



Virginia Episcopal School

Academic Profile 2022-2023
CEEB Code: 471305

About Our School

VES is a college preparatory, coeducational, boarding (70%) and day (30%) school serving students in grades 9 - 12. Located in the foothills of Lynchburg, Virginia, we take advantage of our city and natural surroundings to expand our campus beyond our beautiful 160 acres. We are fully enrolled with 265 students—52% male, 48% female and 20% international. Students benefit from small classes, with a student-teacher ratio of 6:1. Among our 45 teaching faculty, 80% hold advanced degrees and 10% hold a doctoral degree. And 82% of our faculty live on campus, bringing added value to our student experience.

Toward Full Stature

Inspired by the school's founding motto, Toward Full Stature is an intentional four-year journey to identify and realize their full potential academically, athletically, spiritually and ethically.

Our **Portrait of a VES Graduate** guides students to live into this ideal by developing the knowledge, skills, character and learning mindsets necessary to succeed in college and life beyond.

Our **Academic Philosophy** guides our classroom practice. At VES, our faculty are designers, and we are committed to an Academic Philosophy in which:

- **Dynamic questions** shape our content, experiences, perspectives, and outcomes.
- **Intellectual playfulness** drives our practice.
- **Creative thinkers and producers** are our goal—committed to making beautiful work and communicating effectively, with one another and throughout the world.

Honor Code

The underlying principle that governs the life of any member of the VES community is the school's Honor Code, developed by the first class of VES students in 1916. "One shall not lie, steal, cheat, or tolerate that behavior in any other member of the community" is a simple code that instills the moral and ethical values by which all members of the VES family live.

Financial Aid

For the 2022-23 school year, VES awarded \$2.38 million in need-based financial aid to 27% of the enrolled student body.

Accreditations and Memberships

Among its professional organization affiliations, VES is a member of:

- Virginia Association of Independent Schools (VAIS)
- National Association of Independent Schools (NAIS)
- The Association of American Boarding Schools (TABS)
- Virginia Council for Private Education
- National Association of College Admissions Counselors
- Association of College Counselors in Independent Schools

Garth Ainslie - Head of School

Mimi Csatlós - Director of College Counseling

Amy Koudelka - Associate Director of College Counseling

Matt Porter - Assistant Director of College Counseling

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“We are fortunate to learn in a school that offers great diversity of people, thought and opportunities. Within this community, we are challenged to be the best we can be so that we can thrive in today’s global society.” - Ismael Plet '20

Leadership & Involvement

The Honor Committee and Counselor Body provides opportunities for seniors to lead the school. The Honor Committee is elected by students to promote and uphold the Honor Code. The Counselor Body is appointed by the Headmaster based on student and faculty votes. Counselors serve as Resident Advisors on dorm and help in every aspect of daily school life. In addition, each year a member of the senior class who has been elected to the Student Council is appointed to serve as Student Body President, acting as a liaison between the student body and the administration.

VES offers many avenues through which students in all grade levels can lead their peers, strengthen communities, and grow as individuals. Junior Resident Advisors, Service Learning Coordinators, Student Government Representatives, Team Captains, Club Leaders, and Chapel Speakers are just some of the many titles our students hold as they learn to lead on campus.

Participation in an afternoon activity each term is a requirement for graduation. Students may sign up to be part of a sports team, in a fine arts program, and/or a member of a wide variety of special interest clubs.

International Students & Global Experiences

In our increasingly interconnected world, it's essential that our students become global citizens and leaders with cross-cultural understanding and respect.

VES brings the world to our campus, which is a meeting place for diverse perspectives and global cultures. Each year, we welcome students from many countries, including the Czech Republic, China, Germany, Mexico, Senegal, Spain, Turkey, Vietnam and other locales. Faculty also hail from around the globe. This integration of various cultures is an enriching experience for us all. And through a diverse range of speakers, the arts and cultural events, we explore why it is so important to seek out, empathize with and value varied perspectives.

Distinctive Academic Programs

ADVANCED STUDIES PROGRAM

Students may be approved to pursue the Advanced Studies program in a specific discipline if they have completed the most advanced course in that discipline and if they wish to explore a related topic in greater depth. Advanced Studies students complete a rigorous application process, gain the support of a faculty mentor, and set their own deadlines and goals as they develop a project to present to the VES community. Grades are based on the final project, the presentation *and* on their process, especially their ability to work independently and display mature habits of mind as they pursue their goals.

SCIENCE & MATH ADVANCED CONSORTIUM

This course is year-long, senior academic offering and is considered a core academic class (.5 credit Math, .5 credit Science). The course provides rigorous interdisciplinary study in a collaborative and project-based setting. The course quickly moves toward a student-driven format with an emphasis on design thinking, culminating in a year-end group project presented to the school community. Rising seniors who have excelled in advanced math or science coursework may apply to take this class.

9TH GRADE ARCH COLLABORATIVE

The 9th Grade ARCH Collaborative provides an interdisciplinary introduction to four subject areas that students can apply across their VES experience and future studies. 'A' stands for the Arts, which students engage with through a quarter-long Introduction to the Arts course; 'R' stands for Reasoning, which is the focus of their quarter in the Critical Thinking course; 'C' represents their study in Computer Science I; 'H' stands for quarter of the year during which students focus on Health and Life Skills.

The ARCH Collaborative enriches students' learning in core subject areas while exposing them to other aspects of our curriculum that may spark a new interest, talent or passion to pursue further over the course of their VES career.

AP PROGRAM

VES offers 17 AP courses. While students must meet requirements to enroll in certain AP courses, others are open to any interested student. All students enrolled in AP classes are required to sit for the exam; the average score earned is 3. Over the past three years, VES students have been recognized by the AP Scholar Program as:

Scholars	77	Scholars with Honor	27
Scholars with Distinction	58		

AP COURSE CAP

The number of AP courses in which a student can enroll is capped as follows: 10th Graders - 1 AP (highly accelerated math or foreign language students may petition for 2 AP classes this year), 11th Graders - 3 APs (may petition for 4), 12th Graders - no limit. We believe the cap will encourage students to delve deeply into their academic interests and make balanced decisions about their schedules. In 2020, it was decided that our AP Arts courses will *not* be counted toward the AP cap so that students with special talents in the arts can pursue their interest without having to limit their AP options in core academic areas.

Grade Structure

VES reports grades in percentages and uses a 10-point scale when determining letter grades (100 to 90 is an A, 89 to 80 is a B, etc.). If necessary, please use the traditional 4.0 scale to convert our unweighted percentage-based averages into the scale preferred by your institution. **VES does not weight grades or report class rank.**

SAT Scores

These averages represent the scores earned by our Class of 2022 who took the SAT at any time over their careers at VES, including those who opted instead to submit ACT scores to colleges, and those who applied using test-optional plans. These numbers also include the 20% of our class for whom English is not their native language.

Mid-50%

ERWB: 550 - 680
Math: 530 - 720

Total: 1090 - 1380

ACT Scores

These averages represent the scores earned by our Class of 2022 who took the ACT at any time over their careers at VES, including those who opted instead to submit SAT scores to colleges, and those who applied using test-optional plans. These numbers also include the 20% of our class for whom English is not their native language.

Mid-50%

Composite: 21 - 28

In the Class of 2022, approximately 50% of our seniors opted not to submit their SAT or ACT scores with their applications.

Graduation Requirements & Course Offerings

Each student must earn 19 credits to graduate. All VES students must carry a course load of at least five classes per term. Students must choose at least four core classes each year (though five is expected), and they may choose from a variety of electives each term. **Advanced courses in each subject are noted in bold.**

English (4 credits required)

English 9: Culture & Identity
English 10: Communities & Power
AP Literature & Composition
AP Language & Composition
English Seminars (11th and 12th grade courses)
Literature as Art
Classic Literature and
Contemporary Adaptations

Experimental Literature:
Toys Writers Play With
The Uncanny: Gothic Horror
We Must Remove the Mask:
The Art of the Personal Essay
The Essential Stories
Poetry Across the Curriculum
American Writers
Essential Journeys: Exploring
the World and the Self

History (3 credits required, including U.S. History; third credit can include 2 one-term courses)

Global Cultures
Modern World History
AP World History
US History
AP United States History
US Government

AP Comparative Government
AP US Government & Politics
Gender and Ethnic Studies
Economics
Legal Studies
Psychology

Mathematics (3 credits required, including Algebra I, Geometry, Algebra II/Trigonometry)

Algebra I
Geometry
Honors Geometry
Algebra II/Trigonometry
Honors Algebra II/Trig
Math Analysis
Honors Math Analysis
Statistics

AP Statistics
Calculus
AP Calculus AB
AP Calculus BC
Multivariable Calculus
Science & Math Advanced Consortium

Science (3 credits required, including Biology and either Chemistry or Physics)

Biology
Honors Biology
AP Biology
Chemistry
Honors Chemistry
AP Chemistry
Human Anatomy & Physiology

Physics
AP Physics
AP Environmental Science
Intro to Sports Medicine
Science & Math Advanced Consortium

World Languages (2 credits required in the same language)

French I-V
AP French Language & Culture
Spanish I-V

Honors Spanish III & IV
AP Spanish Language & Culture
Spanish VI: Advanced Seminar

Fine & Performing Arts (1 credit required)

Introduction to the Arts
Ceramics I & II
Advanced Ceramics
Digital Photography
Studio Art I & II
AP Studio Art
Portfolio Development
Glee Club

Jazz Ensemble
Vocal Ensemble
AP Music Theory
Video Production I & II
Acting
Technical Theater
Advanced Performance
Public Speaking

Computer Science (.5 credit required)

Computer Science I - Collaboration & Design
Computer Science II - Programming & Web Design
Computer Science III - Body Recognition Programming
Computer Science IV - App Development

Religion (.5 credit required)

New Testament World Religions I World Religions II



Five-Year College Matriculation

Students is the Virginia Episcopal School classes of 2018-2022 enrolled in colleges and universities throughout the United States and world, including:

American University
 Anahuac Mayab University (3)
 Appalachian State University (3)
 Auburn University (2)
 Barnard College
 Birmingham-Southern College
 Boston University
 Brigham Young University
 Case Western Reserve University (3)
 Central Virginia Community College
 Clemson University (5)
 Coastal Carolina University
 Colby College
 College of Charleston (5)
 College of St. Rose
 Cornell University
 Dartmouth College
 Davidson College
 Denison College
 Dickinson College (3)
 Drexel University (2)
 Duke University
 East Carolina University (5)
 Elon University (11)
 Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University
 Fairmont State University
 Furman University
 George Mason University (2)
 George Washington University
 Gettysburg College (2)
 Guilford College
 Hampden-Sydney College (5)
 Harford Community College
 Harvey Mudd College
 Haverford College

High Point University
 Howard University (2)
 James Madison University (7)
 Johns Hopkins University (4)
 Kings College
 Lafayette College
 Liberty University
 McGill University
 Milliken University
 Minerva School
 New York University (5)
 Norfolk State University
 North Carolina Central University
 North Carolina State University (8)
 North Carolina State University
 (2 yr. Agricultural Institute)
 Northeastern University (2)
 Ohio State University
 Pace University
 Pennsylvania State University (2)
 Princeton University (3)
 Purdue University
 Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute
 Rhodes College
 Rice University (2)
 Roanoke College (2)
 Rollins College
 Sciences Po - Paris, France
 Sewanee: University of the South (7)
 Simmons College
 Skidmore College
 Southern Methodist University (5)
 Stevens Institute of Technology
 Swarthmore College (3)
 Tufts University

Tulane University
 University of Alabama (6)
 University of British Columbia
 University of California, Berkeley (4)
 University of California, Davis
 University of California, Irvine (2)
 University of California, Los Angeles
 University of California, San Diego (2)
 University of California, Santa Barbara (3)
 University of Georgia (4)
 University of Illinois-Urbana Champaign (3)
 University of Kentucky
 University of Lynchburg (5)
 University of Mary Washington (3)
 University of Mississippi (7)
 University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill (12)
 University of North Carolina at Wilmington (2)
 University of Notre Dame
 University of South Carolina (11)
 University of Southern California (2)
 University of Utah
 University of Virginia (22)
 University of Washington (3)
 Vanderbilt University
 Vassar College
 Virginia Commonwealth University (3)
 Virginia Tech (13)
 Wake Forest University (9)
 Washington College
 Washington and Lee University (8)
 Washington University, St. Louis
 Wellesley College
 West Virginia University
 William & Mary (9)
 Wofford College (5)