



CENTRAL CATHOLIC HIGH SCHOOL

Men of Faith, Men of Scholarship, Men of Service

2021-2022 SCHOOL PROFILE

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School & Community

Central Catholic High School, a Catholic college preparatory high school for boys, is guided by the educational principles of Saint John Baptist de La Salle. The school strives to provide a challenging, relevant, and diverse program of academics and extracurricular activities in an environment that fosters a life of faith and scholarship while developing leadership rooted in the Gospel values of integrity, respect, service, justice and peace. Upon graduation, the graduates of Central Catholic will have become Men of Faith, Scholarship, and Service.

The student body reflects the rich ethnic, cultural, economic, and racial diversity of the Pittsburgh area. Last year, 35% of our students received over \$2.0 million in financial aid. Students come from the City of Pittsburgh and surrounding suburbs and represent more than 150 grade schools and 105 parishes. Current enrollment is 746 students with a typical graduating class of about 195 seniors each year. Traditionally, 96% of graduates continue their education beyond high school.

Located in the Oakland neighborhood of Pittsburgh, the school is in the center of the educational and cultural district of the city, within walking distance of the University of Pittsburgh, Carnegie Mellon University, and the Carnegie Museums. The school's location allows students to take advantage of nearby museums, cultural centers, libraries, and places of historical interest.

Central Catholic High School is accredited by the PA Department of Education and the Middle States Association of Colleges and Secondary Schools. The U.S. Department of Education has recognized Central Catholic as one of the nation's "outstanding secondary schools."



Students & Faculty

Total Enrollment	749	Faculty.....	69
Class of 2022	179	Christian Brothers	6
Class of 2023	204	School Counseling Staff.....	5
Class of 2024	183		
Class of 2025.....	183		

Graduation Requirements

Students must complete the following curriculum, a minimum of 26 credits, to receive a diploma from Central Catholic High School:

5 Electives	4 Religion	4 English	3 Social Studies	3 Mathematics
3 Science	2 Foreign Language	1 Health / Physical Education	0.5 Fine Arts	0.5 Technology Elective



Year-long courses earn a student 1 credit. At minimum, students are required to take the equivalent of 6 year-long courses, in addition to half-year courses such as Physical Education, Health, Music, and Art.

Academics at Central Catholic

Academic Weighting and Grading

The courses taught at Central Catholic High School are weighted to reflect the difficulty of the course content. **All courses are divided into five levels of difficulty.** Over the course of their four years and within the same academic year, many students select courses from more than one level of difficulty.

Level 1 = Regular Level 2 = Intermediate Level 3 = Advanced Level 4 = Honors Level 5 = AP

Grading Philosophy

The faculty of Central Catholic does its best to limit grade inflation in our core academic courses. **It is rare for any student to graduate with all A's in their academic classes over the course of four years.** Some core courses award very few 'A' grades.

Cumulative GPA Weighting

The Cumulative GPA reported on the transcript is on a weighted 4.0 scale. Central Catholic does weight advanced courses (Honors, AP, etc), so it is possible for a student to earn a weighted cumulative GPA above a 4.0. However, the basis for our grading scale in standard-track course is that an A = 4.0. As a result, for most of our students, **earning all A's throughout high school would result in a GPA above a 4.0 but below a 5.0.**

A+	A	A-	B+	B	B-	C+	C	C-	D+	D	D-	F
100-98	97-95	94-93	92-90	89-87	86-85	84-82	81-78	77-75	74-73	72-71	70	<69

Advanced Placement Courses

For most AP courses, only one section of each course is taught each year.

All students enrolled in an AP class are required to sit for the AP Exam.

It is uncommon for a student to graduate with more than 4-5 AP courses.

Students must meet prerequisites and be recommended by a teacher to enroll in any Advanced Placement course.

The following 16 **Advanced Placement** courses are available at Central Catholic:

American Government	Chemistry	European History	Spanish
Art History	Computer Science	French	Statistics
Biology	English Language and Composition	Human Geography	U.S. History
Calculus AB, BC	English Literature	Physics C	

Bishop McDowell Program

Designed to facilitate student success through the development and reinforcement of necessary skills, the Bishop McDowell Program encourages students, through a variety of individually designed activities, to become thoroughly familiar with their own learning styles. Students in the Bishop McDowell Program attend regular classes and participate fully in the co-curricular life of the school, but have scheduled time for assistance and skill-building to enable them to progress in the college preparatory curriculum. When students understand how they learn best, they can then begin to apply strategies that work for them in the classroom, while completing homework, and when preparing for exams. Concurrently, the Director of the Bishop McDowell Program works with the Central Catholic faculty to help them understand each student's learning style and the related implications for classroom practices.

Brother David S. Baginski, FSC Scholars Program

The goal of the Brother David S. Baginski, FSC Scholars Program is to prepare students for advanced studies at the university level through a liberal arts curriculum that is interdisciplinary and multi-faceted. Students work closely with their advisors, teachers and peers on exploring the humanities and understanding their intersection with science and technology through issue-oriented investigations. Having shown an interest in the liberal arts, students apply to the program in the spring of their sophomore year through a competitive process. Once admitted, students enroll in a humanities seminar in their junior year to engage in critical inquiry and social justice perspectives. In their senior year, they write, defend and present a college-level, research-based thesis. Students in the program also participate in a multitude of enrichment activities offered by the Scholars Forum in addition to traveling domestically and abroad, thus, their intellectual development is bridged with a responsibility to be global citizens.



Curriculum Offerings

Central Catholic will offer the following course options during the 2021-2022 academic year. Level 1-3 courses are indicated below. Available AP courses are also listed separately on the opposite page.

H = Honors

AP = Advanced Placement

CHS = College in High School

Science Department

Biology – 2, 3, H, AP
Chemistry – 2, 3, H, AP
Chemistry II
Organic Chemistry - H
Physics – 2, 3, H, AP (C)
Environmental Science – 3
Biotechnology/Bioengineering – 3, H

Social Studies Department

Human Geography – 2, 3, AP
World History I - 2
World History II – 3, H
United States History – 2, 3, H, AP
AP European History - AP
American Government – AP
History of Pittsburgh & Western PA -3
Psychology – 3
History of Modern America – 3
Sociology – 3
AP Art History – AP
The Story of World War II – 3
Introduction to Leadership – 3

Physical Education Department

Physical Education – 1
Health – 3
A Personal Approach to Physical Education & Nutrition – 3
Advanced Physical Fitness – 3
Essential Concepts in Athletic Training – 3

Business Department

Accounting I – 3, H, CHS
Intro to Technology for the 21st Century – 3
Financial Algebra – 3
Principles of Entrepreneurship – 3
Personal Finance – 3
Business Law & Ethics – 3, CHS

English Department

Exploring Literature and Writing I – 2, 3, H
Exploring Literature and Writing II – 2, 3, H
Survey of American Literature – 2, 3, H
Survey of World Literature: 2, H
AP Language and Composition - AP
AP English Literature – AP, CHS
Junior Seminar – AP
Scholarship: Senior Thesis – H
World Literature: Topics Courses - 3
Cartooning – 3
Journalism & Newspaper Design – 3
Creative Writing – 3
Yearbook Design – 3
Literature of Film Criticism – 3

Foreign Languages Department

Italian I – 3
Spanish I – 3
Advanced Spanish I – 3
Spanish II – 2, 3, H
Spanish III – 3, H
Spanish IV: Advanced Language Development – 4
Spanish V: Culture & History – 4
AP Spanish – AP
French I, II, III – 3
French IV – 4
Latin I, II, III – 3
Latin IV – H, CHS

Religion Department

Religion I - 3
Religion II - 3
Religion III – 3
A Man of Faith – 3
Peer Ministry – 3

Fine Arts Department

Studio Art I, II, III – 3
Studio Art IV – H
Principles of Art & Design – 3
Vocal Music I (Viking Chorus) – 3
Vocal Music II (Concert Choir) – 3
Instrumental Music (Band) – 3, H
Vocal Music (Chamber Singers) – H
Instrumental Music (Honors Band) – H
Jazz Band – 3, H
Fundamentals of Musicianship I, II – 3
String Ensemble – 3
Audio Engineering I: Live Sound Reinforcement – 3
Audio Engineering II: Recording and Production – 3

Math Department

Algebra I – 2, H
Advanced Algebra I – 3
Algebra II – 2, 3, H
Advanced Algebra II - 3
Advanced Geometry – 3
Geometry – 1, 2, 3, H
Trigonometry – 2, 3
Pre-Calculus - 3
Trigonometry/Pre-Calculus – H
Calculus – H, AP
Probability and Statistics - 3
AP Statistics – AP
AP Computer Science – AP
Engineering I – 3, 4
Experiential Engineering – 3
Principles of Robotics – 3, 4
Computer and Network Architecture – 3, 4
Algorithmic Thinking & Computer Programming – 3, 4
Computer Aided Design (CAD) and 3D Modeling – 3, 4
Engineering Design – 4
CNC Programming – 3

Post-Graduate Plans – Class of 2021 (197 Graduates)

	# of students	% of class		# of students	% of class
Four-year college	181	92%	Catholic Colleges	38	19%
Two-year college	8	4%	Private, non-Catholic Colleges	20	10%
Armed Services	2	<1%	Public Colleges	120	60%
Other/Undecided	6	3%	Out-of-State Colleges	81	41%

Recent College Matriculations 2017 – 2021

Names in bold indicate colleges where three or more graduates have matriculated in the most recent five-year period.

Alderson-Broaddus College	Hobart and William Smith Colleges	Tufts University
Allegheny College	Hofstra University	United States Coast Guard Academy
American University	Howard University	United States Military Academy
Andrews University	Indiana University at Bloomington	United States Naval Academy
Arizona State University	Indiana University of Pennsylvania	The University of Akron
Baldwin Wallace College	Ithaca College	The University of Alabama
Bates College	James Madison University	University at Albany
Baylor University	John Carroll University	The University of Arizona
Bethel University	Kent State University	The University of Montana, Missoula
Boston College	Kenyon College	University of California, Berkeley
Boston University	Kutztown University of Pennsylvania	University of California, Davis
Bucknell University	La Salle University	University of California, Los Angeles
California University of Pennsylvania	Lackawanna College	University of Chicago
Canisius College	Lafayette College	University of Cincinnati
Carlow University	Lincoln University	University of Colorado at Boulder
Carnegie Mellon University	Lock Haven University of Pennsylvania	University of Dayton
Case Western Reserve University	Long Island University, Post	University of Delaware
Chatham University	Louisiana State University	University of Florida
Clarion University of Pennsylvania	Loyola University Chicago	University of Kentucky
Clark Atlanta University	Manhattan College	University of Maryland, College Park
Clarkson University	Marietta College	University of Massachusetts – Multiple Campuses
Clemson University	Marist College	University of Miami
Cleveland State University	Marquette University	University of Michigan
Coastal Carolina University	McGill University	University of Mount Union
Colgate University	Mercyhurst University	University of North Carolina – Multiple Campuses
College of Charleston	Miami University (OH)	University of Notre Dame
College of the Holy Cross	Mount Aloysius College	University of Pennsylvania
College of William and Mary	Mount St. Mary's University	University of Pittsburgh – Multiple Campuses
Colorado College	New York University	University of Rochester
Colorado School of Mines	North Carolina A&T State University	University of South Carolina
Columbia University	North Carolina State University	University of Southern California
Cornell University	Ohio University	University of the Sciences
The Curtis Institute of Music	The Ohio State University	The University of Texas at Tyler
Dartmouth College	Penn State University – Multiple Campuses	University of Toledo
Denison University	Pennsylvania College of Technology	University of Toronto
DePaul University	Pepperdine University	University of Utah
Dickinson College	Point Park University	University of Vermont
Drexel University	Princeton University	University of Washington
Duquesne University	Purdue University	University of Wyoming
East Carolina University	Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute	Vanderbilt University
Elon University	Robert Morris University	Villanova University
Florida Atlantic University	Rochester Institute of Technology	Virginia Military Institute
Florida Gulf Coast University	Rollins College	Virginia Polytechnic Institute (Virginia Tech)
Florida State University	Saint Francis University	Wake Forest University
Fordham University	Saint Joseph's University	Washington & Jefferson College
Fort Lewis College	Saint Vincent College	Washington University in St. Louis
Franciscan University of Steubenville	Seton Hall University	Waynesburg University
Gannon University	Seton Hill University	Wesleyan University
Geneva College	Slippery Rock University of Pennsylvania	West Virginia University
George Mason University	Southern Methodist University	Western Michigan University
George Washington University	St. Bonaventure University	Westminster College
Georgetown University	St. John Fisher College	Wheeling University
Georgia Institute of Technology	St. John's University – Queens Campus	Willamette University
Gettysburg College	Stanford University	Xavier University
Gonzaga University	SUNY Buffalo State College	Yale University
Grove City College	Swarthmore College	Youngstown State University
Hamilton College	Syracuse University	
Hampton University	Temple University	
Haverford College	Thiel College	
High Point University	Trine University	