

INTRODUCTION

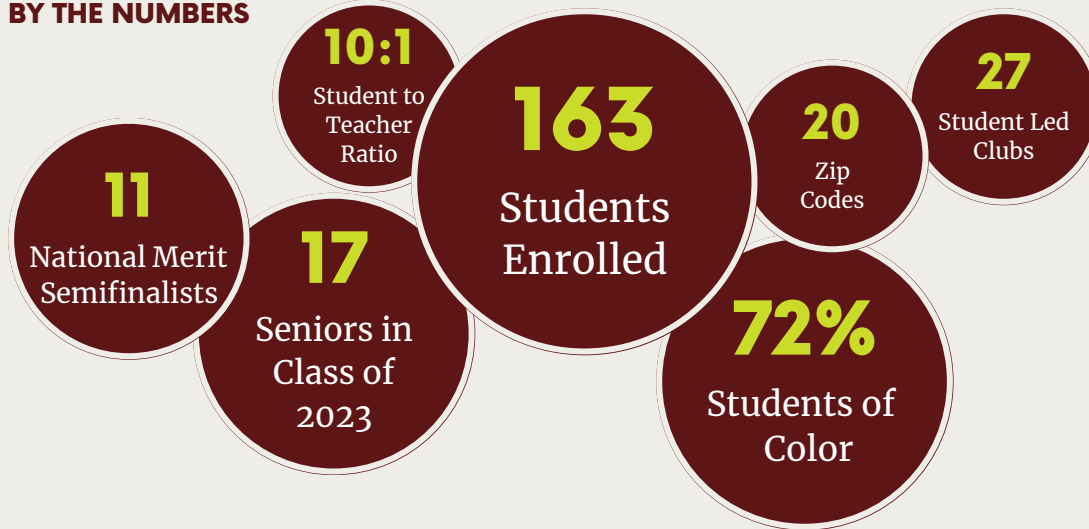
Established in 2006, the Davidson Academy offers profoundly gifted students, who are prepared to progress through a middle and/or high school curriculum a rigorous academic setting.

The Academy is a public day school located on the University of Nevada campus designated by Nevada legislation as a “university school for profoundly gifted pupils” (NRS Chapter 392A). Driven by our mission to provide profoundly gifted young people an advanced educational opportunity matched to their abilities, strengths, and interests, students are grouped by ability, not by age or grade. All students must meet the following eligibility criteria:

- A score of 99.9% or above on nationally normed intelligence tests and/or nationally normed tests.
- Demonstration of superior academic achievement and intellectual potential.
- Motivation, social and emotional maturity, and overall readiness for an accelerated educational environment.

In the 2017-2018 school year, Davidson Academy launched its online campus available to students anywhere in the US and Canada. As of the 2022-2023 school year, Davidson Academy Online is now an Independent School with CEEB code 292246. Davidson Academy will continue to be a public school.

BY THE NUMBERS



CURRICULUM

Each Academy student develops a Prospective Learning Plan (PLP) to serve as a roadmap for academic and personal goals. These plans guide students through a rigorous core curriculum and help them make elective decisions based on their interests and abilities. PLPs are consistent with the Academy’s philosophy to treat students as individuals invested in their own learning. High school students engage in a blend of advanced high school, undergraduate, and graduate level courses. We emphasize breadth and depth rather than teaching to any particular standardized test or curriculum. Our coursework stresses high-level thinking skills, critical and creative engagement, collaborative discussion with fellow classmates, as well as opportunities for experiential learning. Our classes are small and designed so students must be active in their learning.

Academy students must take at least five graded courses each semester. During senior year, students are required to take four graded courses each semester. Core subject classes take place Monday–Thursday, and most electives take place on Fridays.

EXTRACURRICULAR AND CLUB ACTIVITIES

Due to the rigor of the curriculum, we encourage our students to take part in a modest, but meaningful amount of extracurricular activities within and outside the school community.

sampling of extra-curricular activities	DECA	Math Competitions	Music Ensembles
	Science Olympiad	Science Bowl	Theater and Dance
	Club and Zoned high school athletics	First Lego League	Speech and Debate
	Graduate level research	Robotics	Martial Arts
		Scholastic Arts & Writing	

Responsibility ▪ Integrity ▪ Balance ▪ Leadership ▪ Pursuit of Knowledge ▪ Respect

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Accreditation
Special Purpose School by the Northwest Accreditation Commission (NWAC), a division of Cognia.

School Recognitions

- Named to the "Public Elites List" by the Washington Post's Jay Mathews College Transitions
- Ranked #1 as the "Best Public High School" in Nevada and "Best Public High School" in America by Niche.com's 2022 Best Schools in America Rankings and Grades
- Ranked #6 in "2022 Best Public High Schools" and #1 in STEM High Schools listing by US News and World

COVID-19 Response

2020-2021 School Year
The Academy classes were available via our remote learning model for the entire 2020-2021 school year. The Majority of the students choose to access this option for the duration of the year from home. However, students were welcomed to the school building by signing up to engage in remote learning from school when in-person classes were an option. Similar to the spring 2020, the Academy recognized individual students experienced various effects of the pandemic. As a result, students and their families were offered options to consider in the context of their unique situation. Students were given the choice to continue with regular letter grades, or switch from letter to a pass/fail grade for select high school classes. A pass is 70% or higher.

GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS AND COURSE OFFERINGS

The Davidson Academy Diploma is considered an advanced high school diploma in the state of Nevada. Diplomas are awarded based on the following requirements:

- ✓ Cumulative unweighted GPA of 3.0 or higher
- ✓ 28 total credits required – 23 required, 5 electives

English 4 Credits	Composition & Analysis Rhetoric & Literary Analysis American Literature	Studies in American Literature British Literature Advanced Rhetoric	Science Writing & Communications Critical Theory
Math 4 Credits	Geometry Algebra II Algebra II/Pre-Calculus Statistics	Pre-Calculus Calculus I Calculus I/II Calculus II	Calculus III Year Calculus III Semester
Science 4 Credits	Physical Science Biology Advanced Biology	Chemistry Advanced Chemistry	Physics Advanced Physics Advanced Geosystems
History 3 Credits: 1 World, 1 US, 0.5 Gov, 0.5 Economics	Patterns in Modern History History of the United States		Principles of American Government & Economics Understanding the Post 9/11 World
World Language 3 Credits:	Chinese I Chinese II Chinese III/IV Chinese V/VI	Spanish I Spanish II Spanish III/IV Spanish V/VI	Japanese 1A

Not every class is offered every year. Spanish classes were formally listed as Spanish Fundamentals. I/II, Intermediate Spanish I/II, and Advanced Spanish I/II.

Electives

The Davidson Academy offers various elective courses which change yearly based on student interest. Students may design and teach their own elective courses as approved by the administration.

sampling of current school year elective offerings	The Actor Factor Animation Art Astronomy Creative Writing	Culinary Studies (Student Lead) Design of Everyday Things Introduction to Calligraphy Improv Kung Fu	Music Theory Philosophy of the Mind Quantum Physics Programming with Java Python Yearbook
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DUAL ENROLLMENT

With the Academy located on the University of Nevada campus, students at the Davidson Academy may earn credit toward high school graduation by successfully completing coursework at the University of Nevada, Reno, or another approved college or university.

sampling of current dual enrollment courses for academy students	MATH486 Game Theory CS302 Data Structures PSY101 General Psychology BIOL453 Immunology PAIT 111 First Year Paiute FREN491 20th Century French Literature	HIST211 History of Asia I STAT352 Probability and Statistics ECON440 Intro to Mathematical Economics CHEM341 Organic Chemistry PSC304 The Legislative Process ENT200 Fundamentals of Entrepreneurship
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COLLEGE MATRICULATION: CLASSES 2018-2022

137 GRADUATES, 66 INSTITUTIONS

*more than 1 student | **more than 5 students

Agnes Scott; ASU*; Babson; Boston U*; BYU; Brown*; Caltech*; Carnegie Mellon*; Champlain; Colorado School of Mines; Columbia U*; Cornell; Dartmouth; DePaul; Duke Kunshan; Emory; Fordham; GW; Georgia Tech*; Grinnell; Harvard*; Harvey Mudd*; Lewis & Clark*; Macalester; MIT*; Neumont College of Comp Sci; NAU; Northwestern; Oberlin; Olin College of Engineering*;

Oxford College at Emory*; Pepperdine; Pitt; Pitzer; Pomona; Princeton*; Purdue*; Rice*; Ringling College of Art and Design; Rose-Hulman Institute of Tech; Santa Clara U; Sarah Lawrence; Soka University of America; SMU; Stanford*; Swarthmore; Temple; Trinity College Dublin; College of Wooster; U of Alabama; UBC*; UC Berkeley**; UC Davis*; UCLA; UCSD; UCSB*;

University of Chicago**; U of Colorado, Boulder; U of Edinburgh*; U of Hawaii, Manoa; U of Idaho*; UIUC*; U of Maryland, College Park, UNLV; U of Nevada, Reno** BSMD*; U of Oklahoma*; U of Pittsburgh; U of Rochester*; USC; U of Tennessee, Knoxville; UT Dallas**; U of Washington*; Utrecht; Vanderbilt; Washington State; WashU*; Western Washington; Yale*

Grading Scale

GPA's are calculated on an *unweighted 4.0* scale for all courses. For the class of 2023, the mean GPA is a 3.9. Davidson Academy *does not rank* students.

Grade	Weight	Percent
A	4.0	93 – 100
A-	3.67	90 – 92
B+	3.33	87 – 89
B	3.0	83 – 86
B-	2.67	80 – 82
C+	2.33	77 – 79
C	2.0	73 – 76
C-	1.67	70 – 72
D+	1.33	67 – 69
D	1.0	63 – 66
D-	0.67	60 – 62
F	0.0	00 – 59

Testing

The Nevada State Board of Education chose the ACT as Nevada's CCR assessment. Nevada juniors took the ACT +Writing in the spring of 2022.

Advanced Placement

Davidson Academy does not offer Advanced Placement (AP) courses, but many students choose to take the tests. Below is a summary of testing from May 2022:

- ✓ 62 students
- ✓ 113 exams
- ✓ 96% of tests were 3 or above

Notable Achievements in 2022

Each year our students earn national and international distinction, including: 2 U.S. Presidential Scholars; 24 National Merit Finalist; 1 Coca Cola Scholar; 1 Carson Scholar; 1 MATHCOUNTS National Champion; 1 Regeneration Science Talent Search Top 300 Scholar; 1 Congressional App Challenge winner; 1 Prudential Spirit of Community Distinguished Finalist; 1st place National Radon Poster winner; numerous AIME/AMC participants with top honors; 1 Team of Nevada State Scholastic Chess Champions; 1 National Cyber Scholar; FTC Nevada State Champions; 1 NCWIT Aspirations in Computing winner; 9 students competed in DECA ICDC with numerous top 10 places; Middle School Nevada State Science Bowl Champions – Top 16 in the Nation; numerous Scholastic Arts Awards recipients; top places in the following national tests: USESO, USNCO, USABO, NACLO; National Biology Bowl Champions; ACSL International bronze medal recipient; 1 National History Day Outstanding Affiliate; Sweet 16 IPPF Team