



# Veritas Preparatory Academy

2018-2019 Academic Year | [veritasprep.greatheartacademies.org](http://veritasprep.greatheartacademies.org)

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## School Information

School Code - 030583  
Established Date - 2002  
Size (9-12th grade enrollment) - 355 students  
Accreditation - American Academy of Liberal Education (AALE)

## Our Prep Schools



## GreatHearts

Great Hearts Academies is a non-profit network of charter schools and the largest "brick and mortar" provider of classical liberal arts education in the nation.

As a public charter, we provide a tuition-free education for approximately 17,000 students in 29 academies in Arizona and Texas. Great Hearts is subject to open enrollment laws. Typically, our academies receive more applications for enrollment than there are seats available. If this is the case for any grade level at an academy, a lottery will be held. Students who are not admitted through the lottery process will be placed on a waitlist and may be offered admission during that year if a seat becomes available.

Our Core curriculum is a robust liberal arts education that introduces students to the tools of critical inquiry essential to each discipline and every walk of life. The Great Books curriculum emphasizes the fundamentals of the arts, sciences, and humanities as students are in conversation with many of the most challenging, influential texts in the Western canon. This academic approach prepares college-bound students for the rigors of higher education as well as agreeing with Plato, that the highest goal of education is to become good, intellectually and morally.

## Network Averages

(Testing results of 474 students from the Class of 2018)

|                            | Middle 50% | Mean |
|----------------------------|------------|------|
| SAT                        |            |      |
| SAT EB Reading and Writing | 560-670    | 610  |
| SAT Math                   | 540-670    | 600  |
| SAT Composite              | 1110-1320  | 1210 |
| ACT                        |            |      |
| English                    | 23-32      | 27.1 |
| Reading                    | 23-32      | 26.9 |
| Math                       | 23-29      | 25.7 |
| Science                    | 22-28      | 25   |
| Composite                  | 23-30      | 26.3 |

National Merit Commended: 27 (5.7%)

National Merit Finalists: 9 (1.9%)

National Hispanic Finalists: 11 (2.32%)

Students immediately attending college: 453 (95.57%)

Students who took a gap year: 7 (1.48%)

Students who are attending a service academy: 5 (1.05%)

Students who are attending the military: 8 (1.69%)

## Veritas Prep- Faculty Data

43 # of faculty members

8:1 Student/Teacher Ratio

24 # of faculty members with a Masters degree

3 # of faculty members with a PhD

# High School Curriculum

## 9<sup>th</sup> Grade Curriculum:

- Honors Humane Letters I: The American Tradition
- Honors Geometry
- Honors Biology (with lab)
- Music Theory III / Choir
- Honors Modern Language I (French or Spanish), Honors Latin IV or Honors Latin I Intensive
- Poetry I

## 10<sup>th</sup> Grade Curriculum:

- Honors Humane Letters II: The Rise of Modern Europe
- Honors Algebra II/Trigonometry
- Honors Chemistry (with lab)
- Music Theory IV / Choir
- Honors Modern Language II (French or Spanish), Honors Latin V or Honors Latin II Intensive
- Poetry II

## 11<sup>th</sup> Grade Curriculum:

- Honors Humane Letters III: Ancient Greece
- Honors Calculus I
- Honors Physics I (with lab)
- Drama I
- Honors Modern Language III (French or Spanish), Honors Ancient Greek I or Honors Latin IV
- Honors Economics (Part I)
- Studio Art

## 12<sup>th</sup> Grade Curriculum:

- Honors Humane Letters IV: Western Thought from Middle Ages to Modernity
- Honors Calculus II
- Honors Physics II (with lab)
- Honors Modern Language IV (French or Spanish), Honors Ancient Greek II or Honors Latin V
- Honors Economics (Part II)
- Drama II
- Studio Art
- Senior Thesis & Defense

## Senior Thesis and Defense:

Each graduate completes a capstone project known as the Senior Thesis. The Senior Thesis is the culmination of the student's years at the academy. It is a year-long paper completed in addition to the normal course load. The student, under the supervision of a faculty advisor, explores a scholarly question of his/her choice through the close reading of two to three works from the Western Intellectual Tradition. The final project illustrates a deep understanding of the topic through a 15-20 page paper and a thesis defense, a public presentation and oral examination with a faculty panel. Students receive .25 credit for successfully completing their thesis and defense.

Due to our deliberate Great Books curriculum and dedication to Socratic seminar, no AP classes or electives are offered; instead, all students take a common sequence of honors level classes. The core curriculum is four years of college-prep math, four years of laboratory science, four years of Humane Letters (a two hour block) that includes four years of English, literature/philosophy and four years of social science. All students also enroll in four years of full immersion foreign language or ancient language, and fine arts.

Humane Letters: Perhaps the most distinctive feature of the high school curriculum at Great Hearts is Humane Letters. The class is an exploration of the permanent questions that animate any truly human life through the history and literature of the Great Tradition of the West. What is a good man and good citizen, what are the qualities of a true friend, what kinds of virtue are necessary for a flourishing political

and moral life are just a few of the important questions that are addressed with uncommon subtlety and profundity in the books that we read together. Meeting daily for nearly two hours affords an opportunity for serious discussion among students guided by a skilled teacher who assists them to read more deeply, exploring difficulties and puzzles, and ever striving for greater clarity. This collaborative setting allows for the development of the art of conversation, which includes above all the habit of listening well to both the great authors as well as their peers.

\*Core Course studies may be reflected on a student's transcript. The Core Course Studies class provides students with instruction and support to enable them to progress academically in core content areas. This instruction supplements but does not supplant any core-area course that students are also enrolled in.

