



TRINITY SCHOOL

of Durham and Chapel Hill

2023-2024 UPPER SCHOOL PROFILE • CEEB 341-039

4011 Pickett Road • Durham, NC 27705 • 919-402-8262 • www.trinityschoolnc.org

Mission

The mission of Trinity School is to educate students in transitional kindergarten to grade 12 within the framework of Christian faith and conviction—teaching the classical tools of learning; providing a rich yet unhurried education; and communicating truth, goodness, and beauty.

History

Trinity School was founded in 1995 by parents seeking a Christian school with an excellent college-preparatory program that integrates faith and learning. Located in the heart of Trinity's 22-acre TK–12 campus in Durham, North Carolina, Trinity's Upper School was established in the fall of 2006, with 16 students in the first graduating class of 2010. Today, more than 450 Trinity graduates are making a difference in their communities, workplaces, families, and church congregations.

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Accreditation

Christian Schools International (CSI)
Southern Association of Independent
Schools (SAIS)

Memberships

North Carolina Association of
Independent Schools (NCAIS)
National Association for
College Admission Counseling
(NACAC)

Enrollment and Quick Facts

- 586 students attend Trinity School
- 282 in Lower School (TK–grade 6)
- 100 in Middle School (grades 7–8)
- 204 in Upper School (grades 9–12)
- 45 students in the class of 2024
- Average class size of 14 students
- 8:1 Student-faculty ratio
- Upper School faculty hold 19 advanced degrees

Deep, Inquiry-Based Study

Trinity's Upper School engages students in a rich, liberal arts curriculum that values depth and understanding, Socratic discussion, inquiry and self-discovery, self-reflection, eloquent expression, critical and creative thinking, and the classical tools of learning. This study, grounded in Christian faith and practice, helps cultivate transformative personal and intellectual growth. In the interdisciplinary Great Books tradition, all students in grades 9–11 explore ancient and modern ideas, literature, history, art, and faith in yearlong Humanities courses. These classes meet for twice the time allotted to other disciplines and satisfy graduation requirements for both English and history. Students in Honors Humanities engage with a "big question" and, through substantial research, produce sophisticated essays, reflections in other art forms, and a public defense of their conclusions.

Senior Capstone

Each senior is required to complete a semester- or year-long independent project, including at least 75–100 hours of work, guided by a faculty advisor in a discipline of the student's choosing. Topics have ranged from constructing a robotic arm for a UNC marine lab, to recording an album of original music, to studying the impact of humanitarian contributions on Third World development, to serving as an assistant in a Duke University research lab.

Distinctives of Trinity Graduates

In Trinity's first 14 graduating classes (490 alumni total), our seniors have been distinguished with 14 full scholarships (tuition, room, and board): four Morehead-Cain Scholarships at the University of North Carolina; a Teaching Fellows Scholarship; a Faculty Scholarship at Whitworth University; a David Bittle Scholarship at Roanoke College; a Trustee Scholarship at Loyola Marymount; US Naval Academy and US Air Force Academy appointments; and an ROTC Scholarship at Davidson College. Other accolades include seven Division I athletic scholarships; 18 Governor's School placements; National Merit commended, semifinalist, and finalist scholarships; and more than \$18 million in merit awards.

Class of 2024 (45 Students)

Because our graduating classes are small, our range of grades narrow, and our college-preparatory program rigorous, Trinity School does not rank its students. Unweighted GPAs are based on a 4.0 scale, and honors grades are weighted an additional 25 percent. An A is Trinity's highest mark.

SAT SUMMARY (MIDDLE 50%)

Evidenced-Based Reading & Writing	600–710
Math	560–650
Total	1190–1360

ACT SUMMARY (MIDDLE 50%)

English	24–34
Math	20–28
Reading	27–33
Science	22–31
Composite	23–31

CLASS OF 2024 GPA DISTRIBUTION

GPA Range	Weighted	Unweighted
4.5–4.72	13.33%	0.00%
4.0–4.49	31.11%	4.44%
3.5–3.99	17.78%	51.11%
3.0–3.49	13.33%	20.00%
2.0–2.99	24.44%	24.44%

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Class of 2024 Graduation Requirements

Trinity requires a minimum of 20 credits for a diploma, including the following:

- English (4)
- History (3)
- Mathematics (3)
- Theology Studies I and II (1.0)
- Rhetoric (.5)
- Computer Competency (.5)
- Lab Science (3)
- Foreign Language (3)
- Visual or Performing Arts (1)
- Health and Wellness (.5)
- Senior Capstone (.5)

Student Course Load

The Upper School is committed to helping students maintain a healthy experience and to balance their overall academic load, co-curricular involvements, and other commitments. Students typically take five core academic classes (humanities / English & history; math; science; and foreign language) and one or two electives. Upper School students must be enrolled in a minimum of 4 core academic classes and 5 total classes each semester and may take no more than 7 classes each semester. No more than 5 of these can be honors courses. Fall semester seniors, because of time-consuming college applications, may take no more than 6 classes (including Capstone). Students desiring course loads outside these parameters must receive written permission of the US Director.

Honors Courses

Trinity offers honors courses for students with the gifts, study habits, and attitude to do well in them. Students must be recommended for an honors class by their current teacher. If a student is requesting an honors course, and they do not have a Trinity teacher who is able to recommend them, the decision about placement into the honors course will be deferred to the department chair. Students wishing to take more than two honors classes per semester must receive the permission of the Director of the Upper School. From 2020–2024, members of the class of 2024 completed or are in the process of completing 360 total honors courses.

COURSE OFFERINGS

HUMANITIES

Humanities 9: Ancient Civilizations*
Humanities 10: Western Studies*
Humanities 11: American Studies*
The Literature of C. S. Lewis*
African-American Studies*
Shakespeare*
Modern Literature*
Film and Literature*
Technical and Creative Writing*
Model UN Global Studies
Epidemics as History Makers*
The American Civil War*
Economics
US Government and Politics*
History of the Non-Western World

MATH

Algebra I and II*
Geometry*
Precalculus*
Statistics*
Calculus I (Honors)
Calculus I / II (Honors)
Independent Study in Math
Discrete Mathematics

SCIENCE

Physics*
Chemistry*
Biology*
Ecology
Environmental Studies
Organic Biochemistry*
Anatomy and Physiology*
Marine Biology
Advanced Physics (Honors)
Chemistry of Energy (Honors)

VISUAL & PERFORMING ARTS

Studio Art I, II, and III
Art Portfolio I and II
Sculptural Ceramics
Vessel Ceramics
Introduction to Photography
Performance Theater
Advanced Performance Theater
Musical Theater
Technical Theater
Jazz Ensemble
Vocal Ensemble
Music Theory and Composition
(Beginner, Intermediate, and Advanced)

LANGUAGES

Latin II*, III*, IV (Honors), and V (Honors)
Spanish Essentials
Spanish I, II, III*, and IV (Honors)
American Sign Language I, II, and III

ENGINEERING & COMPUTER SCIENCE

Engineering Design I, II, and III
Robotics
Introduction to Computer Programming

REQUIREMENTS & GENERAL ELECTIVES

Health and Wellness
Theology I and II
Rhetoric
Senior Capstone
Academic Skills
Lions Sharpen Lions
Strength and Conditioning
Yearbook

SERVICE LEARNING

Servant Leadership
Literacy and the Augustine Project
Non Nobis Peer Mentorship Program

**Course is offered at both college-prep and honors levels.*

Students who attended Trinity School in grades 7–8 complete the equivalent of Algebra I and Latin I.