



Mission

- Think critically
- Act responsibly
- Lead compassionately
- Innovate wisely

Vision

To inspire students to create a better world.



HEAD OF SCHOOL

Sam Uzwick

HEAD OF COLLEGE COUNSELING

Bart Gummere

bgummere@eastsideprep.org

COLLEGE COUNSELING COORDINATOR

Katharine Yost

kyost@eastsideprep.org

PROCESS COACHES

Elizabeth Andersen

eandersen@eastsideprep.org

Mike Anderson

manderson@eastsideprep.org

Kelly Violette

kviolette@eastsideprep.org

Adam Waltzer

awaltzer@eastsideprep.org

WRITING COACHES

Stephen Keedy

skeedy@eastsideprep.org

Allison Luhrs

aluhrs@eastsideprep.org

Jennifer Oakes

joakes@eastsideprep.org

All college coaches at EPS split their time between college counseling and teaching in the classroom.

10613 NE 38th Place, Kirkland, WA 98033

www.eastsideprep.org

425-822-5668

CEEB Code: 480564

Thanks for your interest in our school. We hope this document helps you better understand our students and curriculum. As questions arise please reach out to any of us listed to the left.

Eastside Preparatory School (EPS) is a highly selective independent school with a dynamic, interdisciplinary curriculum grounded in a liberal arts education with a heavy dose of STEM. EPS is situated in the center of Seattle's high-tech, global community and was founded twenty-two years ago to address the desire for greater inquiry-based, experiential learning. EPS continues to evolve, driven by its students' curiosity and a collective aim to create a better world.

COMMUNITY

One of the benefits of our location is the diverse, international professional population in this region. Our student body reflects this population. Our 537 students in grades 5-12 live in 51 distinct zip codes and matriculate from 147 different schools. 60% self-identify as students of color and 36 different languages are spoken at home. EPS is also a Rainier Scholars partner school.

- Student-to-teacher ratio: 8:1
- Average class size: 16
- Maximum class size: 18 (Excluding musical ensembles and choirs)
- Faculty with advanced degrees: 83%

FINANCIAL AID

In 2023-2024, EPS allocated \$2.3M with an average grant of \$32,000. On the school's 20th anniversary in January 2023, EPS proudly launched the school's first endowment, The Better World Endowment, to further fund financial aid and faculty professional development. \$7.3 million dollars have been raised toward this endowment.

ACCREDITATION

- NWAIS: Northwest Association of Independent Schools
- NAIS: National Association of Independent Schools

2024-2025 ACADEMIC YEAR

- **Fall**—September 4 - November 22
- **Winter**—December 3 - March 7
- **Spring**—March 11 - June 10

TESTING STATEMENT

As you review applications from students in the Seattle area, it is important for colleges to be aware of the severe lack of test center availability on the West Coast. While this has been an issue for nearly a decade, it has more recently developed into a complete absence of test sites within 100 miles of students' homes and schools. This past spring college counselors from the Seattle Area Independent Schools (SAIS) and Bay Area Independent School College Counselors (BAISCC) wrote a letter to the College Board to address our growing concerns surrounding this issue. Please see the full letter and list of signing schools here: <https://tinyurl.com/yckafws5>.

The Curriculum

EPS operates on a fast-paced trimester schedule with students taking six or seven classes each 11-week trimester. A 70-minute block schedule allows for greater depth in discussion, diversity in instruction and cooperative learning. EPS does not offer AP/IB classes and no courses are designated as honors level.

GRADING

With a fundamental belief in equity and the unique and inherent value of each of our students, EPS does not compute a class rank or grant academic awards or honors. Given the demands of the entire curriculum, GPAs are not weighted and A+ is not part of the scale.

Mid 50% of GPAs for the Classes of 2021-2024: 3.64 to 3.95

STANDARDIZED TESTING

To provide some sense of testing norms in our population, these are the middle 50% test ranges for the graduating classes of 2022 to 2024:

ACT: 31 - 35 **SAT:** 1360 - 1530

On average, 20% of EPS students each year are recognized by the National Merit Scholarship Program.

While our classes do not specifically teach toward the AP tests, some students elect to take those examinations. In May 2024, 89 students took 145 exams in 27 subjects with a median score of 4.

Special Programs

Independent offerings are decidedly collegiate in structure and rigor, providing students multiple opportunities to

- distinguish themselves as going above and beyond work offered in the core curriculum (in addition to advanced coursework)
- self-direct their learning and authorship of curricula
- expand coursework within the context of the core academic disciplines
- explore relevant, applied topics outside the scope of the core curriculum

SEMINARS (GRADES 10-12)

With the aim of preparing students for the collegiate experience, seminars are faculty-designed and employ a combination of teaching methods in small classes (5-7 students) that meet once a week for six weeks. Seminars are not graded but set high expectations for preparation and work completed outside of class time. The topics covered reflect areas of diverse faculty interest, and student enrollment is entirely voluntary.

▶ Examples of Past Seminars

Advanced Filmmaking: A Deep Dive	Systems Thinking: An Introduction to Ecological Modeling
Bhagavad Gita: A Guide to Living	The Ethics of Indigenous Rights
Creamos: Creative Expression in Spanish	The Millennium Problems: Million Dollar Math Puzzles
Global Trends 2040	Understanding Baseball Through Statistics
Indigenous Issues in Contemporary Latin America	Understanding Gravitational Wave Sources and Detection
Introduction to Queer Theatre	Worldviews, Truths, and Consequences
Literary Translation: Global Art	You Mad, Bro?: Rethinking Masculinity
Periodic Dining Table: Topics in Food Science	
Race in the United States	
Siege Warfare	

INDEPENDENT STUDY (IS) AND INDEPENDENT PROJECT (IP)

An Independent Study or Independent Project complements a student's academic experience at EPS, putting greater personal accountability on their learning and granting the freedom to explore a subject that piques their interest or extends beyond the offerings in our disciplines. Students design and pursue an independent course with the support of a faculty mentor. Students propose their course and detail a 10-week course plan and syllabus. If accepted, a student completes their self-designed course with a culminating project and a presentation to a faculty panel for credit.

SENIOR THESIS

In rare cases, students choose to pursue a Senior Thesis. (Only 22 students have completed a Senior Thesis since the program's inception in 2016.) The Senior Thesis is the most rigorous research opportunity in the EPS academic program, providing students time and support to build on the work of previous Independent Studies or Projects to produce a substantive research product. The thesis is completed over two trimesters and is designed to be both a culmination in an individual academic discipline (or an interdisciplinary domain), and preparation for intensive research as an undergraduate. Students are required to have completed one Independent Study or Project of exceptional quality as a prerequisite for proposing a Senior Thesis.

Graduation Requirements

Each trimester course (TRI) earns one credit, with a year-long course (YL) earning three credits. Students must earn 72 credits to graduate with 58 assigned across disciplines. GPAs noted on the transcript include only classes taken at EPS. More details can be found in the chart on the following page.

For the complete course catalog: courses.eastsideprep.org



TRI = Trimester

YL = Year-long

▶ Humanities Core 12 credits English* 9 credits History and Social Sciences

In grades 9-11, English and History courses are taught as integrated pairs. In grades 9 & 10, students choose from two each trimester. Throughout, our humanities courses require critical analysis, research and high-level writing.

Grade 9 TRI	Grade 10 TRI	Grade 11 YL
<i>Fall</i> Boundaries <i>or</i> Connections	<i>Fall</i> Medieval History <i>or</i> European Revolutions in Thought	American Literature with US History
<i>Winter</i> Migration <i>or</i> Exchange	<i>Winter</i> Modern Perspectives <i>or</i> Reason to Romance	
<i>Spring</i> Origins <i>or</i> Authority	<i>Spring</i> Modern History: Africa <i>or</i> Asia <i>or</i> Latin America <i>or</i> Middle East	

▶ Humanities Senior Courses *3 English credits must be earned via Senior Courses in grade 12

There are no designated advanced courses in Humanities. These senior courses presume prior content and are taught to expose students to college-level reading and writing.

English TRI	Social Science TRI
Literature and the Natural Environment	Comparative Government
Memory and Literature in the 1950s	Democratic Theories and Civic Practices
Postmodern Theory and Literature	International Relations
Theories of Literature	Law, Justice and the American Legal System
	Public Policy
	The Economics of Development

▶ Science 9 credits YL

The introductory courses in Biology, Chemistry and Physics must be taken prior to enrollment in subsequent advanced courses. Advanced Sciences are taught at an accelerated college-level pace with the most in-depth and conceptually challenging content. All Science classes include extensive laboratory work.

Grade 9	Courses YL	Courses TRI
Biology	Adv Biology	Astronomy: Planetary Systems
Grade 10	Adv Chemistry	Astronomy: Stars, Galaxies and Cosmology
Chemistry	Adv Physics	Data Science 1 & 2
Grade 11	Environmental Science	Ecology
Physics	Organic Chemistry	Geoscience
		Marine Biology

▶ Math 9 credits YL

Students follow standard progression per year with completion through Algebra 2 required. Advanced Calculus exceeds BC level AP and Adv Topics explores complex themes taught in college coursework.

Algebra 1	Geometry	Algebra 2	Pre-Calculus	Calculus	Adv. Calculus	Adv. Topics
				Statistics		

▶ Spanish 9 credits

Spanish is the only World Language offered, an intentional decision to optimize for advanced literacy, rigor and depth of courses and to integrate Spanish across disciplines.

Spanish 4 must be completed before enrolling in the advanced coursework. A small number of students enroll in world language classes outside of EPS.

Spanish YL	Courses YL	Courses TRI
Spanish 1	Advanced Language	Advanced Spanish:
Spanish 2: Foundations	Advanced Literature	Current Events
Spanish 2		Film
Spanish 3		Music
Spanish 4		

▶ Technology and Computer Science Courses TRI

Students have open access to a state-of-the-art Makerspace and Robotics Lab to enrich their study.

Programming		Design
Programming 1 & 2	Advanced Programming: Artificial Intelligence and Machine Learning	Web Design 1 & 2
Advanced Programming: Algorithms & Data Structure	Advanced Programming: Emergent Topics	Physical Meets Digital

▶ Interdisciplinary Courses TRI

Coursework in this area equips students to think critically across various disciplines so that they can better understand and navigate the modern world.

Expression	Media	Place-based	Thinking
Intro to Public Speaking	Truth in Film	Experience: Seattle	Undercover Economics
Creative Writing	Modern Mythology in American Film	Experience: Arches National Park	Evolution of Society
Adv Creative Writing	Media Literacy	Topics in Urban Planning and Community Design	Philosophy

▶ Fine & Performing Arts 5 credits TRI

Music	Theatre	Visual Art
Chamber Choir*	Acting 1 & 2	Arts Portfolio Dev
Chamber Music Ensemble*	Directing	Digital Illustration
Digital Music Studio	Stagecraft	Digital Filmmaking 1 & 2
Intro to String Instruments		Digital Photography
Intro to Wind Instruments		Drawing & Painting 1 & 2
Music Production		Graphic Design 1 & 2
Music Theory		Mixed Media
Rock Orchestra		Paper Engineering
Rock Vocal Studio		Printmaking

*YL, audition required

▶ Physical Education 5 credits TRI

A wellness class is required in grade 9. Additional courses may be completed at any time during the upper school. Credits can also be earned through interscholastic sports participation.



College Matriculations

During the five-year period 2020-2024, one EPS graduate has attended each institution listed below. When more alumni have attended, the number is noted in parentheses.

- American University
- Amherst College
- Arizona State University (3)
- Art Center College of Design
- Babson College
- Bard College (3)
- Barnard College
- Bates College
- Belmont University
- Boston College (2)
- Boston University
- Bowdoin College (4)
- Brown University (5)
- California College of the Arts
- California Institute of Technology (2)
- California Polytechnic State University, San Luis Obispo (2)
- Carleton College (2)
- Carleton University
- Carnegie Mellon University (4)
- Cascadia College
- Case Western Reserve University (4)
- Chapman University (5)
- Charles University
- Claremont McKenna College (3)
- Colby College
- Colorado College (4)
- Columbia University (3)

- Cornell University (6)
- Dalhousie University
- Davidson College
- Denison University
- DePaul University (2)
- Duke University
- Edmonds College
- Elon University
- Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University, Prescott
- Emerson College (3)
- Emory University
- Fordham University
- Franklin University Switzerland
- George Washington University (2)
- Gonzaga University (2)
- Hamilton College
- Harvard University (2)
- Harvey Mudd College (3)
- Haverford College
- Illinois Wesleyan University
- Indiana University, Bloomington (2)
- Johns Hopkins University (5)
- Kenyon College (2)
- Lafayette College
- Lewis & Clark College (2)
- Loyola Marymount University (5)
- Macalester College

- Maryland Institute College of Art
- Massachusetts Institute of Technology
- McDaniel College
- McGill University (2)
- New York University (6)
- Northeastern University (6)
- Northwestern University
- Oberlin College
- Occidental College (4)
- Olin College of Engineering
- Oregon State University (4)
- Oxford College of Emory University
- Pepperdine University
- Pitzer College (2)
- Pomona College (2)
- Purdue University (3)
- Reed College (2)
- Rice University (2)
- Rochester Institute of Technology (2)
- San Diego State University
- Santa Clara University (11)
- Sarah Lawrence College
- Savannah College of Art and Design (2)
- School of Drama at The New School
- Scripps College (4)
- Seattle University (3)
- Simpson College

- Skidmore College
- Smith College (2)
- St. Olaf College
- Stanford University (9)
- Swarthmore College (3)
- Syracuse University (4)
- Temple University, Japan
- Texas A&M University
- The Ohio State University (2)
- The University of Tampa
- Trinity College Dublin (2)
- Tufts University (5)
- Tulane University of Louisiana (3)
- University of Arizona
- University of British Columbia (2)
- University of California, Berkeley (5)
- University of California, Irvine (4)
- University of California, Los Angeles (8)
- University of California, San Diego (2)
- University of California, Santa Barbara (2)
- University of California, Santa Cruz (3)
- University of Chicago (4)
- University of Colorado, Boulder (7)
- University of Denver (3)
- University of Hawaii, Manoa (2)
- University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign
- University of Massachusetts, Amherst

- University of Miami
- University of Michigan
- University of Minnesota, Twin Cities
- University of Oregon
- University of Pennsylvania (5)
- University of Pittsburgh
- University of Portland (2)
- University of Redlands
- University of Richmond
- University of South Carolina
- University of Southern California (7)
- University of Toronto (4)
- University of Victoria (2)
- University of Washington, Seattle (46)
- University of Waterloo (2)
- Uppsala Universitet
- Vanderbilt University (2)
- Villanova University (2)
- Washington State University
- Washington University in St. Louis (2)
- Wesleyan University
- Western Washington University (5)
- Whitman College (3)
- Whittier College
- Willamette University
- Worcester Polytechnic Institute (5)
- Yale University