



# SHADY SIDE ACADEMY

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## ADMINISTRATION

**Bartley P. Griffith Jr. '98**  
President

**Sophie Lau**  
Head of Senior School

## COLLEGE COUNSELORS

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**Guiding Principles** that act as fundamental points of guidance: **Honesty, Respect, Responsibility, Kindness and Safety.**

ENROLLMENT (PK-12)	1,007
Country Day School	117
Junior School	270
Middle School	193
Senior School	427
Class of 2020	95
Boarders	74
Students of Color	37%
Male/Female	54%   46%

## SENIOR SCHOOL STATS

Full-Time Faculty	73
Faculty - Advanced Degrees	80%
Faculty:Student Ratio	1:8
Average Class Size	15
Financial Assistance Granted	30%

# 2019-2020 SCHOOL PROFILE

Shady Side Academy is a nationally respected, co-educational private school in Pittsburgh for grades PK–12. The **Senior School**, located in the suburban Fox Chapel neighborhood of Pittsburgh on a 130-acre college-like campus with six academic buildings, is a college-preparatory school with an optional five- or seven-day boarding experience. With students from **57 different ZIP codes in Allegheny County, 10 other PA counties, 13 states and nine countries**, Shady Side is a diverse and unique learning community.

*Accreditations: PAIS (Pennsylvania Association of Independent Schools), NAIS (National Association of Independent Schools), Middle States Association, TABS (The Association of Boarding Schools), PCIS (Pittsburgh Consortium of Independent Schools), NACAC (The National Association for College Admission Counselors), PACAC (Pennsylvania Association for College Admission Counselors), and ACCIS*

## SENIOR SCHOOL CURRICULUM

The Senior School has a rigorous college preparatory curriculum, where education is viewed as building the skills and habits of inquiry, research, creativity, critical thinking and problem solving.

## GRADING AND RANKING

Shady Side Academy maintains rigorous standards of grading and awards letter grades as follows:

A+	4.33	C+	2.33
A	4.0	C	2.0
A-	3.67	C-	1.67
B+	3.33	D+	1.33
B	3.0	D	1.0
B-	2.67	D-	.067

A student's grade point average is calculated based on year-end grades. **GPA's are not weighted. Shady Side Academy does not rank.**

*Note: Beginning in the 2018-2019 school year, all visual arts classes are graded on a pass/fail grading scale. There is also the option to take these classes for a grade.*

## COURSE NUMBERING ON TRANSCRIPTS

Because Shady Side Academy offers so few designated advanced classes, we use an internal numbering system on our transcripts. The course numbering system indicates curricular sequence as follows: 100 level - 9th grade or introductory; 200 level - 10th grade; 300 level - 11th grade; 400 level - 12th grade, 500 level - AP or highest level offered.

## HONORS/ADVANCED PLACEMENT COURSES

Shady Side does not designate any courses as "honors" because all courses follow a rigorous college preparatory curriculum.

Advanced Placement courses are offered in **three** subject areas: math, foreign language and computer science.

## REPORTING OF DISCIPLINE

Students are expected to act with integrity in all academic and personal matters. Shady Side Academy complies with NACAC's Code of Ethics and Professional Practices. Applicable disciplinary issues will be reported to colleges accordingly.

# THE SHADY SIDE EXPERIENCE

## THINK *Expansively*

40% of students explore a passion project or chosen profession through an **INDEPENDENT STUDY** or **SENIOR PROJECT**.

Senior Project topics (small sample):

- Building a motorcycle
- Composing a musical
- Shadowing a cardiologist
- EMT training and certification



## GLOBAL PERSPECTIVE

Global travel opportunities include:

- International service projects through the Parkin Fellowships
- Exchange programs in France, Germany, Spain, and China and a biannual theater trip to Scotland

## SUMMER RESEARCH SEMINAR

Students engage in cutting-edge science and engineering research through local university partnerships.

SSA students are empowered to make choices from a broad array of opportunities.

## ACT *Ethically*

Students are selected as associates of each academic department, providing an important voice in major curricular decisions and departmental policies.

Students serve as voting members on multiple committees that help shape the future of

the school, including:

- Discipline Committee
- Admissions Committee



## LEAD *Responsibly*

SSA Farm and Farmers Market teach students about environmental science and sustainability along with sales and marketing skills.



- LEAD@SSA is a student-led leadership conference held annually to develop leadership skills in students.
- Peer-to-peer student mentors lead orientation and help new students transition to SSA.

# 2019-2020 SCHOOL PROFILE

## STANDARDIZED TESTING

Standardized test ranges for the past two graduating classes combined, 2018 and 2019

### SAT (155 Tests)

Test Section	Mean	Middle 50%
Math	676	620-750
Evidence Based Reading & Writing	669	630-720
Total	1345	1240-1460

### ACT (175 Tests)

Test Section	Mean	Middle 50%
ELA	22.1	21-31
English	30.5	26-35
Math	28.3	25-32
Reading	30.0	26-34
Science	28.5	25-33
STEM	28.3	25-32
Writing	6.5	6-9
Composite	29.1	26-33

## CLASS OF 2020 JUNIOR GRADE DISTRIBUTION

	A <sup>+</sup>	A	A <sup>-</sup>	B <sup>+</sup>	B	B <sup>-</sup>	C <sup>+</sup>	C	C <sup>-</sup>	D	
<b>COMPUTER SCIENCE</b>											
Game Design	3	4	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	
Problem Solving I	0	6	3	8	5	1	3	1	0	0	
Robotics	1	4	0	0	2	0	0	0	0	0	
Web Page Design	0	3	4	0	1	2	0	0	0	0	
<b>ENGLISH</b>											
Upper-Form											
Term Electives	13	63	63	53	37	27	18	6	3	9	
<b>HISTORY</b>											
U.S. History	0	19	22	19	12	15	6	2	0	2	
<b>MATHEMATICS</b>											
AP Calculus AB	0	7	4	4	4	1	0	0	0	0	
AP Calculus BC	2	6	3	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	
Trigonometry and Function Analysis	0	6	12	10	7	8	5	5	0	2	
Trigonometry and Intro Calculus	0	0	5	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	
<b>SCIENCE</b>											
Advanced Biology	2	4	2	1	0	0	0	0	1	1	
Biology I	5	10	6	8	13	2	6	4	3	4	
Physics II (Algebra)	2	2	1	2	3	0	2	1	0	1	
Physics II (Calculus)	0	3	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	
Summer Research Seminar	2	5	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	
<b>WORLD LANGUAGES</b>											
Chinese 4A	0	2	1	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	
German 3	0	2	3	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	
Latin 4A	2	1	2	1	0	1	1	0	0	0	
Spanish 3	0	7	1	2	2	1	0	1	0	1	
Spanish 4	1	4	3	3	7	2	1	0	1	0	
Spanish 4A	0	3	4	0	3	1	0	0	0	0	

Highest GPA in the Class of 2020 : 4.2

Note: The classes listed had five or more juniors enrolled

Discipline/Graduation Requirements

TYPICAL COURSE PROGRESSION

### ENGLISH

4 full years  
12 credits

#### GRADE 9

Foundations of Literature and Writing I

#### GRADE 10

Foundations of Literature and Writing II

#### GRADES 11-12

The Art of Persuasion (1 term)

50 different one-term English courses offered to juniors and seniors across broad literary themes such as British/European Literature before 1800, Literature of the United States, Focus on the World/Non-Anglophone Literature, and more.

### HISTORY

3 full years  
9 credits  
U.S. History  
research paper

#### GRADE 9

Problems in World History

#### GRADE 10

Patterns of Western Identity

#### GRADE 11

United States History

#### GRADE 12

Economics  
Intro to Philosophy  
9 upper-level History electives, including Pittsburgh History and Modern Social Justice  
5 upper-level one-term Economics and Philosophy electives

### MATH

3 full years  
9 credits

#### GRADES 9-12

Problem-Based Mathematics I

Problem-Based Mathematics II

Trigonometry and Function Analysis (TFA)

Trigonometry and Introductory Calculus (TIC)

CHS Statistics

CHS Calculus

AP Calculus AB

AP Calculus BC

Multivariable Calculus

7 upper-level one-term Math electives

### SCIENCE

2 full years  
2 lab sciences  
6 credits

#### GRADE 9

Physics I  
Chemistry

#### GRADE 10

Chemistry

Biology I

#### GRADE 11

Biology I

Physics IA

Physics II: Algebra

Physics II: Calculus

Summer Research Seminar

#### GRADE 12

Physics II: Algebra

Physics II: Calculus

Advanced Topics in Astronomy

Advanced Topics in Physics and Engineering

Advanced Biology

Environmental Science

Psychology

Organic Chemistry

6 upper-level one-term Inorganic Chemistry electives

### WORLD LANGUAGES

Through Level 3

#### GRADE 9

Chinese 1, 2, 2A

French 1, 2, 2A

German 1, 2

Latin 1, 2

Spanish 1, 2, 2A

#### GRADE 10

Chinese 2, 2A, 3, 3A

French 2, 2A, 3, 3A

German 2, 3

Latin 2, 3

Spanish 2, 2A, 3, 3A

#### GRADE 11

Chinese 3, 3A, 4, 4A

French 3, 3A, 4, 4A

German 3, 4A

Latin 3, 4A

Spanish 3, 3A, 4, 4A

#### GRADE 12

Chinese 4, 4A, 5, 5AP

French 4, 4A, 5AP

German 4A, 5AP

Latin 4A, 5A

Spanish 4, 4A, 5, 5AP

### COMPUTER SCIENCE

2 terms  
2 credits

#### GRADE 9

Problem Solving: Karel & Elementary Graphics

Interactive Web Page Design

Game Design

Artificial Intelligence

Application Development for Mobile Devices

3D Modeling

Robotics

Computer Architecture

#### GRADES 10-12

Options above, PLUS:

AP Computer Science

Discrete Structures

Advanced Topics: Advanced Data Structures and Algorithms

Advanced Topics: Machine Learning

Advanced Topics in Computer Science

### ARTS VISUAL AND PERFORMING

3 credits  
All arts classes are pass/fail

#### GRADES 9-12

Concert Choir

Chamber Choir

Concert Band

Symphonic Band

Jazz Ensemble

String Orchestra

Electronic Sound Studio

Music Theory

Music Workshop: Guitar or Piano

Acting

Studio Art 2D

Studio Art 3D

Advanced Portfolio Studio Art

Architecture

Ceramics

Digital Photography

## 2015-2019 COLLEGE ENROLLMENT

Allegheny College	DePaul University	Northwestern University	University of California, Berkeley
American University	Dickinson College	Nova Southeastern University	University of California, Davis
Amherst College	Drexel University	Oberlin College of Arts and Sciences	University of California, Los Angeles
Arizona State University	Duke University	Ohio State University	University of California, San Diego
Assumption College	Duquesne University	Ohio Wesleyan University	University of Cambridge
Babson College	Elon University	Pennsylvania State University	University of Chicago
Baldwin Wallace University	Emory University	Pennsylvania State University, Altoona	University of Cincinnati
Barnard College	Florida State University	Pennsylvania State University, Berks	University of Colorado at Boulder
Bates College	Fordham University	Pennsylvania State University, Greater Allegheny	University of Dayton
Belmont University	Franklin & Marshall College	Pennsylvania State University, Erie - The Behrend College	University of Denver
Bennington College	George Washington University	Pepperdine University	University of Kentucky
Berklee College of Music	Georgetown University	Point Park University	University of Maryland, College Park
Boston College	Georgia Institute of Technology	Pomona College	University of Massachusetts, Amherst
Boston University	Gordon College	Princeton University	University of Miami
Bowdoin College	Goucher College	Purdue University	University of Michigan
Bowling Green State University	Grove City College	Reed College	University of Minnesota, Twin Cities
Brown University	Hamilton College - NY	Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute	University of New Hampshire, Durham
Bryn Mawr College	Harvard College	Rhodes College	University of Notre Dame
Bucknell University	High Point University	Rice University	University of Pennsylvania
Carleton College	Hobart and William Smith Colleges	Rochester Institute of Technology	University of Pittsburgh
Carnegie Mellon University	Howard University	Rollins College	University of Pittsburgh, Greensburg
Case Western Reserve University	Indiana University at Bloomington	Rose-Hulman Institute of Technology	University of Richmond
Catholic University of America	Ithaca College	Saint Vincent College	University of Rochester
Champlain College	John Carroll University	Shawnee State University	University of San Diego
Chapman University	Johns Hopkins University	Skidmore College	University of South Carolina
Chatham University	Kent State University	Southern Methodist University	University of Southern California
Claremont McKenna College	Kenyon College	St. Lawrence University	University of St Andrews
Coastal Carolina University	Lafayette College	Stanford University	University of Vermont
Colby College	Lake Forest College	Swarthmore College	University of Virginia
Colgate University	Lehigh University	Syracuse University	University of Wisconsin, Madison
College of Charleston	Loyola University Chicago	Trine University	Vanderbilt University
College of the Holy Cross	Loyola University Maryland	Tufts University	Villanova University
College of Wooster	Marietta College	Tulane University	Virginia Tech
Colorado College	Massachusetts Institute of Technology	United States Air Force Academy	Wake Forest University
Colorado State University	McGill University	United States Military Academy - Army	Walsh University
Columbia College Chicago	Mercyhurst University	United States Naval Academy	Washington and Jefferson College
Columbia University	Miami University, Oxford	University College London	Washington and Lee University
Connecticut College	Michigan State University	University of Akron	Washington University in St. Louis
Cornell University	Middlebury College	University of Alabama	West Virginia University
Cushing Academy	Mount Holyoke College	University of Arizona	Western Michigan University
Dartmouth College	Nazareth College		Wilkes University
Davidson College	New England College		Wilson College
Delaware Valley University	New York University		Wingate University
Denison University	Northeastern University		York College of Pennsylvania