



2020-2021 UPPER SCHOOL PROFILE

MISSION

Through superior academics and mentoring, The Colorado Springs School prepares students to think independently and to meet the challenges of a dynamic world with leadership, ingenuity, problem-solving skills, and personal integrity.

**INSPIRED LEARNING.
MASTERFUL TEACHING.**

FAST FACTS

Enrollment
PreK-Grade 12
300

Enrollment
Grades 9-12
91

Class of 2021
26

Full Time Faculty in
Upper School
13

With Advanced Degrees
70%

Established in 1962, The Colorado Springs School is a college-preparatory, day, and international school serving students from preschool through high school. We proudly serve students from across the Pikes Peak region, as well as international students. The school sits on 28 acres with eight buildings that include an innovation lab, a 300-seat performance theatre, art studios, a field house gym, and athletic fields.

CAPTURING THE COLORADO SPRINGS SCHOOL

PHILOSOPHY

The Colorado Springs School is a college-preparatory school based on the belief that the closer the link between learning and experience, the more meaningful the resulting knowledge will be. Our goal is to prepare students for college and for life by equipping them with thinking and problem-solving skills, self-confidence, compassion, and a love of learning. We prepare students to meet the challenges of a dynamic world.

RELATIONSHIPS

Small class sizes mean teachers and students connect one on one. Students are known by every teacher and receive extensive, individualized feedback. Each student has a faculty advisor who monitors academic progress, establishes a supportive relationship, and communicates as needed with parents. CSS incorporates the Yale RULER Program, where students cultivate social and emotional skills that help them develop into healthy adults.

EXPERIENTIAL EDUCATION

At CSS, students learn by doing. Our programs immerse them in hands-on activities in the classroom and beyond. We explore through curriculum-based seminars and adventures, both locally and across the globe. Intentional challenges stimulate students' academic and social growth.

CLASS OF 2020 FAST FACTS:

- **Average ACT Score: 28**
 - * National Average: 21
 - * Colorado Average: 20.8
- Average SAT Score: **1298**
- **\$4.6 million** in merit scholarships received
- **83%** reported AP Scores of 3 or better

AFFILIATIONS

Accredited by the Association of **Colorado Independent Schools (ACIS)**
Proud Member of the **National Association of Independent Schools (NAIS)**

Tambi Tyler
Head of School

Joy Maguire-Parsons
Director of Admission

Nicole Goyette
Middle and Upper School Director

Katrina Tijerina
Director of College Counseling

Elena Hall
Registrar

ACADEMIC INFORMATION

AP AND ADVANCED COURSES: CSS offers 18 AP Courses and Advanced Courses. Students are eligible to take AP courses as early as their sophomore year.

CALENDAR: Our academic schedule maximizes the number of courses we offer. A block system with periods lasting 45 or 90 minutes allows students to earn full-year credits in the first half of the year for certain classes. The longer periods enable in-depth discussions, field experiences, and lab work.

COLLEGE PLACEMENT: One hundred percent of all CSS graduates go on to initiate a post-secondary educational experience.

SIGNATURE LEARNING EXPERIENCES

EXPERIENCE-CENTERED SEMINARS (ECS)

Each March, students embark on a three-week intensive study known as Experience-Centered Seminars. The curriculum is anchored by essential questions that require a multi-disciplinary approach. Though each one explores a unique theme, geographic location, and variety of immersive experiences, all are unified by rigorous and academic inquiry. ECSs have included studying geothermal energy in Iceland, the local homeless challenges in Colorado Springs, and biodiversity in Madagascar.

SENIOR CAPSTONE

Seniors embark on an individualized, student-generated Capstone for three weeks at the end of their senior year. They identify their

area of interest, envision their own project, conduct interviews with professionals outside of CSS, and secure a community mentor. The project culminates in a presentation to outside mentors, faculty, peers and parents. Capstones help students explore potential career goals.

DIGITAL PORTFOLIO

Students deepen their learning and strengthen their skills by reflecting on experiences in Digital Portfolio, an online digital collection of their best work. They select pieces as “artifacts” that capture their understanding of one of eight capacities such as leadership and teamwork and global perspective. Digital portfolios provide a longitudinal record of learning for students and prospective colleges that is more real and comprehensive than standardized testing.

CURRICULUM AND GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS

Our AP courses, bolded below, are the most rigorous courses we offer in each discipline and students are prepared for the appropriate AP exam. A minimum of 31 credits are required for graduation.

ENGLISH

4 Credits Required

English 9 World Literature & Composition
English 10 European Literature & Composition
English 11 American Literature & Composition
English 12 Senior Seminar
AP Language & Composition
AP Literature & Composition

SCIENCE

3 Credits Required

Biology
Chemistry
Introduction to Computer Science
Physics
Environmental Science
Anatomy & Physiology
Astronomy
Advanced Chemistry
AP Computer Science
AP Biology
AP Environmental Science
AP Physics

HISTORY

3 Credits Required

Global Studies & World Geography
World History
US History
Microeconomics
Macroeconomics
AP Microeconomics
AP Macroeconomics
AP US History
AP Comparative Government & Politics
AP Psychology

MATHEMATICS

4 Credits Required

Advanced Geometry
Algebra II
Function, Statistics, Trigonometry (FST)
Statistics
Investment & Finance
Advanced FST / Precalculus
AP Statistics
AP Calculus AB/BC

WORLD LANGUAGE

3 Credits Required

French I, II, III, IV
Spanish I, II, III, IV, V
Spanish Literature
AP Spanish
AP French

ARTS

2 Credits Required

Art Foundations
Band
Vocal Ensemble
Acting
Woodworking
Painting
Video Production
Yearbook
Glass
Ceramics
Digital Photography
Jewelry
Dark Room
Print Making
Music Theory
Metal
Portfolio & Studio Art
Advanced Art
Advanced Ceramics

EXPERIENCE-CENTERED SEMINAR

(one each year)

4 Credits Required

ATHLETICS / ACTIVITIES

4 credits Required

Competitive varsity sports include soccer, volleyball, basketball, cross-country, tennis, and mountain biking. One year of Model UN, Theatre, or 50 hours of Community Service (per semester).

GENERAL ELECTIVES

3 credits Required

COLLEGE OVERVIEW

0.25 credit

PUBLIC SPEAKING

0.25 credit

HEALTH AND WELLNESS

0.5 credit

GRADING SCALE

UNWEIGHTED GPA	A+	A	A-	B+	B	B-	C+	C	C-	D+	D	D-	F	P
	4.333	4.000	3.667	3.333	3.000	2.667	2.333	2.000	1.667	1.333	1.000	0.667	0.000	PASSING
WEIGHTED GPA	A+	A	A-	B+	B	B-	C+	C	C-	D+	D	D-	F	P
	5.333	5.000	4.667	4.333	4.000	3.667	3.333	3.000	2.667	1.333	1.000	0.667	0.000	PASSING
CREDITS BY DEPARTMENT	ENGLISH	SCIENCE	HISTORY	MATH	WORLD LANGUAGE	THE ARTS	ECS	ATHLETICS/ACTIVITIES	GENERAL ELECTIVES	REQUIRED COURSES				
	4.00	3.00	3.00	4.00	3.00	2.00	4.00	4.00	3.00	1.00				

COLLEGE ACCEPTANCES 2017-2020

Institutions currently attended by CSS alumni are in bold.

Arizona State University
Arts University Bournemouth
Auburn University Montgomery
Austin College
Belmont University
Beloit College
Berklee College of Music
(Professional Performance)
Boise State University
Boston University
Boston University (College of
General Studies)
Brown University
California State University, Chico
California State University, Fullerton
California State University, Long
Beach
Carleton College
Carthage College
Chapman University
**Clemson University (Engineering
and Science)**
Coe College
Colgate University
College for Creative Studies
Colorado Christian University
Colorado College
Colorado Mesa University
Colorado School of Mines
Colorado State University
**Colorado State University
(College of Business)**
**Colorado State University
(College of Engineering)**
**Colorado State University
(College of Veterinary Medicine
& Biomedical Sciences)**
Colorado State University (Honors
Program)
Colorado State University Pueblo
Concordia University - Seward
**Cornell University (College of
Arts & Sciences)**
Cornell University (College of
Engineering)
**Creighton University (College of
Business Administration)**
Duquesne University
Eckerd College
**Eindhoven University of
Technology**
Emory University
Flagler College
Florida State University
Fort Hays State University
Fort Lewis College
Gonzaga University

Gordon State College
Grand Canyon University
Grinnell College
Guilford College
Illinois Institute of Technology
Ithaca College
Johnson & Wales University
(Denver)
Juniata College
Kansas City Art Institute
Kansas State University
Kenyon College
Knox College
Lafayette College
Lake Forest College
**Lawrence University
(Conservatory of Music)**
Lewis & Clark College
Linfield College
Loyola Marymount University
(Honors Program)
Loyola University Maryland
Macalester College
Maryland Institute College of Art
Marymount Manhattan College
**Massachusetts Institute of
Technology**
Miami University, Oxford
Middle Tennessee State University
Middlebury College
Montana State University, Bozeman
**Montana State University,
Bozeman (University Honors)**
Morningside College
New Mexico Institute of Mining and
Technology
New York University
**New York University (Tisch
School of the Arts)**
Newman University
North Carolina State University
(Engineering)
Northeastern University
Northeastern University (College of
Engineering)
Northern Arizona University
Northwestern University
Oberlin College of Arts and
Sciences (Arts & Sciences)
Oklahoma City University
Oklahoma State University
Olds College
Oxford College of Emory University
Pace University, New York City
Pennsylvania State University
**Pennsylvania State University -
Harrisburg**

Pikes Peak Community College
Pima Community College
Purdue University
Purdue University (College of
Engineering)
Purdue University (Honors College)
Reed College
Regis University
Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute
Rhode Island School of Design
Ringling College of Art and Design
Ringling College of Art and Design
Rockhurst University
Rollins College
Saint Louis University
San Diego State University
Santa Clara University (College of
Arts & Sciences)
Santa Clara University (Leavey
School of Business)
**Savannah College of Art and
Design**
**School of the Art Institute of
Chicago**
School of Visual Arts
Seoul National University
South Dakota School of Mines and
Technology
Southern Methodist University
(School of Business)
State College of Florida
Syracuse University
Texas A&M University
Texas Christian University
Texas Tech University
The College of Wooster
The Culinary Institute of America-
NY (Main Campus)
The George Washington University
The King's College
The University of Arizona
**The University of Arizona
(Business & Public
Administration)**
The University of Arizona
(Engineering)
The University of Oklahoma
Trinity University
Tufts University
**Tulane University (Newcomb
College of Liberal Arts &
Sciences)**
United States Air Force Academy
University College London
University of British Columbia
University of California, Berkeley
University of California, Davis

University of California, Los
Angeles
University of Colorado at Boulder
**University of Colorado at Boulder
(Aerospace Engineering)**
University of Colorado at Boulder
(College of Engineering &
Applied Science)
University of Colorado at Boulder
(Kittredge Honors Program)
University of Colorado at Boulder
(School of Business)
University of Colorado at Denver
**University of Colorado Colorado
Springs**
University of Connecticut
University of Denver
**University of Denver (Daniels
College of Business)**
University of Denver
**University of Denver (University
College)**
University of Kansas
University of Kent
University of La Verne
University of Mary Hardin-Baylor
University of Miami
University of Minnesota, Twin Cities
(CSE College of Science
and Engin)
**University of North Carolina
Wilmington**
University of Northern Colorado
University of Pittsburgh
University of Redlands
University of Rhode Island
University of San Diego
University of San Francisco
University of Southern California
University of Southern California
University of Toronto
University of Tulsa
University of Vermont
University of Virginia
**University of Wisconsin -
Madison**
University of Wyoming
University of York
Virginia Tech (Engineering)
Washington State University
Webster University
West Texas A&M University
Western Colorado University
Western Washington University
Whittier College
Wichita State University
Yale University