



VERITAS ACADEMY OF TUCSON

2021-2022
SCHOOL PROFILE

2151 North Palo Verde Boulevard, Tucson, Arizona 85716 | (520) 576-0427 | www.vatucson.com

Our Community

Veritas Academy of Tucson is a Christian, classical, liberal arts, college-preparatory program. It cultivates wisdom and virtue through rigorous curricula, character/leadership education, fine arts, competitive athletics, and an array of other extra-curricular activities.

Veritas utilizes a classical curriculum modeled after the trivium. Students learn in three stages: Grammar (K-6), Logic (7-8) and Rhetoric (9-12). The subjects of math, science, history, and languages are prioritized throughout their education. Content is organized around the chronological study of historical time periods, while emphasizing the use of authentic literature throughout all three stages of the trivium.

Veritas opened in 2010 with grades K-5 and 24 students. Now, in our twelfth year, we have grown to 185 students at an average growth rate of 20% per year. One grade has been added each year, with the School of Logic opening in 2012, and the School of Rhetoric opening in 2014. Since 2019, we have graduated four students, one of whom is our first National Merit Scholar. We look forward to graduating nine outstanding seniors this May.

ACCREDITATION/CERTIFICATION

In 2018, Veritas applied for and received certification through University Model™ Schools International, and, in the spring of 2021, completed our accreditation with Christian Schools International (CSI) and Cognia.

GPA

A student's GPA will begin to accumulate on the official transcript in 9th grade and will include only year-end grades for Veritas coursework taken in grades 9-12. The GPA will not include grades for credits earned before 9th grade, for outside coursework approved for credit, or for approved transfer coursework. The official Veritas transcript will only show the Veritas GPA.

MEMBERS

- Association of Christian Schools International
- Association of Classical Christian Schools
- Christian Schools International
- University Model Schools International
- Tucson Independent Athletic League
- Southern Arizona Athletic Association

NATIONAL MERIT FINALIST

1 National Merit Finalist/
Semifinalist (Since first graduating class 2019)

STANDARDIZED TEST SCORES

SAT – class of 2020 average: 1325
class of 2022 middle 50%
range to date: 1290-1310

ACT – class of 2020 average: 28
class of 2022 middle 50%
range to date: 29-31

CLT – class of 2020 average: 95.5
class of 2022 middle 50%
range to date: 81-82

STUDENT BODY

Enrollment (K-12)185
School of Rhetoric (9-12).....26

GRADING SCALE

A (4.0) = 90 - 100%
B (3.0) = 80 - 89%
C (2.0) = 70 - 79%
D (1.0) = 60 - 69%*

*Course credit is awarded only for courses passed with a grade of 70% (C) or higher.

PROFILE OF A GRADUATE

All students seeking a Veritas diploma must complete a Senior Thesis, a yearlong, independent research project culminating in a written report, with delivery and defense of the thesis before a panel of faculty judges at the end of the school year. Students are required to earn 26 course credits and fulfill 70 hours of community service prior to graduation. To receive a Veritas diploma students must fulfill the following:

- Literature – 4 credits
- History – 4 credits
- Doctrine & Theology – 1 credit
- Math – 4 credits
- Science – 4 credits
- Foreign Language – 2 credits
- Rhetoric – 2 credits
- Fine Arts – 2 credits
- Christian Leadership – 1 credit
- Logic – 1 credit
- Government & Economics – 1 credit

Veritas utilizes a university-type schedule where students attend a mix of one, two and three-day-a-week classes; 1 credit is equal to a year-long course meeting 2.5 hours per week.

GRADUATION WITH DISTINCTION

To graduate with distinction, students must have:

Minimum GPA of 3.5

12 Honors/Advanced credits

Minimum 30 credits

(includes additional credit requirements for doctrine & theology, foreign language, rhetoric and Christian leadership)

HONORS COURSES

- Honors Literature (9-12)
- Honors History (9-12)
- Honors Doctrine & Theology (9-12)
- Honors Mathematics (9-12)
- Honors Science (9-12)
- Honors Latin (9-10)
- Honors French (10-11)
- Honors Rhetoric (10-12)

AP COURSES

- AP Environmental Science
 - AP Latin
- Honors/AP courses are weighted at +1(A=5.0).

CLASS RANKING

Veritas does not rank students

CLASSICAL CURRICULUM

The School of Rhetoric (grades 9-12) is the culmination of the trivium. In the rhetoric stage, students take all they have studied in the grammar and logic stages and then learn how to present themselves in a wise and winsome manner. The emphasis of all classes in the rhetoric stage are writing and speaking well.

CURRICULUM

WESTERN CIVILIZATION

Modern European History, Literature, Doctrine & Theology (9)
Classical World History, Literature, Doctrine & Theology (10)
Medieval History, Literature, Doctrine & Theology (11)
U.S. History, Literature, Doctrine & Theology (12)

SCIENCE

Biology
Chemistry
Physics
AP Environmental Science

RHETORIC

Rhetoric 1 (Classical)
Rhetoric II (Modern, Speech & Debate)
Rhetoric III (Senior Thesis)

LANGUAGES

Latin I, II, III, IV, AP Latin
French I, II

MATH

Algebra 1
Advanced Algebra I
Geometry
Algebra II & Trigonometry
Pre-Calculus
Calculus
Statistics

VISUAL & PERFORMING ARTS

Drawing I, Drawing II, Interior Design, Advanced Watercolor, Figure Drawing, Portrait Drawing, Sculpture, Printmaking, Yearbook, Choir, String Ensemble

OTHER REQUIRED COURSES

Logic I & II
U.S. Government & Economics
Christian Leadership Courses (Apologetics, Christian Foundations, Biblical Exegesis, Worldviews)

OTHER ELECTIVES

Computer Science Applications

WESTERN CIVILIZATION

Western Civilization courses are Great Books courses, a historically effective way to educate and create thinkers. Combining history, theology, and literature, these courses help students grow in their appreciation of the unity of all knowledge. Students move sequentially through historical time periods, repeating each period twice in grades 7-12. They study Modern European History & Literature (9th), Classical World History & Literature (10th), Medieval History & Literature (11th), and U.S. History & Literature (12th), reading over 100 of the Great Books of Western Civilization by graduation.

LOGIC

Veritas students take two years of formal logic, learning both deductive and inductive reasoning skills. As a science, logic identifies the rules that govern reason; and as an art it teaches us how we are to follow those rules. The Veritas student of logic will explore an expression of God's unchanging, orderly, truthful character. Students will improve reasoning skills and wield the very tools of learning. Students take Introductory Logic (8th) and Intermediate Logic (9th).

RHETORIC

Much of the classical tradition intended to speak and write what was true, good, and beautiful. Rhetoric students review sound reasoning skills and learn about clear communication from ancient masters of rhetoric (i.e. Aristotle, Cicero, Quintilian and Augustine) in Classical Rhetoric (10th). Then students focus on application in Rhetoric in the Modern World (11th). The capstone course, Senior Thesis (12th), is a culmination of all their learning. Students prepare an extensive paper on a topic carefully selected by them and agreed on with the instructor. They defend their positions orally before a panel of faculty judges at the end of the year.

LATIN

Veritas students begin learning Latin vocabulary in 1st grade, and continue for nine years, through the completion of at least two credits toward their Veritas diploma (Latin II & III) and the completion of their study of Latin grammar. The study of Latin provides students a basis for study of primary sources and classical works, in addition to preparing them for further study in the romantic languages. Some students choose to continue the study of Latin, either taking Advanced Latin Translation or AP Latin.

MATH

The study of mathematics lends itself well to the trivium model. Students in the School of Grammar focus on learning and memorizing math facts. In the School of Logic, students explore mathematical equations and situations as statements of logic. Students in the School of Rhetoric use their understanding of mathematical concepts to explore how numerical, algebraic and graphical models relate. At Veritas, our focus is on the wonder of math and exploring God's ordered world. The program of study is as follows: ninth grade students study Geometry, tenth grade students study Algebra 2 and Trigonometry, and eleventh grade students study Precalculus. Seniors may take either Calculus or Statistics.

SCIENCE

The goal of science at Veritas is to learn more about God by observing His created natural and physical world, and to understand this world through research and experimentation. Science courses have labs woven throughout the coursework. In the School of Rhetoric, students will study Biology, Chemistry, Physics, and AP Environmental Science.

LITERARY WORKS

<i>The Holy Bible</i>	
Homer.....	<i>Odyssey, Iliad</i>
Plato.....	<i>The Last Days of Socrates, The Republic</i>
Aristotle.....	<i>Nicomachean Ethics, Politics, Poetics</i>
Euclid.....	<i>Elements, books 1 & 3</i>
Aeschylus.....	<i>Orestia</i>
Herodotus.....	<i>Histories</i>
Thucydides.....	<i>The Peloponnesian War</i>
Livy.....	<i>The Early History of Rome</i>
Lucretius.....	<i>On the Nature of Things</i>
Virgil.....	<i>Aeneid, Eclogues and Georgics</i>
Tacitus.....	<i>Annals of Imperial Rome</i>
Aurelius.....	<i>Meditations</i>
Eusebius.....	<i>The Church History</i>
Athanasius.....	<i>On the Incarnation</i>
Boethius.....	<i>The Consolation of Philosophy</i>
Augustine.....	<i>City of God, Confessions</i>
Einhard & Notker.....	<i>Two Lives of Charlemagne</i>
Geoffrey of Monmouth.....	<i>The History of the Kings of Britain</i>
Aquinas.....	<i>Summa Theologica</i>
Dante.....	<i>The Divine Comedy: Inferno, Purgatory, Paradise</i>
Chaucer.....	<i>The Canterbury Tales</i>
Luther.....	<i>On Vocation</i>
Calvin.....	<i>The Institutes of Christian Religion</i>
Foxe.....	<i>Foxe's Book of Martyrs</i>
Machiavelli.....	<i>The Prince</i>
Shakespeare.....	<i>Macbeth, Julius Caesar, A Midsummer Night's Dream, Hamlet, Troilus Cressida, Anthony and Cleopatra, King Richard the III</i>
Milton.....	<i>Paradise Lost</i>
Bunyan.....	<i>The Pilgrim's Progress</i>
Austen.....	<i>Pride and Prejudice</i>
Swift.....	<i>Gulliver's Travels</i>
Pyle.....	<i>The Merry Adventures of Robin Hood</i>
Rousseau.....	<i>The Social Contract</i>
Franklin.....	<i>Autobiography of Benjamin Franklin</i>
Burke.....	<i>Reflections on the Revolution in France</i>
Dickens.....	<i>Tale of Two Cities, Hard Times</i>
Poe.....	<i>The Pit and the Pendulum</i>
Verne.....	<i>Twenty Thousand Leagues Under the Sea</i>
Twain.....	<i>The Adventure of Tom Sawyer, A Connecticut Yankee in King Arthur's Court</i>
Doyle.....	<i>The Lost World</i>
Machen.....	<i>Christianity and Liberalism</i>
Hemingway.....	<i>Old Man and the Sea</i>
Conrad.....	<i>Heart of Darkness</i>
Stowe.....	<i>Uncle Tom's Cabin</i>
Lincoln.....	<i>Lincoln's Speeches</i>
Marx.....	<i>The Communist Manifesto</i>
Ten Boom.....	<i>The Hiding Place</i>
Lewis.....	<i>The Magician's Nephew, The Lion, The Witch and the Wardrobe, The Horse & His Boy, Prince Caspian, The Voyage of the Dawn Treader, The Silver Chair, The Last Battle, The Screwtape Letters, The Great Divorce, Out of the Silent Planet, Perelandra, That Hideous Strength</i>
Tolkien.....	<i>The Hobbit, The Fellowship of the Ring, The Two Towers, The Return of the King</i>
Christie.....	<i>Death on the Nile</i>
Shaara.....	<i>The Killer Angels</i>
Henty.....	<i>The Dragon and the Raven</i>
Forbes.....	<i>Johnny Tremain</i>
Foster.....	<i>Augustus Caesar's World</i>
Schaeffer.....	<i>Art and the Bible</i>
Eco.....	<i>The Name of the Rose</i>
Sproul.....	<i>Chosen by God</i>
Packer.....	<i>Knowing God</i>
Keller.....	<i>King's Cross</i>
Melville.....	<i>Moby Dick</i>
de Tocqueville.....	<i>Democracy in America</i>
Twain.....	<i>Huckleberry Finn</i>
Steinbeck.....	<i>The Grapes of Wrath</i>
Ambrose.....	<i>Citizen Soldiers</i>
King.....	<i>Letter from a Birmingham Jail</i>
Paine.....	<i>Common Sense</i>
Irving.....	<i>The Legend of Sleepy Hollow</i>
McCullough.....	<i>John Adams</i>
Thoreau.....	<i>Civil Disobedience</i>
Sinclair.....	<i>The Jungle</i>
Bradbury.....	<i>Fahrenheit 451</i>
Other.....	<i>Apocrypha, Epic of Gilgamesh, Code of Hammurabi, Aesop's Fables, The Saga of the Volsungs, Beowulf, The Apostolic Fathers, The Creeds, The Koran, The Song of Roland, Sir Gawain and the Green Knight, The Westminster Confession of Faith, Declaration of Independence, The United States Constitution, Articles of Confederation, The Federalist & Anti-Federalists Papers, Slave Narratives</i>
	Poetry of Whitman, Dickinson, Frost & Eliot

SPECIAL PROGRAMS

Veritas Valor Scholarship

A \$1000 scholarship is awarded to Seniors who are able to recite from memory all 16 chapters of Scripture learned in grades K-12 as follows: Psalm 23, Luke 2:1-19 (Christmas story), Matthew 28:1-9 (Easter story), Matthew 5, 6 & 7 (Sermon on the Mount), Romans 8, John 15, The book of James (5 chapters), Isaiah 40, Hebrews 11, and Hebrews 12.

CLUBS & ACTIVITIES

Student Senate	Drama
National Honor Society	Fencing
Latin Club	Yearbook
Fall Retreat	Ski Trip to Colorado
Senior Trip to Italy	Outdoor Adventure
	Historic Ball

ATHLETICS

Girls' Volleyball Boys' Basketball