



# CHELSEA ACADEMY

School Profile  
2019-20

4 Family Life Lane | Front Royal, VA 22630 | Tel.: (540) 635-0622

[www.chelseacademy.org](http://www.chelseacademy.org)

## About Chelsea Academy

**Our School:** Chelsea Academy is an independent, coeducational, college-preparatory school founded in 2008. The school offers a rigorous curriculum in addition to extracurricular programs in art, music, drama, athletics, and outdoor adventure. Our first senior class graduated in May 2012.

**Community:** Located in Virginia's Shenandoah Valley, Chelsea serves families from eight neighboring counties as well as students from Asia, Latin America, and Europe. Students and their families come from a broad range of educational and socioeconomic backgrounds. The school welcomes students of all beliefs. While not all Chelsea students are Catholic, all students learn about the Catholic faith.

**Student Body:** There are currently 146 students in grades 4-12, including 67 students in the Upper School. There are 14 students in the class of 2020.

**Faculty:** The Chelsea faculty is comprised of 15 full-time and 6 part-time faculty members; more than half of the faculty hold advanced degrees.

**Accreditation:** Chelsea is accredited by the Virginia Independent School Association.

**Headmaster:** Felix Hernandez

**College Counselor:**

Joseph G. Selner

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**CEEB Code:** 470906

## Our Mission

Chelsea Academy seeks to form confident young men and women educated in the liberal arts tradition and the Catholic faith. Chelsea is committed to promoting and cultivating in its students the life of the mind and a love of truth; an appreciation for the natural world and the heritage of human achievement; enduring friendships; a spirit of adventure; and the virtues of honesty, charity, diligence, courage, and personal responsibility. Through an ethos shaped by Catholic teaching and devotions and a balanced curriculum that includes the humanities, math, science, athletics, and the arts, Chelsea helps students grow into young adults committed to and capable of making positive contributions to their families, places of work, and communities.

## Curriculum

Chelsea offers a college-preparatory curriculum in the liberal arts and sciences. Students may take honors courses in English, history, math, science, Latin, and French. The course sequence and small classes lend themselves to cross-curricular research, active student participation, and close collaboration among students and teachers. All seniors complete a thesis.

## Graduation Requirements

- Four years of English
- Four years of mathematics
- Four years of history
- Four years of science, including Biology, Chemistry, and Physics
- Three years of Latin, French, or a combination of the two, including second-year proficiency in either language
- Four years of religion
- One year of fine art
- Senior thesis and presentation
- Participation on an interscholastic sports team each year in grades 9-11

## Senior Thesis

All seniors write a thesis that allows them to explore a topic of their choice and write a substantial paper based on their research. An interdisciplinary approach is encouraged, and all students choose and work with a faculty advisor. The project culminates in a formal presentation among faculty, peers, and parents. Recent topics have included the nuclear arms race during the Cold War, the ballet *Romeo and Juliet*, the bioethics of gene therapy, and the short stories of Flannery O'Connor.

## Grading, GPA, and Class Rank

Chelsea's grading system is designed to reflect student achievement; the school actively resists the tendency towards grade inflation. We serve students with a range of interests and abilities. Our small size and 1:11 faculty-student ratio enable us to challenge those students who are able to progress more quickly and to provide individualized academic reinforcement to those students who need it.

Chelsea operates on a two-semester system with cumulative semester and final exams in December and May. Grades are scored on a ten-point scale: A (93-100), A- (90-92), B+ (87-89), B (83-86), B- (80-82), C+ (77-79), C (73-76), C- (70-72), D+ (67-69), D (63-66), D- (60-62), F (0-59).

Grade Point Averages have been calculated on a 4.0 unweighted scale. Starting in 2015-16 Chelsea introduced honors courses into the curriculum. These include: honors-level English, history, and science, as well as Advanced Math, foreign languages at level IV or higher, U.S. Government and Politics, and Comparative Politics. The honors classes have been weighted with an extra half point added to the GPA. GPAs are calculated at the end of each semester and averaged at the end of each year. Chelsea does not rank students.

## GPA for the Classes of 2012-2019

	SAT Verbal	SAT Math	SAT Writing	TOTAL	Average Chelsea GPA	
					Unweighted	Partly Weighted
<b>OLD SAT</b>						
Class of 2012 Average SAT	640	628	654	1922	3.24	
Class of 2013 Average SAT	726	656	671	2053	3.38	
Class of 2014 Average SAT	697	625	648	1970	3.30	
Class of 2015 Average SAT	618	604	604	1826	3.03	
Class of 2016 Average SAT	620	596	587	1803	3.29	3.33
Chelsea Average SAT (2012-2016)	660	622	633	1915	3.25	3.33
Average SAT for NAIS schools**	590	602	588	1780		3.50
<b>NEW SAT</b>	SAT Verbal	SAT Math		TOTAL		
Class of 2017 Average SAT*	663	623		1286	3.33	3.43
Class of 2018 Average SAT*	615	625		1240	3.21	3.32
Class of 2019 Average SAT*	652	659		1311	3.22	3.39
Chelsea Average SAT* (2017-2019)	643	636		1279	3.25	3.38
Average SAT for Virginia schools***	561	541		1102		

NAIS Average not yet available

\*new format SAT

\*\*National Association of Independent Schools (2015)

\*\*\*Prep Scholar, Inc. (2017)

## College Matriculations (2014-2019)

Ave Maria University  
 Belmont Abbey College  
 Christendom College  
 Christopher Newport Univ.  
 College of William and Mary  
 Culinary Institute of America  
 Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University  
 Franciscan University of Steubenville  
 George Mason University  
 Holy Cross College at Notre Dame, Indiana  
 Institute of Culinary Education  
 James Madison University\*  
 Jefferson College of Health Sciences  
 Mount St. Mary's University  
 Pennsylvania State University  
 Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute  
 Rutgers University  
 South Dakota School of Mines & Technology  
 The Catholic University of America\*  
 Thomas Aquinas College  
 U.S. Merchant Marine Academy  
 University of California San Diego  
 University of Connecticut  
 University of Mississippi\*  
 University of Notre Dame  
 University of Dallas  
 University of Virginia  
 Virginia Commonwealth University  
 Virginia Military Institute  
 Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University

(Asterisks indicate schools in which students gained admission to honors programs.)