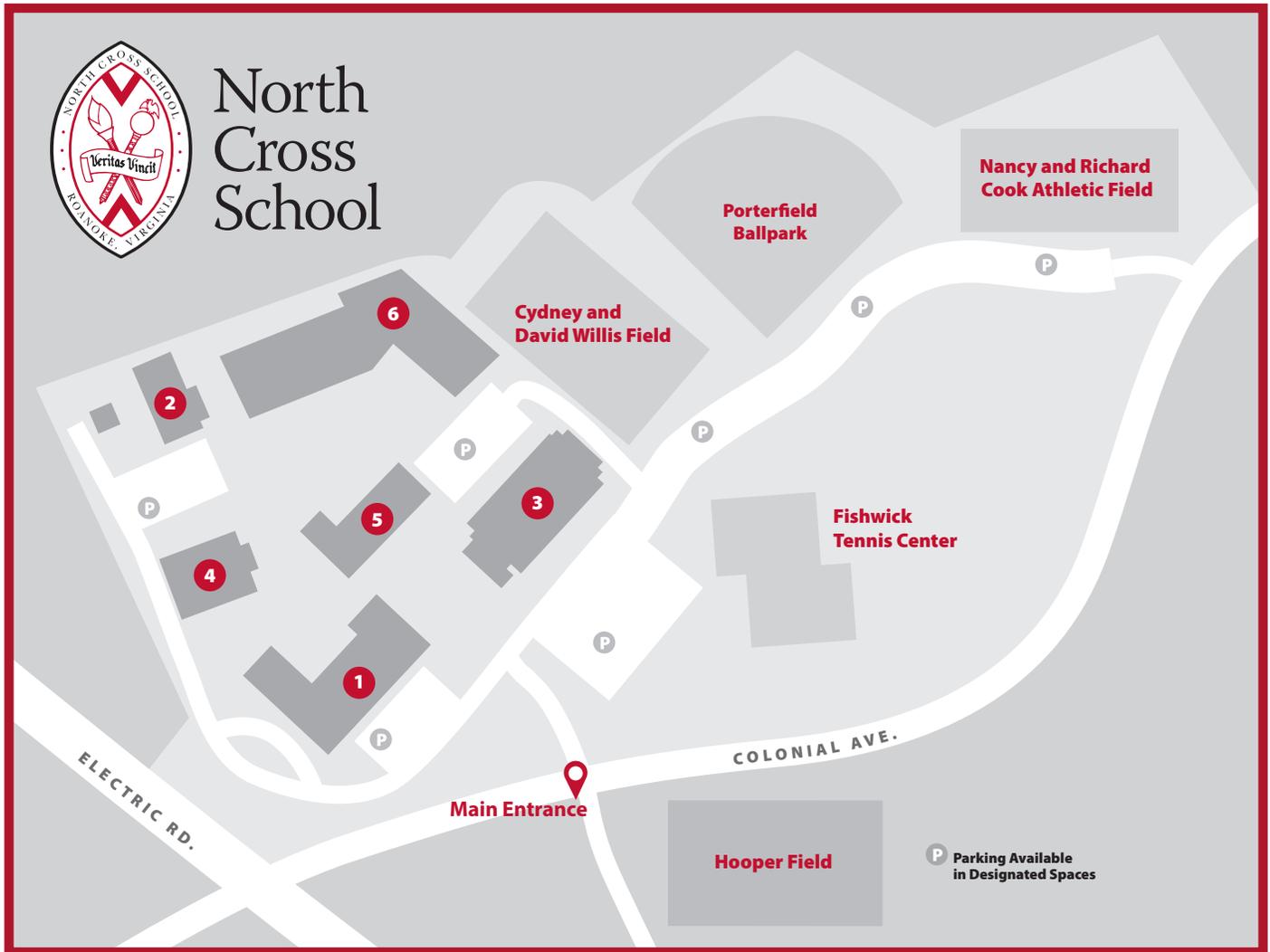
2019

First Day of School	Tuesday, September 3
Fall Long Weekend (Noon dismissal)	Friday, October 11–Monday, October 14
Thanksgiving Vacation	Wednesday, November 27– Sunday, December 1

2020

Winter Vacation (Noon dismissal)	Friday, December 20, 2019 – Sunday, January 5, 2020
Presidents' Day (Noon Dismissal)	Friday, February 14–Monday, February 17 <i>Monday, February 17, Snow Make-up Day, if needed</i>
Spring Vacation (3 p.m. Dismissal)	Friday, February 28 – Sunday, March 8
Long Spring Weekend	Friday, April 10 – Monday, April 13 <i>Monday, April 13, Snow Make-up Day, if needed</i>
Senior Dinner	Thursday, May 21
Baccalaureate	Friday, May 22
57th Commencement Exercises	Saturday, May 23
Memorial Day (School Closed)	Monday, May 25
Last Day of School	Wednesday, May 27 (ECP 1–3) Thursday, May 28 (Grades 1–5) Friday, May 29 (Grades 6–11)

Campus Map



1 Ellis Hall
Lower School
 Early Childhood Program
 Grades 1-5
 Admission Office



4 New Slack Hall
 Lemon Dining Hall
 Fine Arts
 Graphic Design Lab
 Information Technology
 Parrott Conference Room



2 Eaton Hall
Middle School
 Grades 6-8



5 Slack Hall
 Head of School, Finance,
 Development, Fishburn Auditorium,
 Learning Center, CrossWalk Program,
 Hancock Library, Logan Gallery



3 Willis Hall
Upper School
 Grades 9-12
 College Counseling



6 Carter Athletic Center
 Muscuro Gymnasium
 Practice and game courts
 Indoor track
 Swimming pool
 Cardio and Weight Training



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Campus Security:

Immediately following the tragic shooting at Sandy Hook Elementary School in December of 2012, the senior staff and Board of Trustees, with the financial support of our families, worked quickly to implement a safety plan that while already in the planning stages, became even more critical after that sad day. These measures included:

- Swipe card access to all buildings on campus and security photographic ID badges for all teachers, staff, and students (Middle and Upper School) to control access to all buildings;
- video surveillance for common entry points to our campus;
- regular lock-down drills to train our faculty and students on the proper protocol in the event of an emergency;
- a siren system that could be heard throughout the grounds, inside and out, including athletic fields; and,
- an Instant Alert system to notify parents and caregivers immediately should an emergency occur.

In addition, the Board's Risk Management Audit Committee periodically reviews all security threats and available safety measures and makes recommendations to the full Board of Trustees when capital expenditures are required to ensure the safety of our faculty and students.

The School employs two counselors for our student body. One remains in the Lower School, the other focuses efforts on the Middle and Upper School. Both are trained in the unique needs of these varying ages, and in addition to their classwork, are available as a resource to both students and parents as needed. Faculty will also reach out if there is a suspected need for intervention.

Rest assured that any building or area in which students work or play is secured to the best of our ability and is regularly examined and improved when vulnerabilities are revealed and technology improves. Our upcoming capital improvements will fortify the front entrance of our school and separate vehicular traffic from pedestrian traffic with physical boundaries. We look forward to the added architectural division these improvements offer to both define the school's campus lines and to create a natural checkpoint for outside visitors.



North Cross School

Ellis Hall: LOWER SCHOOL



Victor Lamas | vlamas@northcross.org
Director of Lower School, Upper School History
Washington and Lee University—B.A.
University of Virginia—M.A.
Appointed 1998
Morris Award 2014

Wren Hoyt | whoyt@northcross.org
Assistant to the Director of the Lower School
Appointed 2019

Children in the Lower School are encouraged to explore and revel in their own talents, even as they are made increasingly aware of their relationship and responsibility to their peers, their teachers, and their families. To that end, faculty in the Lower School work closely with parents to set appropriate and reasonable expectations and to provide support that fosters excellence, achievement and, at each step, the confidence needed to succeed.

Also, unique to North Cross is our CrossWalk Program for Language-Based Learning Differences. Students with a diagnosed learning difference can enroll in supplemental education based in the Orton-Gillingham approach for remediation of common differences like dyslexia and dysgraphia. Students meet daily with a specially trained instructor to work on remediation, usually during their class' Spanish period.

- Library Skills
- 100 Books Initiative
- Lower School Garden
- Spanish
- Arts instruction
- Physical education
- Guidance
- Computer coding for all ages
- After-school enrichment
- CrossWalk specialized Instruction

EARLY CHILDHOOD PROGRAM · LEVEL 1

The first level class in the Early Childhood Program provides children, primarily age three, with initial exposure to developing language, math, social and emotional readiness skills using a hands-on approach. This half-day program contains weekly units on many topics, including the senses, safety, and different cultures. These topics are experienced through literature, art, crafts, cooking, science experiments, music, and games. Montessori materials are used along with many other hands-on materials. The program is enriched with field trips to Mill Mountain Zoo and an apple farm.

- Library - weekly
- Music - Twice weekly
- Spanish - Daily
- Art - In class creative expression

EARLY CHILDHOOD PROGRAM · LEVEL 2

The second level of the Early Childhood Program blends traditional and Montessori approaches to learning, which provides each student with strong readiness in language, math, social, emotional, and enrichment skills needed for kindergarten. Students, primarily age four, rotate between two classrooms daily. They practice seatwork and utilize Montessori materials for sensorial reading and math; and their lessons incorporate literature, dramatic play, arts and crafts, cooking activities, and hands-on science activities. Speakers visit throughout the year, including a firefighter and a Mill Mountain zookeeper. In the spring, the classes visit Homestead Creamery and Dairy Farm. Students learn about marine mammals and adopt a dolphin named Talon from the Dolphin Research Center in Marathon, Florida.

- Library - Weekly
- Music - Twice weekly
- Spanish - Daily
- Handwriting - Introduction
- Counting by 1's, 10's
- Art - In-class creative expression



Ellis Hall: LOWER SCHOOL

EARLY CHILDHOOD PROGRAM · LEVEL 3 / KINDERGARTEN

The Kindergarten classes in the Early Childhood Program offer individualized instruction to meet the needs of each student, which contributes to readiness for the rigors of first grade. The goal is to foster independence, self-discipline, and an enthusiasm for learning. Academic skills are reinforced and enriched with Montessori activities, computer lab time, and field trips. The program ends with a virtual trip to the Amazon Rain Forest where students serve as tour guides for their family and friends through question-and-answer periods and song.

- Library - Weekly
- Music - Three sessions weekly
- Physical Education - Twice weekly
- Art - In class creative expression
- Spanish - Daily instruction
- Guidance - Weekly instruction

FIRST GRADE

The First Grade experience includes opportunities for students to become independent readers, writers, goal-setters, and thinkers. The development of good work habits, organization, and self-monitoring are supported and celebrated throughout the year.

Our school year will provide opportunities for student inquiry, hands-on learning, collaboration, exploration through time and nature, character development, rigor, and plenty of fun! Students' excitement for books and reading grows throughout the year as they become independent readers. Small group work fosters social growth and development as students encourage one another to succeed and take risks. The Fabulous First Grade Flea Market, Gingerbread Man scavenger hunt, and trip to the Virginia Museum of Natural History are first-grade favorites. The year culminates with an exploration of the city around us, with the "Welcome to Roanoke, Flat Stanley!" program, which brings together reading, writing, and song-writing skills.

- "Welcome to Roanoke, Flat Stanley!" program
- Small group instruction
- Create original stories
- Singapore Math
- Cursive Writing
- Arts and Music - Weekly
- Library - Weekly
- Spanish - Daily

SECOND GRADE

Our Word Study program emphasizes phonics instruction to foster a deep understanding of spelling features rather than rote memorization. Readers' and Writers' Workshops help students learn skills and strategies for real-world application. Studies across the curriculum incorporate intentional instruction in organization and study skills, corresponding activities through art and music enrichment, computer research, and report writing. Near the end of the school year, students present an "Africa from A to Z" program where they recite facts about the continent, interspersing their speeches with marimba songs learned in their music classes.

- Guidance - example of the Grinch - showing compassion and friendship
- Writing - project-based book reports (like create a T-shirt)
- Singapore Math - Multiplication tables
- Africa - An in-depth program and musical presentation
- Spanish - Daily
- Library - Weekly
- Art and Music - Weekly



Ellis Hall: LOWER SCHOOL

THIRD GRADE

The third grade is departmentalized in reading and mathematics allowing daily in-depth instruction in both subject areas. Sectioning by teacher also occurs in science and social studies. Close communication with the second grade teachers allows for a continuous flow of instruction. Classwork is enhanced by field trips to Natural Bridge, Monticello, and Blue Ridge Institute; the Virginia landmark project and Colonial Day are highlights of the third-grade experience.

- Colonial Day
- Field Trips - Natural Bridge, Monticello, Blue Ridge Institute
- Writing - Monthly book reports
- Singapore Math - Place values up to 100,000, multiply 2 digit numbers, word problems
- Arts - Three times each week
- Physical Education - Daily
- Spanish - Daily

FOURTH GRADE

Fourth grade students learn to express in writing what they have learned across the curriculum. Therefore, writing is an integral part of each academic area. A team of teachers instructs the core courses of math, science, language arts, and social studies. Organization and study skills are emphasized and taught in all subject areas. Highlights of the fourth grade include an overnight trip to Williamsburg, and Yorktown, a PowerPoint project that is presented to parents, and plays that students prepare and perform for the school community.

- PowerPoint Presentation - Research, Writing, Presentation - Topic of Animals
- Beginning Band and Lower School Chorus
- Tessellations - the tiling of a plane using one or more geometric shapes, called tiles, with no overlaps and no gaps.
- Lower School Garden - Work, plant, care, and harvest
- Trips - Williamsburg and Yorktown
- Arts - Three times weekly
- Physical Education - Daily
- Spanish - Daily

FIFTH GRADE

Students gain the skills of independence, writing fluently and coherently, and problem solving. A team of teachers instruct the core courses of reading, language arts, word study, math, history, and science. Students visit the computer lab to supplement classroom activities. The students participate in various activities, including a Science Fair or Computer Coding Fair, the reenactment of an ancient battle, and an overnight trip to Washington, D.C.

- Band or Chorus
- Mesopotamia
- STEM Marshmallow Challenge
- Synonyms
- Science Fair/Coding Fair
- Embryology: Raising an egg
- Arts - Three times each week
- Physical Education - Daily
- Spanish - Daily



North Cross School

Eaton Hall: MIDDLE SCHOOL



Deborah Jesse | djessee@northcross.org
Interim Director of the Middle School, Assistant
Head of School for Academics
Hollins College—B.A.
East Carolina University—M.Ed.
Appointed 1990



Reed McGinn | rmcginn@northcross.org
Assistant to the Director of the Middle School
University of Virginia—B.A.
Appointed 2012

By promoting scholarship, honor, integrity, and community responsibility, as well as providing an environment in which the students' best interests are at the heart of every decision, the Middle School has an immediate goal of preparing students for the academic rigor of the Upper School.

ACADEMIC PROGRAM

Middle School students are surrounded by an outstanding faculty and staff who seek to help each student create a foundation for a lifetime of academic and personal success. These men and women deeply enjoy, appreciate, and understand the challenge and beauty of the middle school years. Teachers communicate regularly with parents, believing that a close partnership between the School and its families contributes greatly to the success of each child.

In a challenging but nurturing environment, students in grades six through eight sample courses from a broad curriculum: English, history, math, science, world language, fine arts, health, and physical education. Through these classes, students are given added instruction in study skills, organization management, and technology.

The **No Ceilings** pilot for students in the rising sixth and seventh grades is new this year and is open to students who show a strong independent interest in reading and writing. This project-based approach to teaching English uses a curated list based on each student's reading fluency and comprehension level. During class,

the teacher works one-on-one or in small groups with students to help develop their literary analysis and writing skills.

After each trimester, the Middle School honors its most successful scholars at Academic Awards assemblies to announce honor roll recipients. Although NCS does not modify its curriculum for struggling students, formal support systems may be established, usually under the oversight of the student's advisor.

ADVISING PROGRAM

NCS believes firmly in providing positive adult role models for its young people. Each Middle School student has a faculty advisor who is responsible for overseeing the student's school experience. In doing so, the advisor serves as the first contact person for the student and his/her parents. Students and advisors meet each morning in an advisory period before the first class. This time is used to welcome each child to school, to disseminate information, and for group bonding activities.

STUDENT LIFE

NCS encourages students to be involved in extracurricular activities in order to enrich their education. In the Middle School, interscholastic athletic teams are offered.

Students are also involved in the Student Council Organization, various clubs, and arts opportunities.

All students, regardless of ability or experience, are invited to participate on NCS athletic teams. Options for boys in grades six through eight include football, tennis, cross country, basketball, wrestling, baseball, lacrosse, track, and soccer. Options for girls in grades six through eight include cross country, tennis, field hockey, volleyball, basketball, soccer, lacrosse, and track. Eighth graders may also choose to participate in swimming or golf.

Middle School students participate in a fall talent show, and are encouraged to audition for the spring musical that is presented by students in grades six through twelve. Band and chorus classes perform in concerts twice a year, and a student art show is exhibited annually.

To strengthen the bond across grades in the division, an intricate Intramural program exists where students compete in a variety of events. Approximately once a month, the Middle School dedicates an hour to this program.

Middle School students participate in a Community Service Day each spring where they travel in groups to various non-profit organizations in the Valley to lend a helping hand.



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Eaton Hall: MIDDLE SCHOOL

SIXTH GRADE

The sixth-grade year provides a traditional academic curriculum while recognizing and embracing the transitional experience of new middle school students. At the beginning of the year, students attend an orientation trip at Camp Roanoke. During the fall and winter terms, faculty members and advisors seek to help each student create a system of academic organization and study skills appropriate for their middle school classes. During the year, students learn research and computer skills in multiple subjects, work their way into introductory algebra, may join organized sports teams, take part in a year-long intramural program of competitions, and perform in band or choir concerts.

SEVENTH GRADE

The seventh-grade year reflects a transition to more sophisticated academic work and a larger variety of course offerings, including three different courses in math and in the fine arts. The reading selections in English and history are more advanced in terms of theme and genre, and writing assignments in all disciplines stress individual analysis, personal reflection, and the proper use of research documentation. In the spring term, students engage in a lengthy co-curricular project in their English and history courses, culminating in a well-organized research paper and an oral presentation in front of their peers. The Life Science course pays particular emphasis in the spring to watershed formation and development, and the students spend time in the field studying water quality, nutrient levels, and common causes of eutrophication. The coursework during seventh-grade begins to lay the foundation for the successful eighth-grade transition to the Upper School program.

EIGHTH GRADE

The eighth-grade year is characterized by an emphasis in more abstract thinking, engaging mathematical applications in algebra and geometry, classroom debate, and intermediate foreign language study. The students take part in an overnight river study trip to West Virginia in the fall, and the year culminates in a trip to Washington D.C., which includes visits to the Smithsonian Museum, the Kennedy Center, the U.S. Capitol, and an historical walking tour. Although teachers stress the skills necessary to succeed in the upcoming Upper School program, the final year of North Cross Middle School provides students a unique opportunity for leadership, self-reflection, creative writing, and personal growth.



North Cross School

Willis Hall: **UPPER SCHOOL**



Mark Thompson | mthompson@northcross.org
Director of the Upper School, History
Bates College—B.A.
Boston University—M.A.T.
Appointed 2008



Sharnice Mayo '11 | smayo@northcross.org
Assistant to the Director of the Upper School
Appointed 2014

An outstanding faculty delivers a demanding, creative, and innovative college prep curriculum culminating in college level work in every discipline. Indeed, academic offerings in the Upper School most closely resemble those of a fine liberal arts college: introductory, honors, and Advanced Placement courses are available in English, math, the sciences, history, the arts, and world and classic languages — Spanish, French, and Latin. Students who have the benefit of an Upper School education find their advantages to be many when they head off to the finest colleges and universities in the country: their ability to read critically, write thoughtfully, and speak clearly and convincingly make the transition to college life a seamless one.

STUDENT LIFE

Although Upper School classrooms are for the most part traditional and structured, outside the classes the environment is quite open and relaxed. In this way the Upper School tries to balance its students' growth by exposing them to a rigorous academic program and a wide variety of extracurricular experiences and by providing them with freedom and responsibility at appropriate developmental levels.

ACADEMIC PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS

DeHart Project

For over four decades, North Cross students have been required to complete a Senior project, recently renamed the DeHart Project. Each term the students focus on a different skill necessary for undergraduate success and aims to highlight student achievement.

Global Studies Program

Through coursework and experiential education, students enrolled in the Horace G. Fralin Program for Global Studies will become more knowledgeable and engaged in 21st century issues with greater international outlook, insight, and perspective. Students who successfully complete the established requirements will earn the designation of Global Studies Scholar on their diploma and transcript.

STEM Certificate program

Upper School students have the opportunity to graduate with a STEM certificate designation. The program outlines specific coursework (such as computer science and math classes) and activities (such as Robotics or Coding Club) in which students must participate in order to qualify. The capstone to the program replaces their senior speech with a senior STEM project.

ADVISING PROGRAM

Each Upper School student has an advisor on the Upper School faculty. Advisors are responsible for overseeing their advisees' academic program by helping them with course selection, meeting with them to go over grades, and serving as a first contact point for parents. Advisors call parents at the beginning of the year and at each mid-term and other times as needed. They also oversee academic support for struggling advisees. Students and advisors eat lunch together each Monday and work together on Community Service days.

The Upper School co-curricular program is a mix of required and optional activities and events, all intended to expand student experience, increase community feeling and identity, and provoke intellectual, emotional and spiritual growth. All students attend weekly assemblies in the auditorium, which consist of talks by the Upper School Director on various topics ranging from morality to poetry to school life. The Upper School also gathers as community for assemblies in the Commons before lunch for community announcements and during which the Director shares a "Quote of the Day" intended to provide thoughtful reinforcement of the School's mission or commentary on current events. Three times a year students and faculty participate in the Community Service program. All students participate in intramural athletics which consist of a combination of class competitions and the Red and White days, school-wide competitions. Each grade takes a class trip designed to promote class cohesion and designed around a theme of



North Cross School

Willis Hall: **UPPER SCHOOL**

importance to that grade. The junior class trip is a visit to two college campuses; the other three grades have outdoor trips.

In keeping with the philosophy of the Upper School to have a relaxed atmosphere outside of the classroom, students are allowed to manage their own time during free periods. Ninth graders; however, begin the year in a supervised study hall (students who achieve First Honor Roll are excused from this). The building is expected to remain quiet and suitable for studying, but students may relax, listen to music and have conversations. They may leave the building. Students in academic difficulty (earning a C minus or below in one or more classes) are assigned to a supervised study hall until their grades rise.

THURSDAY PROGRAMS

Built into the Upper School schedule is a block of time each Thursday after lunch for programming important for young adults that does not fit into academic courses. These programs are a mix of community-building, cultural and class-based events. Typical ones in a term might include a talent show, a trip to the Grandin Theater to view a film, a speaker or artistic presentation, or grade level meetings to address issues particular to a particular grade: preparation for the PSATs or SATs and ACTs, getting ready for a class trip, or work on college essays or the senior project.

HONOR AND DISCIPLINARY CODES

The guiding philosophy behind the implementation of honor and discipline systems in the Upper School is the notion that such systems serve an educational function equal to their goal of promoting order and safe, healthy school life. The School's Honor Code was initiated by North Cross School students and is enforced through the Honor Council, a student-led, faculty-advised board that hears cases dealing with violations of the code.

COLLEGE COUNSELING

Each year 100 percent of North Cross School graduates have the opportunity to enroll in a college or university, and most years, all of them do. The experience of choosing a college helps students further develop interests, define talents, and consider their own individual ideas, stances, and values. College Counseling at North Cross School is designed primarily as a resource for students and parents. The underlying assumption is that college counseling at North Cross School empowers students to take control of their own college search and application process and ultimately identify and apply to post-secondary institutions that meet their individual needs and expectations.

ARTS

According to Elliot W. Eisner, Professor of Art at Stanford University, "education is the process of learning to create ourselves, and is what the arts, both as a process and as the fruits of that process, promote. Work in the arts is not only a way of creating performances and products; it is a way of creating our lives by expanding our consciousness, shaping our dispositions, satisfying our quest for meaning, establishing contact with others, and sharing a culture."

The instructors in the Fine Arts Department at North Cross School believe that knowledge of the arts and humanities is essential to the education of the whole person, allowing students to draw connections between the disciplines, embrace originality, and understand the importance of communication through a creative means. The program integrates the study and practice of technique with the exercise and development of innovative thought and is committed to providing an aesthetic environment that enables students to develop a lifelong appreciation for the arts.

Through coursework and independent investigation, importance is placed upon students' continuous exposure to both contemporary and historical artists and movements. At the culmination of each course, it is hoped that each student not only feels that he or she has grown as an artist, but has also has developed individual beliefs regarding value and meaning in the artistic works of others.

ACADEMIC ART COURSES

Symphonic Band, Chorale, Drawing, Painting, Sculpture, Portfolio (AP Art), Graphic Design, Photography, Web Design, Animation, Filmmaking, Art History, Drama, and Creative Writing are the current courses offerings for Upper School students.



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NINTH GRADE

Beginning in ninth grade, students more independently navigate their school experience both intellectually and developmentally. The transition to the Upper School includes support in each class with emphasis on skill development in reading, writing, note-taking, study habits, and time management. A one-term Health and Wellness seminar that meets twice a week is led by the school counselor. The academic rigors of the Upper School include a seven-period schedule, formal exams in November and June, and approximately two hours of homework each school night. A highlight at the beginning of the year includes a two-day overnight trip to Wilderness Adventure that provides an opportunity for students to learn more about themselves and their classmates. Ninth graders, along with the rest of the Upper School students, complete 12.5 hours of community service each year, experience a variety of Thursday Activity programs, participate in the annual Symposium program, and use an iPad as part of the School's integrated technology program. Each morning for all Upper Schoolers starts with an assembly or a senior speech in Fishburn Auditorium.

TENTH GRADE

Scholastic offerings expand in the tenth grade with options for additional elective coursework, taking the PSAT for the first time, and more independent thinking and work in academic classes. A fall hike is a highlight of the first term. Tenth graders, along with the rest of the Upper School students, complete 12.5 hours of community service each year, experience a variety of Thursday Activity programs, participate in the annual Symposium program, and use an iPad as part of the School's integrated technology program.

ELEVENTH GRADE

Eleventh grade is a pivotal year as students fulfill a long term research project, may take multiple Advanced Placement courses, and begin the college admissions process in earnest. Juniors take the PSAT in the fall and are strongly encouraged to take both the SAT and ACT prior to the end of the spring term. The full-time college counselor works closely with the junior class in determining the best college fit for each student. College preparatory events include the PSAT Score Return Night in December, College Night in February, and an individual meeting with each student and his/her parents before the end of the spring term. A fall hike at Peaks of Otter is a highlight of the first term.

TWELFTH GRADE

The twelfth grade represents the culminating experience of a North Cross School education. It is highlighted by the DeHart Project. The extensive research paper, speech and presentation, delivered to the school community, requires dedication and passion, a high degree of independent work, and close communication with a faculty advisor. College counseling continues to be highly individualized with a scheduled meeting with the college counselor, student, and parents. In addition, over twenty college representatives visit campus to meet with interested students. The senior year also includes a year-long Early Childhood-Senior Buddy program, fall hike, and additional senior privileges.



North
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Carter Athletic Center

The Carter Athletic Center is a 63,000-square-foot fitness facility for use by North Cross School and the community who hold paid memberships. Among the building's features:

- Cybex strength training equipment
- Free-weight room
- 1/9 mile indoor track
- 6-lane, 25-yard, heated indoor pool
- Swimming programs: Learn-to-Swim through Masters
- Group exercise classes: Cardio Combo, Cycle, Flex-n-Stretch (Yoga and Pilates mix), Pump, SilverSneakers®, Zumba and more.
- Racquet sports available: tennis, pickleball, badminton, racquetball & squash
- Racquet sports programs & lessons available
- Racquet stringing services available on-site

New Slack Hall

Originally the school's gymnasium, New Slack Hall, is now home to the Choral and Band practice rooms, and the studio/graphic arts classrooms. The building also houses Lemon Dining Hall and our Information Technology Offices.

LEMON DINING HALL

Lunch at North Cross School is a time for students to come together with faculty and staff to enjoy each other's company and a nutritious meal. Lunch is served in the Lemon Dining Hall, located in New Slack Hall.

Lunch will include a serving of the main entree and all-you-can-eat vegetables and sides. A full fresh salad bar and a deli tray for sandwiches are also available. Parents will be billed monthly for school lunches.

Lower School Rules

ECP Level 1: Brings lunch and eats in classroom.

ECP Level 2-3: Modified Menu (entree, vegetable, fruit, dessert and white milk). Teachers fix the lunch trays and students are not permitted to have snacks or ice cream.

First Grade: Students fix their own trays. They may not have juice or snacks and are limited to white milk. They may have ice cream on Fridays with parental permission.

Second Grade: Same rules as first grade, but they may have ice cream on Fridays.

Third Grade: Same rules as second grade, but they may also have juice and purchase ice cream on Fridays.

Fourth Grade: Same rules as third grade, but they may also have bottled drinks and snacks with parental permission.

Fifth Grade: Same rules as fourth grade.

Old Slack Hall

Hancock Library, Logan Gallery, Fishburn Auditorium, the Head of School, Business and Finance and the Development & Marketing offices are housed in Old Slack Hall. Adjacent to the Library is CrossWalk, our language-based learning differences remediation and tutoring program.

2019–20 Dress Code

Early Childhood Program–12th Grade



North
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North Cross School has established a relationship with Land's End and will use them as the basis for our school-wide dress code. Land's End has created a North Cross School Store from which you may choose your school apparel. The site contains a variety of shirts, pants, shorts, skirts, blazers, sweaters, and fleece jackets from which to choose. These items are guaranteed for life and are comfortable and well made. There are all-cotton options and poly-cotton blend options. Colors revolve around red, black, and white (the school colors). It is preferable that families purchase their school clothing from Land's End so there will be no confusion as to whether an item meets dress code. However, if an item is indistinguishable from the Land's End item, it will meet the school's dress code requirements. The North Cross School preferred school number is **900033523**.

Formal Dress Days:

Lower School Students

• Early Childhood Program (JK-3 through K)

Boys: White polo with NCS logo AND red crew neck sweatshirt with NCS logo with khaki bottoms.

Girls: White polo with NCS logo AND red crew neck sweatshirt with NCS logo with Land's End "Classic Navy Large Plaid" skirt/jumper.

• Grades 1–5

Boys: White polo with NCS logo or white long-sleeved dress shirt with NCS logo, AND red fine-gauge v-neck or crew-neck sweater with NCS logo with khaki bottoms.

Girls: White polo with NCS logo or white long-sleeved blouse with NCS logo, AND red fine-gauge cardigan sweater with NCS logo with Land's End "Classic Navy Large Plaid" skirt/jumper.

Middle and Upper School Students

• **Young Men:** White long-sleeved Oxford dress shirt with NCS logo with khaki pants, navy blazer, necktie, black or brown belt and dress shoes.

• **Young Women:** White long-sleeved Oxford dress shirt with NCS logo with top-of-knee-length Land's End "Classic Navy Large Plaid" skirt, navy blazer and dress shoes.

Regular School Dress Days:

Girls and Young Women

- White, red, or black shirt with a collar (long-sleeve or short-sleeve polo or turtleneck).
- White or light blue blouse (long-sleeve, short-sleeve, or $\frac{3}{4}$ -sleeve).
- Khaki skirts, jumpers, shorts, pants, or khaki colored corduroys. "Skinny-stretch" pants or "jeggings" are not acceptable.

- Land's End "Classic Navy Large Plaid" pattern skirts or jumpers.
- Land's End red or black "Polo Dress" with pleats or ruffle bottom is acceptable for lower school students.
- Solid black, white, or red sweaters (v-neck or cardigan), plain or free of all logos except for NCS logo.
- Solid black, white, or gray tights or leggings to wear under skirts or jumpers for warmth on colder days.
- In colder weather, we encourage students to wear a solid white, black, or red fleece (full zip, $\frac{1}{4}$ zip, or vest), NCS sweater or NCS athletic jackets in the classroom. Winter jackets, or other forms of outerwear, are not to be worn in the classroom (no sweatshirts or hoodies, with or without zippers).
- Belts for skirts, shorts, or pants that have belt loops.
- Shoes must be in good repair (no flip flops or Crocs®).

Boys and Young Men

- White, red, or black shirt with a collar (long-sleeve or short-sleeve polo or turtleneck).
- White or light blue dress shirt (long-sleeve or short-sleeve).
- Khaki shorts, pants, or khaki colored corduroys. Cargo-styled shorts or pants are not acceptable.
- Solid black, white, or red v-neck sweaters; plain or free of all logos except for NCS logo.
- In colder weather, we encourage students to wear a solid white, black, or red fleece (full zip, $\frac{1}{4}$ zip, or vest), NCS sweater, or NCS athletic jackets in the classroom. Winter jackets, or other forms of outerwear, are not to be worn in the classroom (no sweatshirts or hoodies, with or without zippers).
- Belts for shorts or pants.
- No earrings.
- Shoes must be in good repair (no flip flops or Crocs®).



Horace G. Fralin Program for
Global Studies
 AT NORTH CROSS SCHOOL



North
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The Horace G. Fralin Global Studies Program at North Cross School is designed to make students more aware, capable, and interested in a globalized and interconnected world. Through coursework and experiential education, students will become more knowledgeable and engaged in 21st century issues with greater international outlook, insight and perspective. Students who successfully complete the established requirements will earn the designation of Global Studies Scholar on their transcript and receive a special diploma upon graduation.



The Global Studies Program combines specialized electives and seminars with international travel and various additional cultural activities to provide a unique 21st-century curriculum and perspective.

Seminars are intended to enhance and support the Global Studies Program and curriculum and are designed to be student-centered. Seminar themes have included vital global issues such as water,

women's rights in the 21st century, and war. Faculty and students seek ways to connect each year's theme with off-campus events and international travel.

International experiences are a key component to a student's full understanding of and appreciation for the 21st century. Students will have the opportunity to participate in a wide range of trips that include service learning, language immersion, adventure-travel, or cultural and historical study. These international expeditions will provide new insights, understanding, and respect that are only achieved through travel.

Through the integration and careful reflection of their coursework and experiences, a Global Studies Scholar will have a distinct appreciation and understanding of our world.

GOALS OF THE PROGRAM

A participant in the Global Studies program will:

1. appreciate the complexity and fusion of interdisciplinary course work;
2. value the commonalities that are universal to all cultures;
3. understand that globalization creates opportunities and challenges;
4. realize the wide range of existing human circumstances and conditions around the world;
5. develop a mindset of stewardship and sustainability for the world and its resources; and
6. envision that their roles in the world as global citizens can make a difference.

PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS

Interdisciplinary Academics

Students will need to fulfill all current graduation course requirements plus additional requirements and expectations of the Program.

Travel Opportunities

Past destinations have included Spain, France, Italy, China, Argentina, Peru, Costa Rica and New Zealand.

Model United Nations

At the Harvard and University of Pennsylvania Model United Nations conferences, students develop the complex skills necessary to represent a country.

Refugee Tutoring Club

Roanoke welcomes people from over 100 nations around the world. Child refugees offer an opportunity to our students who want to combine community service and global studies. Ideally, our students learn as much as they teach.

Cultural Exchange with Visiting Students

Students can earn summer income while connecting with Chinese Summer Program students. They develop friendships ripe for cultural exchange. Recently the school began an exchange program with Escuela Italiana in Mendoza, Argentina through which North Cross families can host visiting students.

For more information on the program and participation requirements, email Program Director Robert Robillard (rrobillard@northcross.org).



REQUIREMENTS

Students must earn at least 500 points to receive the certificate at graduation. Enrolling in classes, participating in clubs and activities related to STEM-based initiatives, attending outside field-related seminars all count toward this goal.

Among the points earned for completing certain elective activities, there are two required elements: reading a STEM related book during the summer and then attending a seminar in the fall to discuss the reading, and writing a one page reflection on the book; and the completion of a capstone research project during senior year.

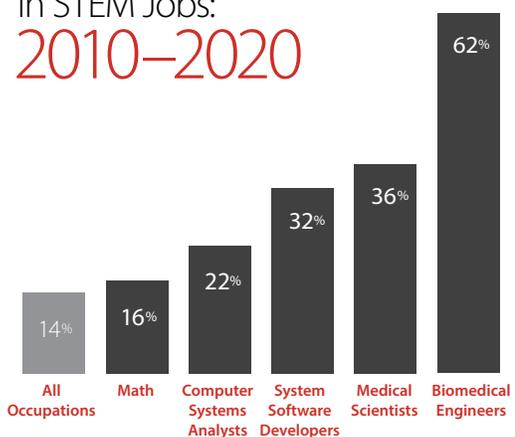
In addition to graduation requirements, students must complete the following with a **minimum grade of a B** :

- Introduction to Computer Programming
- Advanced and/or AP Computer Science
- Two of the following:
 - » AP Chemistry
 - » AP Physics
 - » AP Biology
- AP Calculus AB

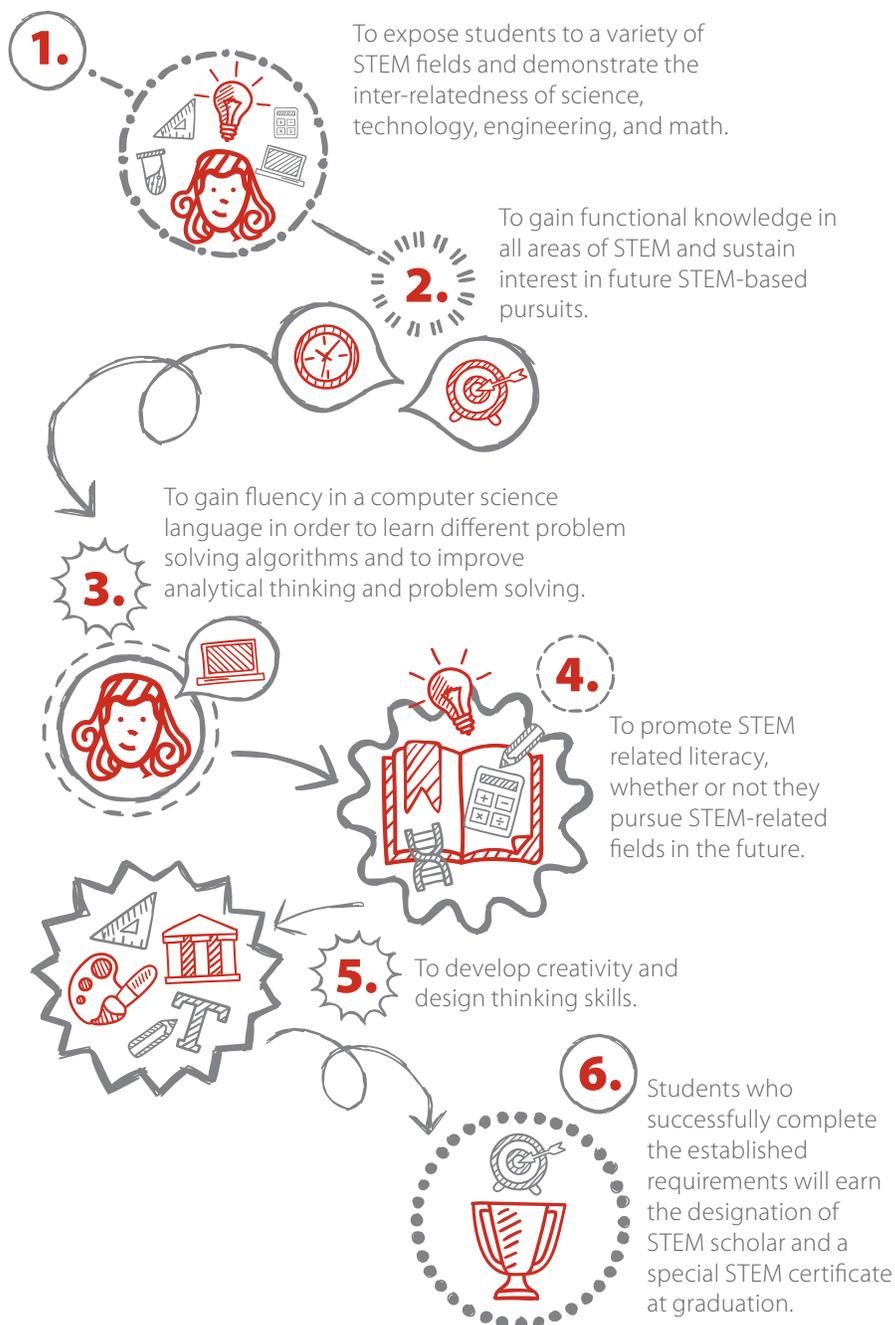
Technology is pervasive in almost every aspect of daily life, and as the workplace changes, STEM knowledge and skills grow in importance for all workers, not just mathematicians and scientists.

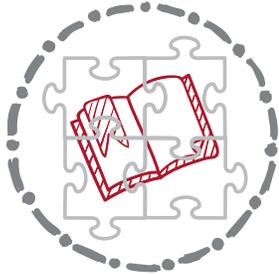
Projected Percentage Increases in STEM Jobs:

2010–2020



GOALS OF THE PROGRAM





The **No Ceilings English Program** at North Cross School is a self-paced, literature-based curriculum developed to engage and instruct self-motivated students at various levels of reading fluency and comprehension. Students engage in an individualized reading program, accompanied by in-class writing, grammar, and analysis instruction. The program is heavily focused on independent student reading and writing, with the teacher serving as facilitator, instructor, and writing coach. Its aim is to develop independent readers and writers and to engage students at their individual reading levels, promoting growth at their own pace.

“North Cross students are, by nature, very driven, so allowing them to progress at their own pace provides these bright students a space in which to explore, challenge themselves and achieve unhindered by artificial timelines.”

—DR. CHRISTIAN PROCTOR, HEAD OF SCHOOL

In its pilot year in the sixth and seventh grades, student applicants are assessed before the school year begins to establish a reading level. The assessment measures their reading fluency and comprehension and matches each student to a level-appropriate book list. Throughout the year, students will complete a required number of works from their book lists, includ-

ing selections from each of the following genres: fiction, non-fiction, and poetry/drama/short story.

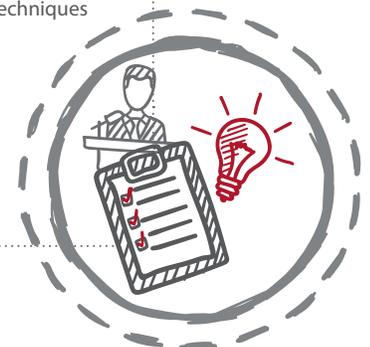
During class time, instruction will vary. A progression of literature skills and independent learning expectations will vary based on age and skill level of each student. Through presentations and written exercises, students will develop their literary

analysis techniques, grammar and composition.

In order to apply, students must have had an A average in their previous year of English and be recommended by their prior teacher. To continue in the class after the first semester, students must maintain at least a B average and complete all assignments and assessments.

Through this method of instruction, students will master concepts in literature and only move on to more challenging and new techniques once they are skilled in the ones at hand. Instead of relying on a student's average grade as an indication to proceed or not, the instructor can ensure that all students have advanced during the year to the best of their abilities.

	M	T	W	Th	F
Sample Class Structure	Mini-lesson on a literary technique (ex. characterization) using a mentor text	Writing Workshop: Students work on whatever writing assignment they are currently focused on	Discussion Groups: Students break into groups based on themes and engage in discussion regarding topics in common, differences, etc.	Mini-lesson on a grammatical concept that applies to all or vocabulary instruction	Instructional Level Text Day: Reading aloud, analyzing, discussing literary devices and techniques
	AND	AND	OR	FOLLOWED BY	
	Students then focus on that particular technique in their independent reading for the week	Rotation of students working with teacher on composition, organization, structure, grammar, etc.	Book Presentations: Students present about a novel they have recently finished, etc.	Writing Workshop	





North
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More Success in Writing

WRITING PROGRAM · GRADES K – 12



At North Cross School, we are proud of our students' success in writing. From the earliest language arts classes and continuing throughout their school years, our students are instructed in correct grammar, mechanics, and usage, and are encouraged to express their ideas effectively in well-supported compositions. We see excellent results not only in the quality and range of compositions students write for classes, but also in evidence of their success when measured against a broader field. In Lower School and Middle School, ERB scores indicate a successful level of competence in writing skills. In Upper School, many students choose AP English courses for their junior and senior years, with a high percentage qualifying for college credit and many earning the highest possible scores on the AP exams.

The English Department is fully committed to providing quality instruction in composition. It is not our goal to force creative ideas into strait-laced formulas, but to give our students command of the rules that empower them to express their ideas effectively. Instruction in composition is supported by a challenging reading curriculum which includes the 100 Books Initiative in Lower School, Summer Reading for all grades, and a wide range of assigned readings in class. It is our belief that students who read excellent works are more likely to become excellent writers.

The following pages offer an overview of our vertical plan for developing effective writing skills.

Curriculum Components

1 Components of Composition identifies the grade level at which each particular component is introduced. Once introduced, each continues to be emphasized in later instruction.

2 Modes of Discourse/Types of Composition gives an overview of the specific types of compositions currently assigned at each grade level.

Instruction in grammar, mechanics, usage, vocabulary, and reading also support the development of writing skills.

Course of Study

Lower School • Primary Curriculum for Grades 1 – 5: *Write!*, Curriculum Associates, 2013.

GRADE	COMPONENTS OF COMPOSITION		MODES OF DISCOURSE/TYPES OF COMPOSITION	
K	Sentence Types		Narrative	Draw stories, identify story elements (setting, character, plot)
	Word Order in Sentences			
	Parts of Speech	Nouns, verbs		
1	Parts of Speech	Nouns (singular, plural, common, proper), verbs (present, past tenses)	Narrative	Personal narrative, identify story elements
	Paragraph Structure/Development	Main idea, time order, spatial order	Descriptive	Sensory words
2	Sentence Structure	Complete, simple	Persuasive	Stating and supporting opinions
	Sentence Parts	Subject, predicate	Narrative	Personal narrative, story
	Parts of Speech	Irregular verbs; forms of be, do, have; types of pronouns; adjectives and adverbs	Descriptive	Comparison/contrast
	Paragraph Structure	Detail sentences	Expository	Comparison/contrast, cause and effect
3	Sentence Types	Run-ons, fragments	Persuasive	Paragraphs, fact/opinion
	Parts of Speech	Verbs (linking, helping, future tense)	Narrative	Personal narrative, story (good beginning, strong ending, dialogue)
	Paragraph Structure/Development	Concluding sentence, unity, transition words	Expository	Directions, report
	Pre-writing Strategies	Outlining, note-taking	Persuasive	Paragraphs, fact/opinion
4	Parts of Speech	Types of adjectives, conjunctions	Descriptive	Focus on spatial order and sensory words
	Sentence Parts	Predicate adjectives, direct objects, independent and dependent clauses	Expository	Direction, book reviews, cause and effect
	Paragraph Structure/Development	Unity	Persuasive	Paragraphs, fact/opinion
	Pre-writing strategies	Freewriting		
	Proofreading and Revising	Clarity, coherence, organization		
5	Sentence Parts	Indirect objects, comparison/contrast, prepositions and their objects, verbs (transitive and intransitive)	Narrative	Personal narrative
	Paragraph Structure/Development	Cause and effect	Descriptive	Focus on sensory words
			Expository	Summary, essays, comparison/contrast, cause and effect

Course of Study *continued*

Middle School • Primary Curriculum for Grades 6 – 8: *Prentice Hall Writing Coach*, 2012.

GRADE	COMPONENTS OF COMPOSITION		MODES OF DISCOURSE/TYPES OF COMPOSITION	
6	Sentence Parts	Independent/dependent clauses with subordinators, conjunctions, and relative pronouns	Narrative	Focus on setting, character, plot
	Parts of Speech	Pronouns (reflexive, intensive)	Expository	Directions/instructions, report, summary, essays, focus on introductions and conclusions
	Paragraph Structure/Development	Topic sentence/main idea, detail sentences, concluding sentences	Persuasive	Paragraphs, advertisements
7	Sentence Structure	Complex, compound/complex	Narrative	Story, biographical sketches, focus on good beginning, strong ending and dialogue
	Sentence Parts	Verbs (active/passive voice, perfect tenses), verbals (participles, gerunds, infinitives)	Descriptive Expository	Description, comparison/contrast Directions, report, summary, essays, comparison/contrast, cause and effect, focus on introductions and conclusions
8	Sentence Structure	Compound/complex, fragments/run-ons, diction/vocabulary	Descriptive Expository	Sensory detail/creativity Journals, summary, literary analysis, comparison/contrast
	Sentence Parts	Predicate adjectives, predicate nouns, conjunctions/conjunctive adverbs	Persuasive	Thesis statements, focus on stating and supporting opinions, fact/opinion, persuasive language MLA-style research paper; focus on research process and note-taking, effective introductions and conclusions, using quotes effectively, proper documentation of sources (parenthetical citations, Works Cited page)
	Paragraph Structure	Transition words, unity/clarity/coherence		
	Prewriting	Outlining, notecards, freewriting		
	Revising	Clarity (for audience, peer response), coherence, unity, organization		

Upper School • Primary Curriculum for Grades 9 – 12: *Prentice Hall Writing Coach*, 2012.

GRADE	COMPONENTS OF COMPOSITION		MODES OF DISCOURSE/TYPES OF COMPOSITION	
9	Sentence Parts Review	Focus on phrases/clauses	Introduce Modes of Discourse	Identify modes and recognize differences (narration, description, exposition, persuasion)
	Parts of Speech	Pronouns (reflexive, intensive)	Expository	All composition assignments (instruction focuses on audience, tone, mood, diction, difference between analysis and opinion), interpretation of literary works, compare/contrast, cause and effect, MLA-style research report
	Paragraph Structure	Focus on body paragraphs (topic sentence, supporting evidence, explanation of evidence, conclusion/transition)		
	Prewriting	Thesis recognition, outlining		

Continued on back

Course of Study *continued*

Upper School continued • Primary Curriculum for Grades 9 – 12: *Prentice Hall Writing Coach*, 2012.

GRADE	COMPONENTS OF COMPOSITION		MODES OF DISCOURSE/TYPES OF COMPOSITION	
10	Sentence Parts Review	Focus on verbals	Expository	Literary analysis (relationship between meaning and style)
	Structure/Style	Clarity of expression, precise diction, avoiding awkward phrasing		
	Paragraph Structure	Introductory paragraph (effective thesis, various approaches), concluding paragraph (various approaches)	Persuasive	Introduce rhetorical appeals and strategies, literary interpretation (problem solution, logical flow), MLA-style research report
	Refining	Focus on self-editing		
11*	Structure/Style	Tone	Expository	Literary analysis (focus on character motivation, relationship meaning and structure)
	Paragraph Structure	Fully supported topic, cohesion	Persuasive	Literary interpretation (identify values on which claim is based, adequate support/multiple evidence), MLA-style research report
	Refining	Identifying weaknesses in argument, independent editing		
12*	Paragraph Structure	Fully supported topic, logical flow	Expository	Literary analysis (focus on plot development, impact of imagery)
			Persuasive	Literary interpretation (focus on methods of characterization), MLA-style research report (accuracy of citation and format)
	Prewriting	Clarity of thesis, full survey of possible support	Persuasive	Thesis statements, focus on stating and supporting opinions, fact/opinion, persuasive language
	Refining	Identifying weaknesses, self-editing before submission		

Upper School: Advanced Placement (AP) English Language and Composition*

GRADE	COMPONENTS OF COMPOSITION		MODES OF DISCOURSE/TYPES OF COMPOSITION	
11/12*	Rhetorical Skills	Appeals and strategies, types of evidence	Expository	Analysis of rhetorical essays
			Persuasive	Rhetorical essays

Upper School: AP English Literature and Composition*

GRADE	COMPONENTS OF COMPOSITION		MODES OF DISCOURSE/TYPES OF COMPOSITION	
11/12*	Literary Strategies		Expository	Analysis of prose and poetry, interpretation of literary works
	Interpretive Skills		Persuasive	Interpretive essays

* Some students take AP English Language and Composition or AP English Literature and Composition in grades 11 and 12. Admission to the AP courses is partially based on evidence that the student has exhibited a high level of proficiency in composition through grade 10.



**North
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School**

4254 Colonial Avenue
Roanoke, VA 24018
(540) 989-6641 • Fax: (540) 989-7299
www.northcross.org



North Cross School

Julie A. Aavatsmark, *Director of College Counseling*
jaavatsmark@northcross.org

Christian J. Proctor, Ph. D., *Headmaster*
cproctor@northcross.org

Mark W. Thompson, *Director of the Upper School*
mthompson@northcross.org

CEEB #: 471-941

2018–19 School Profile

School Mission

North Cross School is an independent, coeducational, college-preparatory day school that serves children from early childhood through twelfth grade. In all of its programs, North Cross School strives to promote in its students scholarship and a love of learning; character and a sense of personal integrity and responsibility; and a commitment to the good of the community and all within it. Although we prepare our students to enter the finest colleges and universities in the country, we understand that such preparation is of greatest use when it provides for our students the personal and intellectual skills to lead full and meaningful lives. In all respects, North Cross School endeavors to be true to its motto: *Veritas Vincit* — *Truth Triumphs*.

Student Body

North Cross School is committed to attracting and retaining students who show intellectual curiosity and who reflect varied social, economic, religious, ethnic, and racial backgrounds. Our student body reflects the diversity of the greater Roanoke metropolitan region. . . . In the academic year, 2018-19, the North Cross School student body is comprised of 494 students, with 188 students in the upper school and a senior class of 44.

Accreditation and Associations

North Cross is accredited by the Virginia Association of Independent Schools and is a member of the National Association of Independent Schools, Southern Association of Independent Schools, National Association for College Admission Counseling, and Potomac and Chesapeake Association for College Admission Counseling

Honor Code

The Code — *I Will Not Lie; I Will Not Cheat; I Will Not Steal* — was crafted by students and is administered by a student/faculty honor council. North Cross School does not report honor or disciplinary violations that occur prior to the senior year. Students, if asked on college applications, are expected to self-report honor or disciplinary violations that have occurred at any time during their high school career

Advanced Placement

In 2018-19, the following 18 Advanced Placement courses are available at North Cross School: Biology, Calculus AB and BC, Chemistry, Comparative Government and Politics, Computer Science A, Computer Science Principles, English Literature and Composition, French Language and Culture, Human Geography, Latin, Physics 1, Spanish Language and Culture, Spanish Literature and Culture, Statistics, Studio Art 2-D Design, United States History, and World History. Enrollment in AP courses is limited to three per year and subject to departmental recommendation. Students enrolled in an AP course are required to take the AP exam, and in May, 2018, 85 students sat for 240 AP exams. 39 students from North Cross School were named AP Scholars in 2018.

Community Service

Upper school students are required to participate in a minimum of 12.5 hours of community service per year enrolled as a requirement of graduation. Students coordinate their service independently with the community organization and must provide documentation in order to receive credit.

DeHart Project

For over four decades, students have been required to complete a senior project that includes a research paper of at least ten pages and a fifteen-minute presentation to the entire upper school community. All elements of this project, including the paper, presentation, and audio-visual component, are graded by a faculty committee. Grades are posted on the final transcript but no credit is awarded.

Global Studies Program

The Global Studies Program is entering its seventh year in 2018-19. Participants take advanced courses, including several required AP courses, participate in travel abroad, service learning, and intensive study of at least one world language. Much of the work for Global Studies takes place outside the regular school day, including additional reading, attending area cultural events, and participating in seminar-style discussions. Specific program information will accompany the transcript of a student graduating with our Global Studies Diploma.

STEM Program

To earn a STEM certificate, students must complete, along with the prerequisites, a combination of Computer Science, AP Calculus, and one of three AP Science classes. They are also required to attend lectures on STEM topics, work in STEM-related internships, and participate in STEM events offered throughout the year. Seniors complete a Capstone project which requires presenting the findings of their own research to the faculty and student body. Specific program information will accompany the transcript of a student graduating with a STEM certificate.

Course of Study

North Cross School is on a trimester calendar. Full-year courses are worth three credits and one-term courses are worth one credit. Students must have 66 credits to graduate. The school day is seven periods long, and the normal course load is six courses per year. Honors courses are available in Chemistry and Spanish 4.

Graduation Requirements

In order to graduate from North Cross School, students must take the following courses: four consecutive years of English; three years of math through at least Algebra 2; three years of science including Conceptual Physics, Chemistry, and Biology; four years of social studies including Introduction to Global Studies or World

History, History of the Twentieth Century or AP World History, United States History or AP United States History, and Government or AP Comparative Government and Politics; three years of the same world language through at least the third level of French, Latin or Spanish; and one year of fine arts. Students fulfill the PE requirement by participating in at least three seasons as a member of an athletic team, either as a player or team manager. Additional graduation requirements include 12.5 hours per year enrolled of community service and successful completion of the DeHart Project.

Grading Scale

North Cross School does not weight, rank, or calculate grade point averages. Beginning in the academic year, 2013-14 the North Cross School grading scale changed from an A+=97-100, A=94-96, and A-=90-93 (and so on through the D range) to the following:

A+ 97–100	B+ 87–89	C+ 77–79	D+ 67–69	F 0–59
A 93–96	B 83–86	C 73–76	D 63–66	
A- 90–92	B- 80–82	C- 70–72	D- 60–62	

SAT and ACT Distribution for the Class of 2018

- SAT CR & M (middle 50%) 1100-1390 (43 of 45 seniors took the SAT)
- ACT (middle 50%) 24-30 (24 of 45 seniors took the ACT)

College and University Matriculations for the Classes of 2013-2017

Appalachian State University
Berea College
Boston College
Boston University
Bridgewater College
Christopher Newport University
Clemson University
Colorado State University
Concord University
Davidson College
Dickinson College
Drexel University
Elon University
Emory & Henry College
Emory University
Flagler College
George Mason University
Georgetown University
Georgia Tech
Gettysburg College
Hampden-Sydney College
Hampton University
Haverford College
High Point University
Hollins University
IMC University of Applied Sciences Krems (Austria)
Indiana University

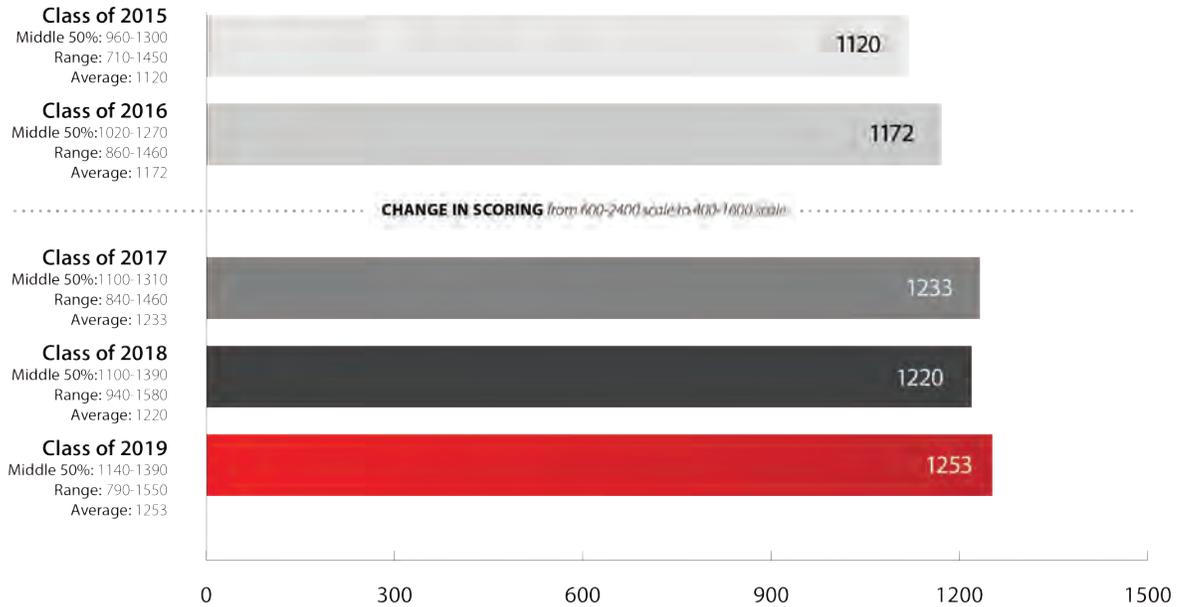
James Madison University
Jefferson College of Health Sciences
Johns Hopkins University
Johnson and Wales University (RI)
Liberty University
Longwood University
Ludwig Maximilians University of Munich (Germany)
Lynchburg College
Macalester College
Mannes School of Music - The New School
Miami University (OH)
Middlebury College
Milligan College
New York University
Oberlin College
Old Dominion University
Purdue University
Radford University
Randolph-Macon College
Rensselaer Polytechnic University
Roanoke College
School of the Art Institute of Chicago
School of Visual Arts
Sewanee, University of the South
Shepherd University
Sierra Nevada College
Southern Methodist University

Southern Virginia University
Sweet Briar College
The College of William and Mary
University of Colorado Boulder
University of Dayton
University of Georgia
University of Kentucky
University of Mary Washington
University of New Hampshire
University of Queensland (Australia)
University of Pittsburgh
University of Richmond
University of South Carolina
University of St. Andrews (Scotland)
University of Sydney (Australia)
University of Tennessee
University of Virginia
University of Washington at Seattle
Virginia Commonwealth University
Virginia Military Institute
Virginia Tech
Virginia Western Community College
Wake Forest University
Washington and Lee University
Wofford College
Yale-NUS College (Singapore)



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SAT Averages | 2015-2019



Parents will often ask how we measure the difference a North Cross education makes, and the above SAT averages certainly demonstrate one of the ways our difference is measured. In this comparison, we used SAT results which are readily available online, to compare North Cross students to those from other types of schools. Because this highlights a three-year average (2014-16) using the previous 1800 scale (now, a 1600 scale), the results are simply demonstrative of the achievement of which our students are capable, especially when they begin their educational journey here. We look forward to updating these statistics once the data is available on other schools' SAT outcomes.

More *does* happen here every day, for every student.

For more information on the statistics used in this graphic, visit <http://www.capenet.org/facts.html>.



North Cross School

College Acceptances and Matriculations | 2012-2018

Agnes Scott College
Alderson Broaddus University
Allegheny College
American University
American University in Paris (France)
Amherst College
Appalachian State University
Arcadia University
Arizona State University
Armstrong State University
Auburn University
Augustana College
Averett University
Bard College
Bard College Conservatory of Music
Barnard College
Barry University
Baylor University
Belmont Abbey College
Belmont University
Berea College
Birmingham City University (England)
Birmingham Southern College
Bloomfield University
Boston College
Boston University
Bowdoin College
Brevard College
Bridgewater College
Bryn Mawr College
Bucknell University
Butler University
California College of the Arts
California Lutheran University
Cal State LA
Campbell University
Carleton College
Carnegie Mellon University
Carson-Newman University
Catawba College
Cazenovia College
Centre College
Chabot College
Champlain College
Christopher Newport University
Cincinnati Christian College
Claremont McKenna College
Clark-Atlanta University
Clemson University
Cleveland State University
Coastal Carolina University
Colgate University
College of Charleston

College of the Holy Cross
College of Santa Fe
College of the Atlantic
College of Wooster
Colorado State University
Colorado School of Mines
Columbia College
Columbia University
Concord University
Connecticut College
Cornell University
Culinary Institute of America
Dabney Lancaster Community College
Davidson College
Dickinson College
Drew University
Drexel University
Duke University
Duquesne University
East Carolina University
East Tennessee State University
Eckerd College
Elizabethtown College
Elon University
Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University
Emerson College
Emory and Henry College
Emory University
Evergreen State College
Ferrum College
Fairfield University
Fashion Institute of Design and Merchandising
Fashion Institute of Technology (SUNY)
Flagler College
Florida Institute of Technology
Fordham University
Fordham University Lincoln Center
Franklin and Marshall University
Ft. Lewis College
Furman University
Garner-Webb University
George Mason University
Georgetown University
George Washington University
Georgia State University
Georgia Tech
Gettysburg College
Glenville State University
Greensboro College
Guilford College
Hampden-Sydney College
Hampton University
Haverford College

High Point University
Hood College
Hollins University
Indiana University
Iowa State University
Ithaca College
James Madison University
Jefferson College of Health Sciences
John Carroll University
Johns Hopkins University
Johnson and Wales University, Denver
Johnson and Wales University, Providence
Johnson C. Smith University
King College
Krems University of Applied Science (Austria)
KU Leuven (Belgium)
Lees McRae University
Liberty University
Longwood University
Lynchburg College
Macalester College
Manhattan School of Music
Mars Hill College
Mary Baldwin College
Maryland Institute College of Art
Mercer University
Meredith College
Miami University
Michigan State University
Middlebury College
Milligan College
New York University
North Carolina State University
Northeastern University
Nova Scotia College of Art and Design (Canada)
Oberlin College
Ohio University
Ohio Wesleyan University
Ohio State University
Old Dominion University
Penn State University
Pratt MWP
Purdue University
Queensland University of Technology (Australia)
Queens University of Charlotte
Radford University
Randolph College
Randolph-Macon College
Regent University
Rensselaer Polytechnic University
Richard Bland College
Roanoke College
Rochester Institute of Technology

Bold indicates colleges to which North Cross graduates matriculated.



College Acceptances and Matriculations | 2012-2018

Rollins College
Savannah College of Art and Design
School of the Museum of Fine Arts
School of the Art Institute of Chicago
School of Visual Arts
Sewanee, University of the South
Shenandoah University
Shepherd University
Sierra Nevada College
Southern Methodist University
Southern Virginia University
Stanford University
Stetson University
St. Mary's College of Maryland
Stone Hill College
Stony Brook University
SUNY Buffalo State
SUNY New Palz
Sweet Briar College
Syracuse University
Temple University
The College of William and Mary
The New School Mannes School of Music
Thiel College
Transylvania University
Trinity College
UC Davis
UC Irvine
UC San Diego
UC Santa Cruz
UNC-Charlotte
UNC-Greensboro
UNC-Pembroke
Unity College
University of Alabama

University of Alabama Birmingham
University of Barcelona (Spain)
University of Charleston
University of Colorado Boulder
University of Connecticut
University of Dayton
University of Delaware
University of Denver
University of Evansville
University of Georgia
University of Hawaii at Manoa
University of Indianapolis
University of Illinois Champaign-Urbana
University of Illinois Chicago
University of Iowa
University of Kentucky
University of Louisville
University of Maine
University of Mary Washington
University of Miami
University of Michigan
University of Minnesota Twin Cities
University of Missouri Kansas City
University of New Hampshire
University of Pennsylvania
University of Pittsburgh
University of Queensland (Australia)
University of Richmond
University of South Carolina
University of South Florida
University of St Andrews (Scotland)
University of Sydney (Australia)
University of Tennessee
University of Vermont
University of Virginia

University of Washington Seattle
University of West Georgia
University of Wisconsin
Villanova University
Virginia Commonwealth University
Virginia Intermont College
Virginia Military Institute
Virginia Tech
Virginia Union College
Virginia Wesleyan College
Virginia Western Community College
Wabash College
Wake Forest University
Washington and Jefferson University
Washington and Lee University
Washington University
Wayne State University
Wells College
West Virginia University
West Virginia Wesleyan College
Western Carolina University
Western New England University
Wheaton College
Wheeling Jesuit University
Wheelock College
Wingate University
Winston-Salem State University
Winthrop University
Wofford College
Xavier University
Yale NUS (Singapore)