



North Cross School

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2019–20 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 2019-20 academic year, the North Cross School student body is comprised of 503 students, with 195 students in the upper school and a senior class of 48.

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 2019-20, 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 Language and Composition, French Language and Culture, Human Geography, Latin, Physics 1, Spanish Language and Culture, Spanish Literature and Culture, Statistics, Studio Art-Drawing, 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, 2019, 89 students sat for 257 AP exams. 37 students from North Cross School were named AP Scholars in 2019.

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 eighth year in 2019-20. 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 2 in Grade 9. In Grade 10, students choose between History of the Twentieth Century (full year), AP Human Geography (full year) or the

sophomore sequence of Art History, Composition, and History of the Twentieth Century (each 1 credit- students take a different class every trimester). In the junior year, students take either AP United States History or United States History, and seniors choose between United States Government and 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 rank, weight, or calculate grade point averages. The grading scale is:

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|------------------|-----------------|-----------------|-----------------|---------------|
| 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%) 1140-1390 (44 of 44 seniors took the SAT)
- ACT (middle 50%) 23-28 (22 of 44 seniors took the ACT)

College and University Matriculations for the Classes of 2015-19

| | | |
|--|---|---|
| American University | Indiana University | Southern Methodist University |
| Appalachian State University | James Madison University | Southern Virginia University |
| Boston College | Jefferson College of Health Sciences | The College of William and Mary |
| Boston University | Johns Hopkins University | University of Colorado Boulder |
| Bridgewater College | Johnson and Wales University (RI) | University of Dayton |
| Christopher Newport University | Kent State University | University of Georgia |
| Clemson University | Liberty University | University of Kentucky |
| College of Charleston | Longwood University | University of Mary Washington |
| College of Wooster | Ludwig Maximilians University of Munich (Germany) | University of New Hampshire |
| Colorado State Univeristy | Macalester College | University of North Carolina School of the Arts |
| Concord University | Mannes School of Music - The New School | University of Northern Colorado |
| Cornell University | Miami University (OH) | University of Queensland (Australia) |
| Davidson College | Middlebury College | University of Pittsburgh |
| Dawson College (Canada) | Milligan College | University of Richmond |
| Drexel University | Mount St. Mary's University | University of South Carolina |
| Elon University | New York University | University of St. Andrews (Scotland) |
| Emory & Henry College | Oberlin College | University of Sydney (Australia) |
| Emory University | Ohio University | University of Virginia |
| Ferrum College | Purdue University | University of Wisconsin |
| Flagler College | Radford University | Virginia Commonwealth University |
| George Mason University | Randolph-Macon College | Virginia Military Institute |
| Georgia Tech | Rensselaer Polytechnic University | Virginia Tech |
| Gettysburg College | Roanoke College | Virginia Western Community College |
| Hampden-Sydney College | Savannah College of Art and Design | Wake Forest University |
| Hampton University | School of the Art Institute of Chicago | Washington and Lee University |
| Haverford College | School of Visual Arts | West Virginia University |
| High Point University | Sewanee, University of the South | Wofford College |
| Hollins University | Shepherd University | Yale-NUS College (Singapore) |
| IMC University of Applied Sciences Krems (Austria) | Sierra Nevada College | |