



Hillsdale Academy
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School Motto:
virtus et sapientia
virtue and wisdom

History:
Founded 1990 K-8
Upper School added 1998
First graduating class 2001

2023-24 Enrollment
Lower School: 201
Upper School: 110
Senior Class: 27

2023-2024 School Profile

Hillsdale Academy Mission Statement

Hillsdale Academy, located on the campus of and under the direction of Hillsdale College, is a private, K-12, classical, Christian school. It develops within its students the intellectual and personal habits and skills upon which responsible, independent, and productive lives are built, in the firm belief that such lives are the basis of a free and just society.

The Academy strives to offer enrichment and to develop character through both curricular and extracurricular offerings, to nurture the child's humanity—spirit, mind and body—with a constant view to the potential adult. The time-honored liberal arts curriculum and pedagogy direct student achievement toward mastery of the basics, exploration of the arts and sciences, and understanding of the foundational tenets of our Judeo-Christian and Greco-Roman heritage.

The curriculum, by purpose and design, is a survey of the best spiritual, intellectual, and cultural traditions of the West as they have been developed and refined over countless generations.

A note on classical education:

Hillsdale Academy's mission, 33-year history, and its example as the flagship private school within the Hillsdale College K12 network puts it at the forefront of American classical education renewal, emphasizing the following attributes: content-rich curriculum using Socratic dialogue and primary sources; the ancient division of grammar – logic – rhetoric from lower to upper school; studying works and concepts that have stood the test of time; and intentional cultivation of habits that point the student toward wonder and virtue. The full Profile of a Graduate can be downloaded at academy.hillsdale.edu.

Upper School Curriculum

Overview

- Core college-preparatory classical course of study for all students includes Latin, literature, science, mathematics, and history every year
- Study of Latin begins in third grade; transfer students begin when they enroll
- Electives offered in fine arts, computer science, and physical education

Graduation Requirements

- Successful completion of all core courses as noted above
- Two 10- to 15-page capstone projects in senior year: one research-based science inquiry; and one humanities project requiring an engagement with the history of ideas
- Passing grade required for year in Algebra 2, Latin 2, and both capstone projects
- No minimum graduation credit requirement: transcript credits are figured on the number of hours a week a class meets divided by 3 trimesters. Core classes are 1.67 credits per trimester ($5x/wk \div 3$); one hour/wk electives earn 0.33 credits per trimester

Dual enrollment @ Hillsdale College

- Open to juniors and seniors in good standing who take core academic courses
- Grades generate a separate transcript that is not incorporated into the Hillsdale Academy transcript
- Students who finish calculus before senior year are required to take a College class in senior year

Advanced Placement

- Academy courses are not part of AP Course Audit and are not called "AP" on transcripts
- Students are welcome to take any AP test; no AP test is required of any student
- From 2019-2023, 72% of Academy AP test-takers scored a three or better on AP exams



Grading Scale

93-100%: A	73-76%: C
90-92%: A-	70-72%: C-
87-89%: B+	67-69%: D+
83-86%: B	63-66%: D
80-82%: B-	60-62%: D-
77-79%: C+	below 60%: F

All grades are unweighted
Students are not ranked

Testing Statistics

SAT mean 2019-2023

ERW 633

Math 607

Composite 1235

ACT mean 2019-2023

English 28

Math 26

Reading 28

Science 26

Composite 27

CLT mean 2019-2023

Verbal 29

Grammar 30

Quantitative 23

Composite 81

Distinctions

National Merit: of 357 graduates

26 Commended or Semifinalist

28 Finalists

K-8th grade ITBS 97-99th
percentile for 28 years

College Placement

Class of 2023 (17 students) :

16 four-year / 1 gap year

5-year cumulative college

acceptance average: 94%

Student Life

Athletics: Varsity sports: soccer, volleyball, basketball, track and field, cross country, and golf. Club: clay target shooting team. Memberships: MHSAA, SCAA conference, Independent Soccer League. Since joining MHSAA competitions in 2001-2002, varsity teams collectively have won 98 conference titles, 34 district titles, 22 regional titles, and 7 state titles. 102 individual athletes have earned All-State honors, while 72 have earned Academic All-State awards. Fifty-one alumni have competed in NAIA or NCAA Division I, II, and III programs. In 2021 the boys cross country team won the MHSAA Division 4 Team State Championship.

Clubs: Student Council coordinates campus social activities. Quiz Bowl teams, National Honor Society, a pro-life club, a chess club, a finance club, and a voluntary service club meet throughout the school year.

Fine Arts: Ensembles: concert choir, chamber choir, orchestra, drama. Advanced musicians may participate in the Hillsdale College Orchestra. All freshmen and sophomores take art and music weekly. Electives: music theory, drama, advanced art. Past productions include *Guys and Dolls*, *The Music Man*, *A Midsummer Night's Dream*, *Fiddler on the Roof*, *The Tempest*, *Twelfth Night*, *Oklahoma!*, and *Matilda*. *Romeo and Juliet* and the musical *The Pirates of Penzance* will be presented in 2023-24.

Colleges Attended 2020-2023

Aquinas College, Auburn University, Baylor University (Honors College), Bellarmine University, Bethel University (MN), Capital University, University of Chicago, Cornell University (2), University of Findlay, Gannon University, Grace College, Grand Valley State University (3), Harmel Academy of the Trades (2), Hillsdale College (31), Hope College (4), Huntington University, University of Michigan (School of Engineering), Michigan State University (3), Northern Michigan University, Rose-Hulman Institute of Technology, Spring Arbor University, Trine University, Union University, United States Coast Guard Academy, and Washington University St. Louis. Academy graduates currently serve in the US Air Force, Coast Guard, Navy, Marines, and Space Force.

Upper School Faculty

Latin

- JohnMark Beazley, PhD The Southern Baptist Theological Seminary; ThM Western Seminary; MA Western Seminary; BA Briercrest College
- Andrew Holm, BA Cornell College

Literature/grammar

- Ellen Condict, PhD Baylor University; BA Belhaven College
- Monika Grzesiak, MA University of Wisconsin-Madison; MA and BA, University of Notre Dame
- Nate Neveau, MA Hillsdale College; BA Hillsdale College

History

- Ken Calvert, Ph.D., Miami University (OH); Th.M., Harvard University; M. Div. Gordon-Conwell Theological Seminary; BA Wheaton College
- Deanna Ducher, Master of American Studies, University of Dallas; BA Hillsdale College
- Mike Roberts, MA, University of Colorado; BA Hillsdale College

Science and mathematics

- Katherine Huffman, BS Hillsdale College
- Michael Nikkila, BA Hillsdale College
- Lisa Roberts, BS Hillsdale College
- Heather Scharer, MA Marygrove College; BA Spring Arbor University

Fine arts

- Ross Bonjerno, MA Spring Arbor University; BA Central Michigan University
- Pamela Heckel, MFA Savannah College of Art and Design; MA Arts Administration SCAD, BA Hillsdale College
- Gail Mowry, Master of Music in Music Education The Boston Conservatory; BA Hillsdale College