



CHELSEA ACADEMY

School Profile
2023-24

1190 Progress Drive | Front Royal, VA 22630 | Tel.: (540) 635-0622

www.chelseacademy.org

About Chelsea Academy

Our School: Chelsea Academy, a coeducational Catholic Liberal Arts and college preparatory school, was founded in 2008. The school offers a rigorous curriculum as well as extracurricular programs in art, music, drama, athletics, and outdoor adventure. Our first senior class graduated in May 2012.

Community: Located in Virginia's Shenandoah Valley, Chelsea serves families from eight neighboring counties as well as students from Asia and Europe. Students and their families come from a broad range of educational and socioeconomic backgrounds. The school welcomes students of all beliefs. While not all Chelsea students are Catholic, all students learn about the Catholic faith.

Student Body: There are currently 255 students in grades K-12, including 99 students in the Upper School. There are 24 students in the class of 2023.

Faculty: The Chelsea faculty is comprised of 21 full-time and 10 part-time faculty members.

Accreditation: Chelsea is accredited by the Virginia Independent School Association.

Headmaster: John M. DeJak

College Counselor:

Kevin Thomas

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CEEB Code: 470906

Our Mission

Chelsea Academy seeks to form confident young men and women educated in the liberal arts tradition and the Catholic faith. Chelsea is committed to promoting and cultivating in its students the life of the mind and a love of truth; an appreciation for the natural world and the heritage of human achievement; enduring friendships; a spirit of adventure; and the virtues of honesty, charity, diligence, courage, and personal responsibility. Through an ethos shaped by Catholic teaching and devotions and a balanced curriculum that includes the humanities, math, science, athletics, and the arts, Chelsea helps students grow into young adults committed to and capable of making positive contributions to their families, places of work, and communities.

Curriculum

Chelsea offers a Catholic Liberal Arts and college-preparatory curriculum. Small classes and the course sequence, featuring an integrated study of the humanities, lend themselves to cross-curricular research, active student participation, and close collaboration among students and teachers. Students may take honors courses in English, history, science, Latin and French.

Graduation Requirements

- Four years of English, incorporating grammar, composition, and classical literature
- Four years of mathematics, featuring algebra I, geometry, algebra II, pre-calculus, and calculus
- Four years of history, covering ancient Greece and Rome, medieval and modern Europe, and the United States.
- Four years of science, including physical science, biology, chemistry, and physics
- Four years of theology, including Sacred Scripture, Sacred Tradition, ethics and apologetics, the Church in modernity, and an introduction into elements of philosophy
- Three years of Latin, French, or a combination of the two, including second-year proficiency in either language
- One year of U.S. Government
- One year of fine arts, with options including studio art, schola cantorum, and drama
- Senior thesis and presentation

Grading, GPA, and Class Rank

Chelsea's grading system is designed to reflect student achievement; the school actively resists the tendency towards grade inflation. We serve students with a range of interests and abilities. Our small size and 1:8 faculty-student ratio enable us to challenge those students who are able to progress more quickly and to provide individualized academic reinforcement to those students who need it.

Chelsea operates on a two-semester system with cumulative semester and final exams in December and May. Grades are scored on a ten-point scale: A (93-100), A- (90-92), B+ (87-89), B (83-86), B- (80-82), C+ (77-79), C (73-76), C- (70-72), D+ (67-69), D (63-66), D- (60-62), F (0-59).

Grade Point Averages have been calculated on a 4.0 unweighted scale. Chelsea offers honors courses in English, history, science, and foreign languages (at level IV or higher). Beginning in 2022-2023, honors courses are no longer offered in math.

The honors classes have been weighted with an extra half point added to the GPA. GPAs are calculated at the end of each semester and averaged at the end of each year.

GPA and SAT Data - Classes of 2019-2023

NEW SAT	SAT	SAT	TOTAL	GPA	GPA
	Verbal	Math		Unweighted	Weighted
Class of 2019 Average SAT	652	659	1311	3.22	3.39
Class of 2020 Average SAT	699	670	1369	3.54	3.77
Class of 2021 Average SAT	620	629	1349	3.27	3.47
Class of 2022 Average SAT	674	641	1315	3.41	3.62
Class of 2023 Average SAT	657	616	1273	3.39	3.53
Average SAT for Virginia schools	569	544	1113		

Senior Thesis

All seniors write a thesis that is the capstone of each student's intellectual development at Chelsea Academy. The thesis is a substantial research paper that explores a question built upon the close reading of a Great book; a question in history, literature, theology, philosophy, science, mathematics, or another approved subject area. Each student chooses a faculty advisor to participate in the reading of the chosen book. The project culminates in a formal oral presentation among faculty, peers, and parents. Recent topics included: analyzing Thomas Hobbes' *Leviathan* and the role of government; the controversy surrounding Charles Darwin's *On the Origin of Species*; family and society in *King Lear*; revisiting Booker T. Washington's views on racism in *Up from Slavery*; William Shakespeare's Catholic roots on display in *The Winter's Tale*; and an analysis of C.S. Lewis' theology in *The Chronicles of Narnia*.

College Matriculations (2015-2023)

Ave Maria University
 Belmont Abbey College
 Benedictine College
 Christendom College
 Christopher Newport Univ.
 College of William and Mary
 Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University
 Franciscan University of Steubenville
 George Mason University
 Hillsdale College
 Holy Cross College
 at Notre Dame, Indiana
 James Madison University*
 John Paul the Great Catholic University
 Magdalen College
 Mount St. Mary's University
 Pennsylvania State University
 Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute
 Rutgers University
 Saint Vincent College
 The Catholic University of America*
 Thomas Aquinas College
 U.S. Merchant Marine Academy
 University of California Irvine
 University of California San Diego
 University of Connecticut
 University of Mary Washington
 University of Notre Dame
 University of Dallas
 University of Virginia*
 Virginia Military Institute
 Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University

(Asterisks indicate schools in which students gained admission to honors programs.)