



SHADY SIDE ACADEMY

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Accreditations & Associations

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)

ACCIS (The Association of College Counselors in Independent Schools)

2018-2019 SCHOOL PROFILE

The School

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 experiences. For more than 130 years, Shady Side has been a place of academic rigor and the pursuit of passions – home of teaching legends, visionary leaders and alumni renowned for their innovative thinking and strength of character. Energy animates our four campuses and our students.

Our Community

Members of the Shady Side Academy community acknowledge and accept five **Guiding Principles** that serve as fundamental points of guidance for all adults and students living and working together in the school community: **Honesty, Respect, Responsibility, Kindness, and Safety**. Shady Side Academy is a learning **community**; we work together to grow and learn.

TOTAL ENROLLMENT (2018-2019): 1,035

Country Day School: 118

Junior School: 260

Middle School: 208

Senior School: 442

(including 67 boarders: 26 five-day and 41 seven-day)

53% male, 47% female

36% are students of color

30% receive financial assistance, including 52 students in our merit and grant programs

Student-to-teacher ratio: 8 to 1

Average class size: 15

Students come from 45 different ZIP codes in Allegheny County, plus nine other PA counties, nine states and five countries

Students

Abiding by the **Guiding Principles**, our students are engaged, articulate, diligent and responsible. They are bright, talented, ambitious and open-minded. Most students commit to community service on a local, regional and national level. Substantive opportunities for leadership exist beyond the norm, as our students serve as departmental associates for all academic disciplines, and are active voices on the Academy's Academic Program, Admissions, Discipline, Hiring and Strategic Planning Committees.

Faculty

The 73 faculty members at Shady Side Academy Senior School, 80 percent of whom hold advanced degrees, are both professors and professionals; they teach and publish, mentor and perform on stage, inspire local university students as well as Shady Side students. The faculty receives \$250,000 annually in professional development funds. The depth of our teachers' intellectual passion and experience creates an experience that helps Shady Side students grow and gain knowledge. They challenge students to develop through a host of academic, artistic, athletic and community activities. If you ask Shady Side Academy students what is the most important part of their school experience, they would answer: teachers and the support and encouragement they provide each and every day.

Academic Philosophy

The Senior School has a rigorous and extensive college preparatory curriculum, designed to help students collect, analyze and synthesize data; state and support arguments; and work effectively with groups of people. Our teachers elect not to "teach to a test;" rather, they see education as building the skills and habits of inquiry, research, creativity, critical thinking and problem-solving. Classroom work is student-centered with the goal of encouraging and preparing students to be active, lifelong learners.

Requirements for Graduation

Shady Side operates on a trimester system, and graduation requirements are expressed in credits. A full-year course will earn three credits. Students must take at least 15 credits (five full courses) a year, and must earn 55 credits total.

English (12)

Mathematics (9 in the Senior School)

Laboratory Science (6)

Foreign Language (9, mastery of level 3)

History/Social Studies (9) & U.S. History paper

Elective Courses (varies by student to achieve 55 credits)

Arts (3)

Computer Science (2)

Health (2)

Athletics (minimum of five seasons)

CPR Certification (in Health)

Swimming Safety (in Health)

Curriculum Notes

Shady Side does not designate certain 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. Of these, the AP exam is a requirement in Calculus (AB or BC) and language (AP French, AP Spanish, AP German or AP Chinese); AP Computer Science (Java) is also available. For the class of 2018, 45 students took a total of 93 AP tests. Eighty percent of these students scored a 4 or a 5 and 95% scored a 3 and above.

After taking required 9th and 10th grade **English** foundations courses, students select from a wide variety of English term courses as juniors and seniors.

College-Level Courses

English: All 11th and 12th grade term courses.

History: All 11th and 12th grade term electives; year-long courses in Philosophy and Economics.

Mathematics: AP Calculus AB, AP Calculus BC; all 11th and 12th grade term electives. Students may earn credit from the University of Pittsburgh for year-long Calculus and Statistics courses.

Science: Year-long courses in: Organic Chemistry, Advanced Biology, Environmental Science, Physics II (different sections delineated by Algebra or Calculus), Advanced Topics in Physics, Advanced Astronomy, all Chemistry electives, and Psychology.

World Languages: AP Spanish, AP French, AP Chinese and AP German; course titles noted with “A” are considered “Advanced;” Level IV and V of all languages are college-level.

Computer Science: AP Computer Science

Course Numbering on Transcript

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.

Special Academic Programs

Independent Study: Independent Study allows a student to explore and investigate in depth a special area of academic interest which goes beyond our curriculum offerings. The student selects a faculty mentor willing to oversee the project on a regular basis. These projects must be taken for credit and carry with them the same responsibilities as regular curriculum offerings.

Senior Project: The Senior Project is designed to recognize and meet the special needs of those seniors who are ready for a substantial and serious learning experience outside the traditional setting of the classroom. The Senior Project emphasizes the importance of planning and setting goals in researching and proposing an original project.

Writing Across the Curriculum: Writing occurs throughout the curriculum and across all disciplines, from English to science. Shady Side students are taught to think critically, to reason ethically, to listen carefully, to speak, to write and to read with clarity and precision.

Off-Campus Semester Programs: Shady Side is a member of The Chewonki School (Maine Coast), High Mountain Institute (Rocky Mountains), CITYterm (New York City), Alzar School (Idaho/Chile) and the Oxbow School (Napa, California). These programs offer students an alternative experience for one semester in the sophomore or junior year. These programs combine rigorous academic classroom and field experience with a theme that focuses on exploring people’s connections with their environment.

International Programs: Shady Side students may participate in School Year Abroad and international exchange programs with The Wuhan Foreign Languages School in China, St. Joseph de Tivoli in Bordeaux, France, Gymnasium Oldenfelde in Hamburg, Germany, and Liceo Europeo in Madrid, Spain.

Parkin Fellowships for Global Service: Awarded in a selective competition, Parkin Fellowships provide students with summer grants to complete international service or environmental projects around the globe.

Junior Grade Distribution 2017-2018

	A+	A	A-	B+	B	B-	C+	C	C-	D↓
ARTS										
Visual/Performing Arts	30	29	6	0	1	0	0	0	0	1
COMPUTER SCIENCE										
Problem Solving I	3	4	4	3	2	1	2	1	0	0
AP Comp Science	3	2	1	2	0	0	0	0	0	0
App Development: Mobile Devices	2	5	0	0	1	1	0	0	0	0
Game Design	0	7	3	1	0	0	0	0	0	0
Robotics	1	3	3	5	4	0	0	0	0	0
Web Page Design	3	9	7	1	3	2	0	0	0	1
ENGLISH										
Upper Form Term Electives	5	85	95	73	74	40	19	5	11	5
HISTORY										
U.S. History	1	33	30	22	20	8	6	2	1	4
MATHEMATICS										
Trigonometry and Function Analysis	4	10	14	9	11	11	6	6	3	2
Trigonometry and Intro Calculus	0	1	3	1	1	0	1	0	0	2
AP Calculus AB	1	7	1	4	3	0	0	1	0	2
AP Calculus BC	3	12	2	1	0	0	0	0	0	0
Differential Equations	4	4	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Linear Algebra	7	1	1	0	0	0	0	1	0	0
Multi-Variable Calculus	4	3	1	0	1	0	0	1	0	0
SCIENCE										
Advanced Biology	0	6	9	3	1	2	1	0	1	0
Biology I	8	18	16	10	13	22	4	3	4	4
Inorganic Chemistry	2	13	8	0	0	2	0	0	0	0
Organic Chemistry	1	0	2	0	0	2	0	0	0	0
Physics II (Calculus)	4	1	3	0	1	0	0	0	0	0
Summer Research Seminar	2	2	4	2	0	0	0	0	0	0
WORLD LANGUAGES										
Chinese II, III, IV	0	1	2	0	1	1	0	0	0	0
Chinese IVA, AP	5	6	1	2	1	0	0	0	0	0
French I, II	0	0	1	0	2	2	0	0	3	0
French IIIA, IVA, AP	2	6	3	1	1	0	0	0	0	0
German I, II, III, IVA	0	6	0	4	0	0	0	0	0	0
Latin II, III, IVA	1	1	5	0	1	2	2	0	0	0
Spanish I, III, IIIA	0	2	5	3	1	1	2	0	0	2
Spanish IV, IVA	0	13	15	7	6	5	0	0	1	2

Note: The classes listed had five or more juniors enrolled

Statement of Discipline

In adhering to the Statement of Principles of Good Practice of the National Association of College Admission Counseling (NACAC), Shady Side Academy will honor all specific requests concerning a student's disciplinary record. Most college applications require that students, and the college counselors, truthfully answer all questions regarding disciplinary violations from 9th grade forward. We ask each student to provide a written explanation within two weeks of disciplinary action, which is then followed-up by counselor contact with colleges. The College Counseling Office also will report any significant change in a student's academic status or qualification, including personal conduct record, between the time of recommendation and graduation. This would include any changes following acceptance to college, or a significant drop in academic average in the spring of the senior year. In addition, students are expected to complete all college applications with complete honesty. We hold students to the same high standards of integrity in the production of college applications as they are held to in their academic work.

Grading and Ranking

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

A+ (4.33)	C+ (2.33)
A (4.00)	C (2.00)
A- (3.67)	C- (1.67)
B+ (3.33)	D+ (1.33)
B (3.00)	D (1.00)
B- (2.67)	D- (0.67)
	F (0.00)

A student's grade point average is calculated based on year-end grades.

GPA's are not weighted. Shady Side Academy does not rank.

The highest GPA in the Class of 2019 as of the end of Junior Year: 4.18

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.

Standardized Testing

Standardized test ranges for the past two graduating classes combined, 2017 and 2018

SAT (155 Tests)

Test Section	Mean	Middle 50%
Math	670	610-720
Evidence Based Reading & Writing	660	620-710
Total	665	610-720

ACT (175 Tests)

Test Section	Mean	Middle 50%
ELA	26.4	24-31
English	30.1	26-35
Math	28.3	26-32
Reading	30.4	27-34
Science	28.7	26-33
STEM	28.5	26-32
Writing	15.9	8-23
Composite	29.1	26-33

Albright College	Dickinson College	Marietta College	Shawnee State University	University of Mississippi
Alfred University	Drew University	Marist College	Skidmore College	University of Missouri
Allegheny College	Drexel University	Marymount Manhattan	Slippery Rock University	University of Mount Union
American University	Duke University	Massachusetts Institute of Technology	Southern Methodist U.	University of New Hampshire
Amherst College	Duquesne University	McGill University	Southern New Hampshire U.	University of New Mexico
Arizona State University	Durham University	Mercyhurst University	St. George's University	University of New Orleans
Assumption College	Earlham College	Merrimack College	St. John Fisher College	University of North Carolina
Babson College	Eckerd College	Miami University, Oxford	St. John's University	University of Notre Dame
Baldwin Wallace University	Elmira College	Michigan State University	St. Lawrence University	University of Oregon
Bard College	Elon University	Middlebury College	Stanford University	University of Pennsylvania
Barnard College	Emerson College	Mills College	Stevenson University	University of Pittsburgh
Bates College	Emory & Henry College	Mount Holyoke College	Stonehill College	Multiple Campuses
Baylor University	Emory University	Muhlenberg College	Suffolk University	University of Redlands
Belmont University	Florida Gulf Coast University	Nazareth College	Susquehanna University	University of Richmond
Beloit College	Florida Southern College	New England College	Swarthmore College	University of Rochester
Bennington College	Florida State University	New York University	Syracuse University	University of San Diego
Bentley University	Fordham University	Nichols College	Temple University	University of South Carolina
Berklee College of Music	Franklin & Marshall College	North Carolina State U.	Texas Christian University	University of South Florida
Bethany College	Furman University	Northeastern University	The Catholic University of America	University of Southern Calif.
Boston College	Gannon University	Northern Michigan University	The Citadel, The Military College of South Carolina	University of St Andrews
Boston University	George Mason University	Northwestern University	The College of Wooster	University of Texas
Bowdoin College	George Washington U.	Nova Southeastern U.	Thiel College	University of Toronto
Bowling Green State Univ.	Georgetown University	Oberlin College	Trine University	University of Vermont
Brandeis University	Georgia Institute of Tech.	Ohio State University	Trinity College	University of Virginia
Brown University	Gettysburg College	Ohio University	Trinity College Dublin	University of Warwick
Bryn Mawr College	Goddard College	Ohio Wesleyan University	Tufts University	University of Washington
Bucknell University	Gordon College	Otterbein University	Tulane University	University of Waterloo
Caldwell University	Goucher College	Oxford College of Emory U.	Union College	University of Wisconsin
Campbell University	Grinnell College	Pace University, New York City	U.S. Air Force Academy	University of West Georgia
Carleton College	Grove City College	Pennsylvania State U. Main Campus	U.S. Military Academy - Army	Ursinus College
Carnegie Mellon University	Guilford College	Multiple Campuses	U.S. Naval Academy	Vanderbilt University
Case Western Reserve	Hamilton College - NY	Pennsylvania State U., Schreyer Honors College	University of Akron	Vassar College
Centenary University	Hampton University	Pepperdine University	University of Alabama	Villanova University
Champlain College	Harvard University	Point Park University	University of Arizona	Virginia Tech
Chapman University	Haverford College	Pomona College	University at Buffalo	Wagner College
Chatham University	High Point University	Princeton University	University College London	Wake Forest University
Claremont McKenna College	Hiram College	Providence College	University of Bath	Walsh University
Clark Atlanta University	Hobart and William Smith	Purdue University	University of California	Washington and Jefferson
Clark University	Hofstra University	Quinnipiac University	University of Cambridge	Washington and Lee U.
Clarkson University	Howard University	Regis University	University of Charleston	Washington College
Clemson University	Indiana University	Rensselaer Polytechnic Inst.	University of Chicago	Washington University
Coastal Carolina University	Ithaca College	Rhodes College	University of Cincinnati	Waynesburg University
Colby College	James Madison University	Rice University	University of Colorado	Webster Vienna Private U.
Colgate University	John Carroll University	Roanoke College	University of Dayton	Wesleyan University
College of Charleston	Johns Hopkins University	Robert Morris University	University of Delaware	West Virginia University
College of the Holy Cross	Juniata College	Rochester Institute of Tech.	University of Denver	Westminster College
College of William and Mary	Kent State University	Rollins College	University of Edinburgh	Wheaton College IL
Colorado College	Kenyon College	Rowan University	University of Findlay	Willamette University
Colorado Mesa University	King's College London	Rutgers University	University of Glasgow	Williams College
Colorado State University	Lafayette College	Saint Joseph's University	University of Hartford	Wilson College
Columbia College Chicago	Lake Forest College	Saint Mary's College	University of Illinois	Wingate University
Columbia University	Lebanon Valley College	Saint Michael's College	University of Kentucky	Wittenberg University
Connecticut College	Lehigh University	Saint Vincent College	University of Louisville	Worcester Polytechnic Inst.
Cornell University	Lewis & Clark College	Salve Regina University	University of Maine	Xavier University
Dartmouth College	Liberty University	Santa Clara University	University of Maryland	Xavier University School of Medicine
Davidson College	Louisiana State University	Savannah College of Art	University of Massachusetts	Yale University
Delaware Valley University	Loyola Marymount University	Seton Hill University	University of Miami	York College of Pennsylvania
Denison University	Loyola University Chicago		University of Michigan	Youngstown State University
DePaul University	Loyola University Maryland		University of Minnesota	
DePauw University	Loyola University New Orleans			
DeSales University	Macalester College			