NATIONAL CATHEDRAL SCHOOL (NCS) is an independent, college-preparatory, Episcopal day school for girls in grades 4-12 that was founded in 1900.

ACADEMIC NOTES AND HIGHLIGHTS

NCS operates on a two-semester academic calendar, with athletics/physical education following a trimester schedule. Most students take five classes per semester; an arts elective may be taken as a sixth course. Midyear grades are available by the last week of January.

NCS follows a rotating schedule, and classes meet five times per seven-day cycle, for 65 minutes each; lab science courses are extended to 90 minutes once per cycle. Students gather once per cycle for a chapel service, and the whole school gathers once per cycle for a service in the Washington National Cathedral.

NCS has a coordinate program with the all-boys St. Albans School (STA) that includes academic offerings in all departments, as well as in performing arts and athletics. The 11th-grade English class American Literary Traditions is a required coordinate course; other coordinate courses are subject to limited enrollment.

The NCS Center for Ethical Leadership and Service offers, for all students, a co-curriculum focused upon health and wellness, religious studies, community service, and leadership. These topics are woven into class and seminar experiences, as well as Cathedral and chapel services, lecture series, and homeroom meetings. NCS students live by four core values — excellence, service, courage, and conscience — and we embrace these values in the classroom, on the field, on stage, in exchange programs, and in our meeting time together.

After graduation requirements have been met, and typically no sooner than junior year, students have the option of enrolling in Advanced Placement electives. Students typically take no more than two AP courses per year, and special permission is required for any more. Some AP courses are considered as open enrollment; for others, students must be recommended.

After graduation requirements have been met, students may design academic independent studies, to be pursued for a semester or more, under the supervision of an NCS mentor.

GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS

- **English**: 4 years
- **Math**: 3 years
- **World Language**: 3 years
- **Social Science**: 2.5 years
- **Science**: 2 years
- **Religious Studies**: 2 semesters
- **Art (visual or performing)**: 2 semesters
- **Athletics/Physical Education**: 10 (out of 12) seasons
- **Community Service**: 60 hours person-person & 12 hours in-school

HIGHEST COURSES OFFERED

- **English**: All 11th- and 12th-grade English courses are considered equally rigorous and AP-preparatory.
- **Math**: AP Calculus AB and BC, AP Computer Science A, Differential Equations, Honors Linear Algebra and Vector Calculus (*limited space*), Multivariable Calculus, and AP Statistics
- **World Language**: AP Chinese (taught at 5th level), AP French (taught at 4th level), AP Latin (taught at 4th level), AP Spanish Language (taught at 4th level), and AP Spanish Literature (more advanced than Language)
- **Social Sciences**: AP European History (*limited space*), AP Human Geography, Honors Art History, and Honors Seminar: U.S. and the World Since 1945
- **Science**: AP Biology, AP Chemistry, AP Environmental Science, AP Physics 2, and AP Physics C
COLLEGE MATRICULATION

100% of students are admitted to a four-year university. NCS supports students considering a gap year.

Graduates from the Classes of 2016-2019 matriculated to the following colleges:

10+
- American University
- Amherst College
- Barnard College
- Bowdoin College
- Case Western Reserve University
- Christopher Newport University
- Claremont McKenna College
- Colgate University
- College of Wooster
- Denison University
- Drexel University
- George Washington University
- Hamilton College
- Hampton University
- Harvey Mudd College
- Howard University
- Juniata College
- Kenyon College
- King's College London
- Lafayette College
- Lesley University
- McGill University
- Middlebury College
- Occidental College
- Pepperdine University
- Purdue University
- Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute
- Rhodes College
- Scripps College
- Spelman College
- Stevens Institute of Technology
- Trinity College
- U.S. Military Academy
- University College London
- University of California, Los Angeles
- University of Colorado, Boulder
- University of Delaware
- University of Edinburgh
- University of Georgia
- University of Oxford
- University of Richmond
- University of Rochester
- University of South Carolina
- University of Texas, Austin
- Warren Wilson College
- Wellesley College
- Xavier University of Louisiana

5+
- Boston University
- Bucknell University
- Columbia University
- Dartmouth College
- Georgia Institute of Technology
- Harvard University
- Northwestern University
- Oberlin College
- Southern Methodist University
- Stanford University
- Tufts University
- Tulane University
- University of Michigan
- University of Pennsylvania
- University of Southern California
- Washington University in St. Louis

2+
- Boston College
- Brown University
- Carleton College
- Colby College
- Davidson College
- Duke University
- Elon University
- Emory University
- Haverford College
- Johns Hopkins University
- New York University
- Rice University
- Sewanee: The University of the South
- Skidmore College
- St. Olaf College
- Swarthmore College
- Syracuse University
- University of Maryland, Baltimore County
- University of St. Andrews
- University of Wisconsin, Madison
- Vanderbilt University
- Virginia Commonwealth University
- Virginia Tech
- Wake Forest University
- Washington and Lee University
- Wesleyan University

HONOR POLICY

The NCS Honor and Discipline Boards review all infractions and recommend suitable action to the school administration. Students who receive an infraction are counseled by the College Guidance Office and the Dean of Student Life to report the violation and consequence when applying to college.

STANDARDIZED TESTING PROFILE

In spring 2019, 151 students took a total of 320 AP exams. The distribution of scores is: 5 or 4 - 76%; 3 - 20%; 2 or 1 - 4%

The Class of 2019 mean scores:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Subject</th>
<th>ACT (69% of class)</th>
<th>SAT (41% of class)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>32.8</td>
<td>ER&amp;W: 710</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>M: 700</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

RANK AND GRADING POLICY

NCS does not rank its students. NCS uses an unweighted 4.0 grade-point scale and calculates a student’s GPA based on the final grade in the course. All courses taken for academic credit and receiving a letter grade are included in the GPA and reported to colleges.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Grade</th>
<th>4.0</th>
<th>3.7</th>
<th>3.3</th>
<th>3.0</th>
<th>2.7</th>
<th>2.3</th>
<th>2.0</th>
<th>1.7</th>
<th>1.3</th>
<th>1.0</th>
<th>0.7</th>
<th>0.0</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>GPA</td>
<td>93-100</td>
<td>90-92</td>
<td>87-89</td>
<td>83-86</td>
<td>80-82</td>
<td>77-79</td>
<td>73-76</td>
<td>70-72</td>
<td>67-69</td>
<td>63-66</td>
<td>60-62</td>
<td>59 &amp; below</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A</td>
<td>A-</td>
<td>B+</td>
<td>B</td>
<td>B-</td>
<td>C+</td>
<td>C</td>
<td>C-</td>
<td>D+</td>
<td>D</td>
<td>D-</td>
<td>DP</td>
<td>P</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Distinguished Pass</td>
<td>Pass</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>MP</td>
<td>Minimal Pass</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>AU</td>
<td>Audit</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>RX</td>
<td>Medically Excused</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Effective fall 2017, students could no longer choose to take Chorale or Orchestra music classes for a letter grade.

ACCREDITATION

NCS is accredited by the Middle States Association and the Association of Independent Maryland Schools.

14 AVERAGE CLASS SIZE

9:1 STUDENT TEACHER RATIO

77% OF TEACHING FACULTY hold advanced degrees

NCS is a founding member of the Association of College Counselors in Independent Schools (ACCIS), a member of the National Association for College Admission Counseling (NACAC), and complies with the NACAC code of ethics and professional practice.